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THE
CHESHIRE SHEAF,
Third Series,
BEING LOCAL GLEANINGS,
HISTORICAL AND ANTIQUARIAN,
RELATING TO
CHESHIRE, CHESTER AND NORTH WALES,

From many Scattered Fields.

EDITED BY THE REV. FRANCIS SANDERS, M.A., VICAR OF HOYLAKE, AND
WM. FERGUSON IRVINE, HON. SEC. RECORD SOCIETY.

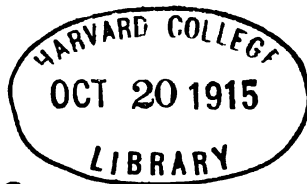
"O, LET ME TEACH YOU HOW TO KNIT AGAIN
THIS SCATTER'D CORN INTO ONE MUTUAL SHEAF."

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TABLE OF CONTENTS.

1. An Early Grant of Land from the Prior of St. John's Hospital, Chester.
2. The Bishop of Chester's Visitation, 1554.
3. The Bishop of Chester's Visitation, 1554.
4. The "Blue Posts" Incident.
5. The Beverley Family of Cheshire.
6. Evidence relating to the Goodicar Cow Charity, in Woodchurch Parish, taken 1566.
7. The Monastic Cell on Hilbree.
8. A Royalist Mayor of Chester.
9. Thefts from Shotwick Church in 1601.
10. A Cheshire Hunting Song, 1615.
11. Justices of the Peace for Cheshire, 1601.
12. The Seal of St. John's Hospital, Chester.
13. Charges of Simony against the Rector of West Kirby.
14. Charges against a Wirral Squire, 1649.
15. The Bishop of Chester's Visitation, 1554.
16. Bishop Peploe and Chancellor Gastrell.
17. Churton.
18. St. Mary's and St. Bridget's Bells.
19. Bishop Peploe and Chancellor Gastrell.
20. Ditto ditto
21. Churton.
22. St. Mary's and St. Bridget's Bells.
23. Justices of the Peace in Cheshire in 1620.
24. A Deed of the Skinner's Company, A.D. 1555.
25. William Smith, D.D., Dean of Chester, 1758-1787.
26. William Smith, D.D., Dean of Chester, 1758-1787.
27. The Bold Lady of Cheshire.
28. *Inquisitio Post Mortem* of John Whitmore, of Chester and Thurstaston.
29. Bell Inscriptions in Chester Deanery.
30. The Plague at Neston, in 1666.
31. A Petition from the Parishioners of Churton Heath Chapel.
32. The Bishop of Chester's Visitation, 1554.
33. Bell Inscriptions in Chester Deanery.
34. The Consecration of Crewe Hall Chapel in 1635.
35. The Hoyle Lake.
36. The Visitation of the Bishop of Chester, 1557.
37. Signatures to the Three Articles in Cheshire in 1563.
38. The Bishop of Chester's Visitation, 1557.
39. The Rev. Richard Wright, Curate of Bidston, 1667.
40. The Bishop of Chester's Visitation, 1557.
41. A Chester Man's Escape from the Wreck of the Royal George, 1782.
42. A Chester Trial a Hundred Years Ago.
43. The Bishop of Chester's Visitation, 1557.
44. An Early Nantwich Deed.
45. The Beverley Family of Chester and Dublin.
46. Cheshire Bells.
47. A Royalist Archdeacon of Chester.
48. The Will of Thomas Bunbury, of Stanney, Esquire, 1600.
49. A Pre-Norman Church, at Bebington.
50. Farewell Letter from Sir Timothy Fetherstonhaugh, Knight, written in Chester Castle, 20th October, 1661.
51. The Bishop of Chester's Visitation, 1557.
52. A Royalist Alderman.
53. The Bishop of Chester's Visitation, 1557.
54. Another Royalist Mayor of Chester.
55. Query—Archdeacon Snell.
56. An Early Rental of Sir Peter de Thornton, of Thornton-in-the-Moors, dated 1354.
57. A Symbolic Window at Bebington.
58. An Early Rental of Sir Peter de Thornton, of Thornton-in-the-Moors, dated 1354.
59. Abstracts of Wills at the Probate Registry, Chester.
60. Bishop George Hall's Cup at Exeter College, Oxford.
61. The Cheshire Nonjuring Clergy.
62. An Early Rental of Sir Peter de Thornton, of Thornton-in-the-Moors, dated 1354.
63. The Cheshire Nonjuring Clergy.
64. An Early Rental of Sir Peter de Thornton, of Thornton-in-the-Moors, dated 1354.
65. The Cheshire Nonjuring Clergy.
66. An Early Rental of Sir Peter de Thornton, of Thornton-in-the-Moors, dated 1354.
67. The Bishop of Chester's Visitation, 1684.
68. Extracts from the Royalist Composition Papers.
69. A Public Penance in 1685.
70. The Bishop of Chester's Visitation, 1684.
71. Bishop Peploe and Chancellor Gastrell.
72. Extracts from the Royalist Composition Papers for Cheshire.
73. Bishop Peploe and Chancellor Gastrell.
74. The Bishop of Chester's Visitation, 1598.
75. Query—Thomas Harrison, the Architect.
76. Bishop Peploe and Chancellor Gastrell.
77. Extracts from the Royalist Composition Papers for Cheshire.
78. Extracts from the Royalist Composition Papers for Cheshire.
79. A Churchwarden's Presentment in 1667.
80. The Cheshire Nonjuring Clergy.
81. Thomas Harrison, the Architect of the Northgate.

-
- | | |
|---|---|
| <p>82. The Rev. Richard Wright, Incumbent of Bidston, 1662-7.</p> <p>83. The Beverley Family.</p> <p>84. The Cheshire Nonjuring Clergy.</p> <p>85. Bishop Peploe and Chancellor Gastrell.</p> <p>85a. Query—The Marrow Family.</p> <p>86. Church Monuments.</p> <p>87. Colonel John Marrow.</p> <p>88. Church Monuments.</p> <p>89. The Derivation of the place-name Heswall.</p> <p>90. Bishop Peploe and Chancellor Gastrell.</p> <p>91. Ancient Parish of Wallasey.</p> <p>92. Birkenhead Fifty Years Ago.</p> <p>93. Dr. George Snell, Archdeacon of Chester, 1619-1646.</p> <p>94. An Unpublished Letter of Bishop Stratford.</p> <p>95. A Clandestine Marriage in the Phoenix Tower in 1690.</p> <p>96. The Will of the Rev. Randle Simcock, Curate of Christleton, 1542.</p> <p>97. Frodsham Grammar School.</p> <p>98. Nonconformity at Bromborough in 1669.</p> <p>99. Sir Thomas Smith, of the City of Chester, Knight, and Thomas Smith, his Son and Heir-Apparent.</p> <p>100. Ancient Church Inventories.</p> <p>101. Sir Thomas Smith, of the City of Chester, Knight, and Thomas Smith, his Son and Heir-Apparent.</p> <p>102. A Chester Deed of the year 1346.</p> <p>103. Sir Thomas Smith, of the City of Chester, Knight, and Thomas Smith, his Son and Heir-Apparent.</p> | <p>104. Frodsham Churchwardens' Books.</p> <p>105. Extracts from the Royalist Composition Papers.</p> <p>106. The Antiquities of Storeton.</p> <p>107. Bishop Thomas Wilson and Frodsham School.</p> <p>108. The Cholmondeley Archives.</p> <p>109. The Kingsley Chapel in Frodsham Church.</p> <p>110. The Bishop of Chester's Visitation, 1677.</p> <p>111. Souling Songs.</p> <p>112. The Antiquities of Storeton.</p> <p>113. John Snell of Ufton and Dr. George Snell, Archdeacon of Chester.</p> <p>114. Souling Songs.</p> <p>115. The Antiquities of Storeton.</p> <p>116. Frodsham Churchwardens' Accounts, A.D. 1633.</p> <p>117. The Antiquities of Storeton.</p> <p>118. Snell and Vyner Families.</p> <p>119. The Bishop of Chester's Visitation for 1677.</p> <p>120. Composition Papers of Sir William Massey, of Puddington, Knight.</p> <p>121. Some Local Names.</p> <p>122. The Composition Papers of John Wilson, of the City of Chester, Gentleman.</p> <p>123. The Derivation of the place-name Wirral.</p> <p>124. The Composition Papers of John Wilson, of the City of Chester, Gentleman.</p> <p>125. Frodsham Churchwardens' Accounts.</p> <p>126. The Diocese of Chester.</p> <p>127. The Cheshire Nonjuring Clergy.</p> <p>128. Composition Papers of Massey, of Puddington, as Illustrated by those of the Batters and Savages.</p> |
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THE CHESHIRE SHEAF,

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FROM MANY SCATTERED FIELDS.

REPRINTED FROM THE "CHESTER COURANT."

VOLUME I.

JANUARY 1, 1896.

INTRODUCTION.

"O let me teach you how to knit again
This scattered corn into one mutual Sheaf."
Titus Andronicus, Act V., Scene 3, Line 70.

The first series of "The Cheshire Sheaf" was started in the *Courant*, on the 1st May, 1878, under the editorship of the late Mr. Thomas Hughes, F.S.A. It appeared regularly, week by week, till the 1st of June, 1881, when the editor's serious illness necessitated its suspension. It was, however, resumed in the following January, and appeared fortnightly until April, 1885. It then became somewhat irregular, and finally ceased to appear after January 6th, 1886.

The second series began on the 7th January, 1891, and was regularly continued throughout the year, the late Mr. J. P. Earwaker M.A., F.S.A., acting as editor. It has been the endeavour of the present editors to conduct the third series on the lines laid down by their predecessors.

ORIGINAL DOCUMENTS.

[1] AN EARLY GRANT OF LAND FROM THE PRIOR OF ST. JOHN'S HOSPITAL, CHESTER.

So little is known of the history of the Hospital of S. John without the Northgate, that the following early grant, from the Prior and

Fraternity, of a portion of their land in Hale, Co. Lancaster, will be read with interest.

The hospital (says Ormerod) was founded by Randle, Duke of Brittany and Earl of Chester, about 1220, in honour of God, the Blessed Virgin, and S. John the Baptist, "for the sustentation of poore and sillie persons;" and from an inquisition held in 1341 it appears that the Hospital had sundry lands and houses, and among them "A grange at Le Mosse in the Co. of Lancaster," to which the following grant refers. According to Ormerod, Thomas Bridge was Prior in 1240, and to judge by the writing of the Charter, this must be about its date; the names of the witnesses also confirm this conclusion.

Perhaps the most interesting point in connection with the Charter is the fine seal which is attached, a description of which follows the translation. It has so many features in common with the one drawn on page 307, Vol I. of Helsby's Ormerod, which is there called the seal of the Collegiate Church of S. John the Baptist, that one is almost forced to the conclusion that they are from the same matrix, and therefore that Mr. Ormerod was in error when he spoke of this seal as belonging to the Collegiate Church, as it is in the highest degree improbable that the two communities would use the same seal, or even two seals approximately alike.

To all the faithful in Christ etc. THOMAS THE PRIOR OF S. JOHNS IN CHESTER, THE HOSPITAL WITHOUT THE NORTHGATE, and the brothers of the same place greeting in the Lord. Know ye that of our unanimous council and free will we

have given, conceded, and by this our present charter have confirmed, to SIMON son of HENRY and his heirs a certain parcel of our land at MUSSA called FLAXHOLMES extending in length from Hougaston to the cross in the east sike and from that cross to another cross in width lying alongside the house of Richard de Euer-ton, in length reaching from the house of the sd Richard to the head of the ditch leading into the sike and from the head of the ditch to the cross next to le Hougaston to have and to hold of us and our successors to him and his heirs freely and quietly well, in peace, with pasture for twelve beasts and their offspring and forty sheep and their offspring and two pack horses [*duobus jumentis*] and other easements [etc] paying therefore annually to us and our heirs twelve pence of silver at the Nativity of S. John Baptist for all services exactions or demands, and at his death a third part of his goods. And we for ourselves and our successors warrant the said land and its appurtenances to the said Symon and his heirs against all men for ever. In witness of which thing we have placed hereto our common seal. These being witness. William de Walet' [Walton]. Thurstan de Holand. Alan N[orris?]. Adam, Lord of Garstan. Adam de Aykebe' [Aigburth] forester of Tagstat [Toxteth] then present and many others.

The seal is a fine large oval one in green wax, 2½ inches long by 2 broad, in the centre is the full length figure of a man in half profile facing dexterwise with bare and very attenuated legs, clad apparently in a loose cloak of a scaly or feathered material, and holding in his left hand, bendwise, what appears to be a trident. It is doubtless a conventional representation of St. John the Baptist, the scaly cloak and trident standing for the camel's hair cloak, and the staff surmounted by a cross, which were the usual mediæval symbols of St. John. The inscription is incomplete and reads as follows: SIGILLVM CESTRIE.

[2] THE BISHOP OF CHESTER'S VISITATION
FOR THE YEAR 1554.

The following short extracts from Bishop Cotes' first Visitation book will interest many to whom the story of the religious changes of the 16th century is a fascinating study.

Edward's short reign was just over, and the reaction in religious teaching was setting in strongly, and after the radical changes in ritual that had taken place under Bishop John Bird, many people were anxious for a return, at all events in part, to the old ways. Evidence of this is to be found on every page of this Visitation, as parish after parish returns the same report, that they are hastening to rebuild their altars

and set up their crucifixes and rood lofts once more.

In addition to his duty of caring for the condition of the Churches, and the form of ritual there carried on, the Bishop had the oversight of the morals of his huge diocese, so in this and succeeding volumes a very large part is occupied by records of sins against the moral law, but as there is a dreary sameness in these sad charges, and but little to interest the general reader, they have been omitted except where some special feature warrants their record.

It will be noticed that many parishes are not included in the following extracts, but where this is so, it is due to the fact that nothing of sufficient interest is recorded. A few parishes, such as S. Olave's, S. Bridget's, Eccleston, and Plemstall, return the pleasing report "All well."

For the convenience of the general reader the Latin passages have been translated into English. WM. FERGUSON IRVINE.

VISITATION OF THE REVEREND FATHER IN GOD GEORGE BY DIVINE PERMISSION BISHOP OF CHESTER HELD WITHIN HIS DIOCESE OF CHESTER BEGUN IN THE CHAPTER HOUSE OF HIS CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF CHESTER ON THE ELEVENTH DAY OF THE MONTH OF JUNE IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD 1554 AND OF HIS CONSECRATION THE FIRST.

DEANERY OF CHESTER.

xxij. March. PARISH OF S. OSWALD.

Against William Aldersey—for bie cause he stoppis the procession wayes with his tymber.

xxij. March. PARISH OF S. MARIE.

Against the wardens there—they have to finde a cope a vestement a banner a picture of the crosse bie Synt James Daye.

xxij March. PARISH OF S. MICHAEL'S.

Against Richard Stringer—*propter lenocinium*. He appeared and denied the charge, whereupon he was ordered to purge himself by the oath of four men before Friday the 5th April.

Against George Buess and John Pyne—because they absent themselves from the Church on Sundays and Festivals. They plead that they belong to S. John's parish and frequent that Church.

Against George Coke—for drunkenness. Excommunicated.

xxij March. PARISH OF HOLY TRINITY.

Against Ralph Jonson—he lette downe a wall adjoineinge to the Churchyarde wherbie wyne come in and defile the same.

WIRVELL [WIRVEN].

Against the Churchwardens—they have to finde an awbe [albe] and to cover ther chappell bie Mychaelmas.

CHURTON.

Against the Churchwardens—they want a picture of the cross, they have not repaired the altar. They are to mend it before the Feast of S. Michael. [Later note—all mended.]

sivj March. CHRISTELTON.

Against the Churchwardens—they are to repair the Church and find a missal and manual before the Feast of S. Michael under pain of a fine of 1s. to be paid to the repair of Chester Cathedral.

PULFORD.

Against the Churchwardens—they are to repair the Church and supply all ornaments and other necessaries before the Feast of S. Michael under penalty &c.

INCE.

Against the Churchwardens—the Church and Churchyard in ruins, and they have not rebuilt the altar, nor have the picture of the Cross. Ordered to repair all before the Feast of S. Michael next.

(To be continued.)

JANUARY 8, 1896.

ORIGINAL DOCUMENTS.

[3] THE BISHOP OF CHESTER'S VISITATION FOR THE YEAR 1554.

(Continued from No. 2, January 1.)

THE DEANERY OF WIRRAL.

STOKE.

Against the Churchwardens—the glass in the choir needs repair, and they have not set up the altars again.

Against Richard Biguley*—for his cause he has taken away the canopy and kerchoff with other adornments and taking away the chalis foots with other things.

BUDSTON.

Omnia bene.

BURTON.

Against the Churchwardens there—the chauncell wantis reparacion, they want an amisse and a sirplis, the which they toke to amende his the Assumption of or Ladie. The Churchwardens have emended ther fawtis and the Chauncell is in making.

BEBINGTON.

Against the Churchwardens—they are to amend the churchyard and set up the crucifix before the Feast of St. Michael under a penalty of xxx.

* The Rev. Richard Baguley was incumbent of Stoke from ante 1541 to post 1548, though in the list of clergy given at the end of this Visitation, he does not appear, his successor, Dns Robtus Irland, being named.

NESTON.

Against the Churchwardens—the churchwardens have to mende the lichgate and the churchyarde bis Synt James Daye. [Later.] They state that they have amended the wall of the churchyard, but the lichgate is open by the default of the Dean and Chapter.

HESWALL.

Against the Churchwardens—they are to repair the church and churchyard before the Feast of St. Michael under pain of a fine of xls. to be paid towards the repair of Chester Cathedral.

THURSTASTON.

Omnia bene.

ESTHAM.

The chancel needs repair, by default of the Dean and Chapter.

BROMBROU.

The Chancel needs repair, by default of the Dean and Chapter.

DEANERY OF BANGOR.

HANMER.

Against the farmers [of the living]—they are to repair the Chancel before the Feast of St. Bartholomew under pain of a fine of 5li

Against the Churchwardens—they are to amend the churchyard under pain of a fine of xls. before the Feast of St. Peter ad Vincula.

(To be continued.)

NOTES.

[4] THE "BLUE POSTS" INCIDENT.

To attempt to disprove the truth of the "Blue Posts" incident will doubtless give a mental shock to many good Cestrians. The story has been so often repeated with such circumstantial details, that it has acquired an almost sacred character, and an impugner of its veracity will be classed by many with Wellhausen and Kuenen. Still a critical examination of the story has relegated it to the class of myths and legends, which form so large a portion of the popular conception of bygone days.

I will, first, repeat once more the story as it is generally received, and I cannot do this better than in the words of Dr. Morris, in his recent work on "*Chester during the Plantagenet and Tudor Periods.*" He says:—"In 1558, Dr. Henry Cole, Dean of St. Paul's, was sent by Queen Mary with a special commission to the Privy Council of Ireland, for the suppression of heresy. He stopped one night on his way at the 'Blue Posts,' Chester, on the east side of Bridge-street, then kept by Mrs. Elizabeth Mottershed. The Mayor called upon Dr. Cole, who in explaining his errand, brought

out of his cloak-bag a leather box, saying, 'Here is what will lash the heretics of Ireland.' The landlady hearing this, and fearing for the safety of her brother, John Edmunds, who lived in Dublin, took the opportunity while Dr. Cole was conducting the Mayor downstairs to remove the warrant from the box, placing in its stead a package of similar bulk and weight. Dr. Cole, on reaching Dublin (7th Oct., 1558), delivered the box to the Lord Deputy, Lord Fitzwalter, at the Castle. Great was the consternation of the Council to find that the box contained only a pack of cards, with the knave of clubs uppermost. The Lord Deputy said, 'Let us have another commission, and we will meanwhile shuffle the cards.' The cards were indeed 'shuffled.' For, though Dr. Cole was immediately sent to England, and obtained a new commission, while staying for a wind at the water side, he received intelligence that Queen Mary was dead, and was succeeded by the 'Protestant Queen.' The landlady was rewarded for her ingenuity and zeal with a pension of £40 a year. Though the Blue Posts has long since been converted into shops, the card-room, an oak-panelled apartment with fine ceiling, still remains untouched" (pp. 72-3). A note on p. 72 says: "Hanshall gives the name Elizabeth Edmunds [instead of Mottershed]; which was probably her maiden name."

This story has been critically investigated by the Rev. T. E. Bridgett in his clever book, *Blunders and Forgeries*, pp. 217-221. I will give here a summary of his investigations.

The story first appeared in 1681, 123 years after the incident in question was supposed to have occurred, in an anonymous pamphlet of twenty pages, published in London, entitled "*Historical Collections of the Church of Ireland during the Reign of King Henry VIII., Edward VI., and Queen Mary, wherein are several material passages omitted by historians*," &c. This pamphlet has been reprinted in the *Harleian Miscellany*, Vol. v., p. 594. The date of its appearance is noteworthy. It is that of the so-called Popish Plot. Every charge against Roman Catholics, no matter how improbable, obtained at that time ready credence. Oates and Dangerfield were the heroes of the hour. It was the very time for any unscrupulous pamphleteer to sell his productions by the thousand.

Without any investigation of the authorities of the story, it was speedily accepted by grave writers. It was reproduced in Sir Richard

Cox's *Hibernia Anglicana*, published in 1689. This seems to have induced its author to reveal himself. He was named Robert Ware, a son of Sir James Ware, the eminent antiquary. In 1705 he published an edition of his father's *Annals*, in which, under the title of "Life of Archbishop Browne," he reprinted the pamphlet in question, alleging that the facts rested on the testimony of Henry Ussher, Archbishop of Armagh, his more famous nephew, James Ussher, and Boyle, the celebrated Earl of Cork. On this statement of Ware's, unsupported by any MSS. or documents, all subsequent historians have repeated the story. It is to be found in Mant's "*History of the Church of Ireland*," 1840; Bagwell's "*Ireland under the Tudors*, 1885;" and Ball's "*Reformed Church of Ireland*," 1886. All the Cheshire historians, Ormerod, Hanshall, Hemingway, &c., record it without question. As well doubt the existence of the "Blue Posts" itself as the truth of the legend which has made it famous!

But is not the evidence of Robert Ware sufficient? Why should the truth of his statements be questioned? It is now very easy to answer these questions. Ware was a forger of the first order. His delight was to invent and to falsify. His father's valuable collections were garbled and interpolated, and by his unscrupulous labours, many a falsehood is still believed to be genuine history. But I must refer all who wish to enjoy a complete exposure of this clever rogue to Mr. Bridgett's masterly essay upon him, which will be found in the latter part of his volume.

Now, as to the story itself. Mr. Bagwell says that a tale with so many vouchers (he means the names mentioned by Ware), must be received in the absence of anything to rebut it. He has sought for no rebutting or confirming evidence, except the fact that two years previously Cardinal Pole was thinking of a legatine visitation of Ireland. Against this the following rebutting evidence may be set:—

(1). There is no mention in any English or Irish State document of Dr. Cole's mission.

(2). We have a complete list of all the expenditure of Elizabeth's reign in the State calendars, yet the name of Elizabeth Mottershed or Elizabeth Edmunds is nowhere discoverable. Yet mere trifles are there recorded. There is an entry of a warrant to deliver eighteen yards of crimson velvet to the Earl of Sussex, due to him as chief "sewer" at the coronation of

Elizabeth, but of Elizabeth's bounty to Mrs. Mottershed not a word. Mr. Bagwell tells how Elizabeth was so parsimonious that she would only authorise her Lord Deputy to spend £1500 a month on the whole government of Ireland, and urged him, if possible, to reduce the expenditure to £1000 (*Hist. ii. 5*), yet she will give £40 a year, a sum equal to £400 of our present money, for life to an inn-keeper.

(3) These are merely negative arguments. A little investigation of the Irish Calendars of State Papers will show that the meeting of Lord Fitzwalter (or as he should rather be called, the Earl of Sussex) and Dr. Cole was impossible. According to Ware, the meeting took place on 7 October, 1558, in Dublin. On 14 September, Lord Sussex started on an expedition to devastate the Court of Scotland. He returned to Ireland, but not to Dublin, 5 October. He writes on that day that he is about to engage in some exploits against the Scotch settled in the North of Ireland, followers of O'Donnel and O'Neil. He did not return to Dublin till 18 November.

Enough has surely been said to consign the "Blue Posts" incident to the class of fables.

HISTORICUS.

QUERY.

[5] THE BEVERLEY FAMILY OF CHESHIRE.

Noticing in the last series (*see No. 250, October 19*) some notes on this family, it has occurred to me to ask whether any of your readers can throw any light on the connection between the Irish and the Cheshire Beverleys, special reference being had to Samuel Beverley, of Bally-na-crae, County Antrim, who in 1722 went to America. I am prepared to offer ten pounds reward to anyone who can produce an authentic pedigree of the said Samuel Beverley. Wilmington, U.S.A. H. T. GAUSE.

JANUARY 15, 1896.

ORIGINAL DOCUMENTS.

[6] EVIDENCE RELATING TO THE GOODICAR COW CHARITY IN WOODCHURCH PARISH, TAKEN 1566.

There are in Cheshire several interesting old Cow Charities, for the lending of cows to the poorer villagers, but few that go so far back as this Woodchurch one, which was founded in

1525. It was originally intended, as the following extracts shew, that oxen should be provided to assist poor men in their ploughing; but about 1550, the oxen were sold, and milch cows supplied in their place. This alteration probably shews the change that was even then taking place from corn growing to cattle grazing.

The existence of this charity seems to have suggested to the mind of the Rev. Richard Sherlock, D.D. (Rector of Winwick from 1664 to 1689), the founding of a similar charity for his native village of Oxton, in the parish of Woodchurch, which he did in 1677, by a gift of £50 for this purpose. The Goodicar Charity still continues on its old lines, but Dr. Sherlock's cows have been "converted into coals!"

EDITORS.

Exchequer Deposition by Commission, Chester.
8 Eliz., Easter, No. 2.

Writ dated at Westminster 12 February, 8 Eliz. [1566]. Depositions taken at Estham 20 April, 8 Eliz., before Sir Rowland Stanley Knight and Will. Glaseor, Esq.

WILLIAM BALLE of Ireby within the parish of Woodchurche in co. Chester, tenant of Richard Harper, Esq., Sergeant at Law, aged 65 years and more deposes that he very well knew that James Goodicar late of *Brinston* in the said parish, husbandman, at the time of his death gave 20 marks to be bestowed on oxen for the maintenance of poor men's "plowes" within the said parish, of which sum only £6 13s. 4d. was paid into the hands of Robert Smyth late of Lancon within the said parish deceased, Henry Hycooke late of Oxon deceased, Richard Goodicar deceased son of the said James for provision of the said oxen. The said persons bought with the said £6 13s. 4d. 7 yoke of small bullocks, according to the said gift which was made about 40 years ago. Deponent believes that the said gift was mentioned in the will of the said James Goodicar, but of this he is not certain.

3. The said 3 persons and one other whose name he does not remember were appointed by the said James to have the "rule and oversight" of the said bullocks during their lives; after their decease, others were appointed by William Hocknell, gent., lately dec'd, who was named by the said James to make such appointments. About 11 years ago deponent was chosen with others. The poor men of the said parish paid 2s. yearly for the hire of each yoke of oxen to the hands of the said persons: which profit was put towards the increase of the said oxen.

4. The said bullocks being 13 in number were with the assent of the said Wm. Hocknell, because they were "decayed by ill keepinge," sold to Thomas Smythe of Lancon within the said parish,

for the sum of £7, which was spent on 7 kine, which were let to 7 poor men within the said parish, who paid yearly for the hire of each cow 2s. 8d.

5. Deponent and John Gleave of Prenton within the said parish have had the oversight of the said kine, and with the profits thereof have bought other 6 kine, so that there are now 13 in all.

6. Has heard that about 2 years ago Robert Lenott and John Coventry, being churchwardens of the said parish, sold the chalice, vestment, albe and cope mentioned in the 5 interr., but for what sum he cannot say.

7. Ales Rabon widow dec'd gave the said chalice, &c., to the inhabitants of the said parish the year before the insurrection in the north, about 30 years ago.

JOHN GLEVE of Prenton within the said parish, tenant of Richard Hough Esq., aged 60 years and more, deposes that the said poor men paid 2s. yearly into the hands of John Coventry and others for the hire of the said oxen.

[To the other interr. as above.]

WILLM BAYLY of Barneston in the said parish tenant of Lambert Tilsley Esq., aged about 70 deposes that about 40 years ago James Goodicar of Barneston, next neighbour to deponent, by his last will gave 20 marks to be bestowed on oxen (as above).

THOMAS SMYTH of Lancon, tenant of Robert Fulleshurst, Esq., aged about 60, deposes that about 28 years ago he was one of the said governors.

THOMAS SMYTH, of Prenton, aged about 70, deposes that the said Goodicar appointed, among others, old John Gleave, of Prentoune, whose daughter and heir married one Hocknell, "from whence the said John Hocknell comethe," being head of the parish, to have the oversight of the said oxen.

4. 5. If any poor man of the said parish were not able to pay for the hire of the said kine, Mr. Hocknell and others "did forgove it theym, and gave theym commandement to kepe his kowe well an other yeare."

6. Deponent has heard that the said John Hocknell bought the said chalice, &c., of the churchwardens of Woodchurch for 40s., "whereof he paid 4d. in earnest," but whether he ever paid the said 40s. witness does not know.

7. The said "Chalice and other clothes" were given to the whole parish of Woodchurch, for the better maintenance of God's service, and not for the maintenance of a priest.

RAPHE ROBINSONNE, of Prenton, aged about 62, deposes that he brought 4 pieces of gold, of 10s. the piece, to John Coventry, then churchwarden for the said chalice and clothes, but he refused to take it, because his fellow-churchwarden was not present.

HENRY SHOBLACRE, of Oxon, in co. Chester, husbandman, aged about 80 years, deposes as above.

JOHN COVENTRY, of Knocctorom, in co. Chester, aged about 60 years, deposes that he and Rob. Lennarde, being then churchwardens of Woodchurch, sold the said chalice, &c., for 40s.

[7] THE MONASTIC CELL ON HILBREE.

An interesting document in the Bishop's Registry throws some light on the latter days of the Monastic Cell on Hilbree, which was a dependence of the great Benedictine Abbey of St. Werburgh. This document, dated 1575, contains the evidence given by different witnesses in a tithe suit, brought by Mr. Massie, who farmed the Rectory of West Kirby, against Sir Richard Thimbleby, a Lincolnshire knight, whose name is familiar in Chester from the tower named after him on the city walls. Sir Richard occupied Hilbree as a tenant of Sir Rowland Stanley, of Hooton, who presumably held it from the Dean and Chapter. Hilbree was at that time an important shipping station, and of much more value than now.

Mr. Massie, as farmer of the Rectory of West Kirby, claimed the tithes of Hilbree. Sir Richard resisted the claim, contending that the island had never paid tithes to the Rector of West Kirby. In support of his contention, he brought several aged persons as witnesses, who could remember the island when the monastic cell was still in existence. Their evidence is full of interest, and their testimony seems to have been conclusive, as Hilbree has had no ecclesiastical connection with West Kirby from that day to this, but has been accounted part of the parish of St. Oswald's, Chester.

The first witness was JOHN DIALL, of West Kirby, aged about seventy, who "saith that he doeth verie well remember that before the Dissolution of the Monestarie of St. Warburge in Chester, the Abbot of Chester did mayntayne two monks continually in the lland of Helbrie articulate, whiche monks did saie service in a Chappell within the said lland; and after the Dissolution of the same Monasterie, the same lland did and doeth belong to the deane and chapter of Chester." . . . "He knoweth verie well that the deane and chapter of Chester sithence the Dissolucon of the same, or their fermers or deputies did receive the burland tithe articulate within the said parish to the use of the said Abbot and Convent, and likewise to the use of the Deane and Chapter aforesaid without any contradiction, but by what

title the said Abbot and Convent, or the said deane and chapter had or have the same, the deponent knoweth not." . . . "For the space of these lx yeres he doethe not remember that any man tythe was paid out of the lland of Helbrie to the parson of Westkirkbie or his fermer nor yet [was it] demanded nether in the Abbot's tyme nor sithence the dissolucoun of the said Abbey." . . . "He doth well remember that the said two munks in the Abbot's tyme had a fyshing boate, and did use to take hearings, and other fyshe by their servants." . . . "he never heerd that they paid any tythe for the same to any parson of West Kirkbie, nor his fermer or deputie, but were freedde from payeng the same tythe by reason they dwelled in the same lland, and further saieyth he never knew tythe fyshe demanded of any inhabitant of Helbrie until the nowe deft-came to dwell there which is about iiij or v yeres ago. . . . as tenant to Sir Roland Stanley."

JOHN BRASSIE, of Teirtoun (Tiverton) [an ancestor of Lord Brassey], a gentleman of about fifty-five years old, was the next witness. He deposed that "about xlv yeres agoe being then a childe he was one of the boyes of his chambre to Abbot Birchenshawe, then Abbot of Chester. And by reason thereof and that this deponent his father was then bailiff to the said Abbot for Tilston Fernall, a lordship belonging to the Monastery of Chester, familiarly acqauynted with Dom John Smith and with Dom Robt Harden, munks then dwelling in the Ile of Helbrie. . . . This deponent was wont to goe to Helbrie, and there to lie for the space of a fortnight together at certain tymes." He remembers that fish was taken in the water running about the island with nets, "but whether with boat or not, he doth not remember. And further, he saeth that he never heard that the said munks paid any tythe of the fyshe taken there to the parson of Westkirkbie or to any other, for he saeth the said Ile was then taken to be of no parishe but was called a Cell belonging to the monestarie of Chester, and therefore free from all manner of tythe payinge.

JOHN SMITH of Happedford in the Parish of Thornton was of the age of about sixty years. He stated that about "fifty years agoe he dwelled in Helbrie for the space of xliii years or thereabouts for the most part, at which time one Dan Richard Husband was prior there, and one Dan John Smith, uncle to this deponent was munk there. And the said lland was then taken to be parcell of the monestarie of Chester

and the said Prior and Munk had part of their lyving paid them by the Abbot of Chester" . . . "He verie well remembereth that the prior and Munke aforesaid at the -tyme predeposed had and enjoyed the burland tythe articulate, but by what title they held the same he cannot define. . . . He says that at the time he dwelled in Helbrie, he knoweth verie well that the said prior and munke had a fyshing boate called Jack Rice, and used to fyshe there by their servants, and this deponent did see much fyshe there taken to their use, and never heard that any tythe fyshe was paid, nor demanded for the same fyshe, and beleveth there was none paid there. Indede that the same Island was freed from payeng eny. And further saieyth that the same prior and munke the same tyme had certen kie in the same lland yerely, and paid no tythe for the same, nether to the Parish of West Kirkbie, nor any other to the deponent's knowledge.

F. SANDERS.

JANUARY 22, 1896.

ORIGINAL DOCUMENTS.

[8] A ROYALIST MAYOR OF CHESTER.

I hope from time to time to send you extracts from the Royalist Composition Papers especially referring to Chester men, as they give us a truer insight into the real condition of our city during the distressful times of the Civil War than almost anything else can do. In most cases both sides of the story are told, and by weighing the evidence in our minds, a fairly true conclusion may probably be arrived at.

Thomas Thorp appears, from Ormerod's list, to have been Mayor in 1637, and he was apparently also one of the Sheriffs in 1630. Perhaps the most interesting portion of the following extracts is the list of his real estate, shewing the destruction of property that had been caused by the bombardment.

WM. FERGUSON IRVINE.

THOMAS THORP OF THE CITY OF CHESTER,
ALDERMAN.

(Vol. xxvi. 2nd Series. Fo 643.)

He petitioned 28 July 1646 & stated,

That he was seized in fee to him & his heirs of certain messuages etc in the City of Chester out of which he paid £3 chief rent to the City of Chester and the Earl of Shrewsbury and these were worth before the troubles over and above the rent reserved £53 13 4 a year.

That he was seized of a Frank tenement for life of another messuage or house being a tavern wherein he lived with a license to draw wine for life and to utter it by retail which house he held by demise from Roger Mostyn Esquire and Sir Francis Gamull Kt. and Baronet and was worth before the troubles £11.

He deposed that he had had as much of the said housing in the city destroyed and spoiled by granadoes during the seige as had made them of less value than they formerly had been by £15 a year. Personal estate he had none.

Fine at a moiety £443.

He further petitioned on the 21st April 1647, and in this he mentions that shortly after the taking of the City of Chester he was a prisoner there from 16 March 1645 until 2 July, yet that during his imprisonment even on the 4th of April 1646 he tendered himself to the Committee at Chester and desired that he might be allowed to compound. Subsequently in July his "particular" was filed etc & he was fined in a moiety, though as he surrendered on the 14th April 1646, he conceived he ought to come in at a sixth. Referred to Sub-Committee Sub-committee reported on the 26th April, 1647, that they recommended his fine being reduced to a sixth, that is to say, to £177 10d., which was accordingly ordered in committee May 4, 1647.

The following affidavit was filed with the sub-committee:—

14 April, 1647.

Thomas Thropp swears that he is 48 years of age that he was committed to prison in Chester Castle because on the surrender of the City he refused to leave, his reason for this being he had many children & no means of subsistence elsewhere, etc.

Also the following documents:—

Wee the Committee of Chester doe certify all whome it may concerne that Major Thomas Thropp of the sayd city was committed prisoner to the Castle of Chester on the 16th day of March, 1645 [6] & had his enlargement upon the 2nd July next after. And wee doe further certify that upon the fourth day of Aprill, 1646, hee the said Major Thropp coming before us did move to compound for his reall and personall estate offering to take the oath of the 5th Aprill. 1645 [Negative Oath] appoynted by Ordinance of Parlyement.

Chester, vj Aprill, 1647.

HENRY BIRKENED.
R. LEICESTER.
EDWARD BRADSHAW.
PETER LEIGH.

An Inventory of my houses, shoppes & sellors together with the Rents dew from the same uppon the Racke as followeth.

PETER'S PARISH.

One shopp—Edward Mercer, 10s.	li. s. d.
Two shoppes—Alex. Hynd, at the yerely rent of 2li. in all	2. 10. 0
Out of which I pay rent unto the Cittie, 40s., so I resseave Cleere for my p't of the land	00. 10. 00
One chamber—William Hand	02. 00. 00
One shopp—Will Jones	01. 00. 00
One sellor—Will. Thropp	02. 15. 00
One chamber—Roger Handcock	01. 10. 00
One shopp—Mrs. Evans	02. 00. 00
One house—Widowe Streete paid formerly 13li., but one halfe the house is beaten downe by a granado, and will not yield now above 5li. p' annum.	
One shopp and chamber—Joseph Bruen at	04. 10. 00
The chamber torn by a granado.	
One shopp—John Sproston	05. 00. 00
A tavern in my own possession, never rented by me, but now sett for	10. 00. 00

MICHAEL'S PARISH.

One house—Widowe Kempt	04. 00. 00
A sellor—Widowe Sherwoode, given her for her life, and formerly rented at	01. 10. 00
One chamber—Mrs. Chaney	01. 08. 00
One chamber—Widowe Salisbury, given her for life, and never rented.	
One shopp—Randall Walker, at	01. 06. 08
Out of the afore said house and sellors and shoppes the Earl of Shrewsbury receaves a chief rent of 20s. per annum rent.	
My house and tavern where in I now live never rented, but the tavern is sett for £11 per ann. I hould both for tearme of life onely.	
The inheritance is Roger Mostyn's Esquire & Sr Francis Gamull Knight and Barronett and the house to be sett may be worth 5 or 6li per ann. at most as a tente [? tenement] now secured from the tavern.	
One cottage—John Deane	0. 08. 00
One cottage—Thomas Ashton	0. 19. 00
One cottage—Thomas Davies	0. 18. 00

THO: THROPP [SGD].

Extracts from his petition bearing date 28 July 1646. He mentions, that he was born and brought up in Chester & excepting some years wherein he traded as a Merchant beyond the Seas he afterwards lived in the said City, which when entered and fortified by the King's forces he was constrained to accept the command of soldiers in the same, but never bore arms elsewhere; he explains why he had not earlier come in to compound and expresses regret for his error.

The following letter is also among the papers and shews the other side of the picture. One can still hear the ring of malicious satisfaction in the tone of this certificate of good conduct!

At the Committee for Sequestrations for the
Citty of Chester

Honoured Gentlemen.

Beinge earnestly desired by a citizen of this citty Mr. Thomas Thorpe now aboute to repair to yr Honors for composition of his lands and estate and desiringe a Certificate from us, wee are willinge to gratifye his desire. Therefore may it please yr Honors thus to receive it.

This gentleman Mr. Thomas Thorppe hath been Maior of this Citty, a Commissioner of Array and very active in it, hath acted the office of a Major in the Souldiery and had a company under him whom he continually kept up violently against the Parliament. He with one or two other (after Sir William Brereton had been here to settle the Militia but could not at that tyme) wente to Yorke to his Majestie to procure a Commission of Oyer et Terminer (to keepe the Citty in awe and feare) which he procured and brought with him to ye greates amasement and terror of all the well affected to the Parliament in this Citty. Hee alsoe hath been very active in giveinge Oaths to the Citizena against the Parliament, and was one amongst others very active to keepe the Citty so longe against the Parliament to the greater expense of treasure losse of many mens lives and ruininge of many faire buildings by fire about this Citty. Also he was a most active man in opposing Sr William Brereton when hee came by Authority of Parliament to settle the Militia here at the beginning of the Warres. As concerning his estate Beall and personell wee certify as followeth

[Here they insert a schedule differing in no material respect from Compounder's, but they described the Tavern as being under Compounder's house]

JOHN WHITWORTH	} [Signed]
RALPH JUDSON	
JOHN WHITTELL	
SAM. BUCK	

[9] THEFTS FROM SHOTWICK CHURCH
IN 1601.

The following extracts from proceedings in the Consistory Court in 1629, with reference to certain thefts alleged to have been committed 28 years before from the Church of Shotwick, are interesting, as shewing the kind of evidence that appears to have passed muster in the Chancellor's Court.

If we are to take the usually accepted statement that the famous Samuel Clarke held this cure from 1624 until 1629, the Rev. Morgan Hopton, can only just have come into the parish, and for him to give evidence in support of a charge of theft, the commital of which is said to have taken place 28 years before, or two years before the curate was born, seems rather contrary to one's general ideas on the subject of evidence.

B

We [the Churchwardens of Shotwick] present Thomas Hesketh, late Churchwarden, for not truly accompting to the parish of his Receipts and disbursements, and what was to be received when he went out of his office.

Wee present the said Thomas Hesketh for not buying Bishop Jewell's works and a pulpit cloath, being enjoined in the late Visitation of the Bishop of Chester.

Wee present Thomas Holland th' elder for suffering certen things belonging to the Church to be taken away, when he was Churchwarden, viz. an imbroydred cope and other vestures belonging to the Church, to the value of xvli. as supposed, which lately came to light, being taken away divers years agoe.

Wee present Richard Chamberlain, th' elder for taking away and not accompting to the parish in his time for 32 pounds of Bell-metall (being worth xxiiijs.) when he was Churchwarden.

Wee present Thomas Whitehead th' elder for taking from the Church and converting to his use or detayning 200 pounds of lead or thereabouts.

Wee present Thomas Washington for takinge timber forth of the Church, when hee was warden without any accompt made to the Parish.

EDWARD LLOYD [sgd]

THOMAS DON [sgd]

MORGANUS HOPTON, clericus, Curate of Shotwick, aged 26 years. . . . has heard that Holland took sundry vestures from Shotwick Church, and put them in a sacke, and [that one] Morie did carry them to one Mr. [George] Mannaring then livinge in the Lodge in Shotwicke Parke, and he hathe heard that the Cope was worth iiijli.

JACOBUS HARRISON, of the parish of Shotwicke, aged 48, says that about xxviii. yeares since, he being servante in the house unto the said Mr. Mannwaringe, then livinge in the Lodge in Shotwick Parke, did see the said James Morie, now dead, and Thos. Holland, who were the churchwardens of Shotwick, bring something in a sacke or pooke in the evening unto the said Mr. Mannaringe, now deceased, but what was in the sacke he cannot answer, &c.

Replies made 22 May, 1629.

RICHARD CHAMBERLAIN Senior of Gt. Saughall, saith that 18 or 19 years agoe, he beeing Churchwarden of Shotwick, a bell viz. the middle bell being cast*, he agreed with one to cast the same, and saith that after it was cast and came to the Church, it was not tuneable, and then he did hewe the same thinner, and did take out mettle which he caused to be weighed by one John Caldey, who said it was 30li. weight or thereabouts, worth about x (?) pence a pound, which mettle after it was weigh'd, he delivered to Robte Carter the Parische Clarke of the sd. P'ishe for the use of the P'ishe.

* The three bells now hanging in Shotwick tower are dated 1616, 1621, and 1664 respectively

THOMAS WASHINGTON confesses taking "one piece of timber out of the Church called a sparre, value ixd.

JANUARY 29, 1896.

ORIGINAL DOCUMENTS.

[10] A CHESHIRE HUNTING SONG, 1615.

The following curious hunting song is from a manuscript in the possession of Henry Boddington, Esq., of Pownall Hall, Wilmslow, which was communicated to the late Mr. J. P. Earwaker. A portion of it appeared in *Wirral Notes and Queries*, Vol. II., pp. 19 20, but it has never been before printed in its entirety. The song describes the journey and adventures of a hare, which starts from near the Point of Ayr, in Flintshire, travels to Talacre and Mostyn, crosses the Estuary in a collier's vessel, lands at Dawpool, runs through Wirral to Chester, and crosses over Saltney Marsh to Bretton Hall, meeting her fate on Dobbs' Hill, near Hawarden. The numerous allusions to persons and places are most curious, and will be commented on in a future article. For the present we give the text of the song:—

Certaine verses wrytten by a Werralyte to ye tune of 'vpp Willye its tyme to ryse.' 1615.

The hare followed her iorney, as it was said,
and cald at Davidd Holland yt dwelt at ye Reade.
give her bere for she is drye,
and yt shalbe my best orye.
& into ye seller woh was fynely sunke
one other onpp would have made her drunke.
then said ye coake, she wants releiffe
sett her bread & Ile feoh her beefe.
ye hare she eate & made good cheere
because yt she was welcome there.
she was ware of a thinge she lykthe not well
she sawe ye grehound woh wan ye bell.
give her more drinke for she is drye
2 beagells alounde began to crye
& David Holland came aftr them
wt half a score of p' p' [proper] men
& ye greay hound came suddenlye
& gave her tournes 2 or 3.
ye hare went merrilye over ye greene
recoone ye turnes & make them 9.
she toake ye roughe out of ye playne
& swore she would nevr come there againe,
& downe ye dale she roundly fledd
her heeles tilted ovr her heade.
insouth quoth ye hare Ile come no more there

for fere of beinge drunke wt stronge bere.
she followed her iorney and would not staye
vntill she came to fayre Talacrye.
she sawe ye garden & said her creed
there was no hounds since Maossone dyed.
she thought ye Devill had bene there
woh kept a christmas or 2 for fere.
shee prayed yt evill ye might thrgeve
ye Devill is dead & his sons alyfe.
she would awaye ye moone shoone bright
Its Moosons all if he had his right
And vnto Sr Thomas ye ould Knight.
when she came thither he stood in ye dore
his head was white & bearde was hore
& he sett at her a mastife curre
& if he catchet she would nevr goe furre.
yett ye hare had care of her feste
for fere of fallinge in an ould colepitte.
vppon ye sayd syde on ye topp of Knole
she was ware of a boate well laden wt cole.
into ye boate ye hare did hye
& was ware of a privie place to lye.
ye hare crept in & there laye close
and ovr ye watr thence she goes
& when ye sealers fell a sleepe
ye hare in feare awaye did creepe.
To Wytemores of Thurstinton she is gone
he Keepees a hore and kyld a man.
then to Ouldfeld ovr ye meddowe
will noe man have a wappe at a widdowe?
she must marrie a pore man if shee doe right
& follow ye steps of ye ould Knight.
Then to Geaton to Mr Glegges
hele suffer noe poore at his house to begge
he hath noe hound to rune at ye hare
but kepes a curre against poore and burd [phare]
Ore Burton hill to Puddington halle
there she would be bould to calle,
& she hoped yt she might pass
for he was att s'rvic & she was at mass.
ye hare did shoute as shee went hye
and then they came out wt. a gallant orye.
ye hare did thinke ye worlde went rounde
4 huntinge hornes at once did sounde.
she found them pastyme for a whyle
in a leawge she dubbled they lost a myle
to Shotwicke parke ye hare she crost
and then ye hounds ye game had lost
ye did noe good on Saugho grounds
because ye paver had stoulen ye hounde
ye were angrie at him and vext in mynde
for stealinge a whelp of ye best kynde
ye hounds were sekinge here and there
& she went on wt. a fleay in her eare.
ye hare went merrily towards ye oytie
& lost both ye hounds and there dyttle.
when she came there she gave a rewarde,
vnto a footeman to goe to my Lorde
and this her message for to seaye
to mete ye hare on ye othr daye.
when ye newes came vnto ye towne
my Lord gave ye messenger a crowne

and ye next morninge he did prepare
to goe to ye field to meete ye hare.
when he came thithr and loakt aboute
he sawe ye hare was new starte out
and there she found him sport and playe
all ye length of a winters daye.
she dubbed befor him vpp and downe
neare manie a prettie village towne.
(he) said my Lorde this hare is sound
soe stoutly she doth stand her ground.
cupple them upp and wele awaye
& to her againe another daye.
I would wish this hare noe ill
yt she may fynd me pastyme still.
to Kennell them all is my desire
fead them well and make them a fire.
ye hare came stealinge downe ye walle
ore chestr bridge amoungst them all.
and soe she passed thorowgh hanbridge towne
mett nevrr a man but many a clowne.
on ye haugh Greene thess woords she saide
there was noe grehounde for Ellice was deade.
through Saltney Marashe amounge ye sheepe
& ovr ye gutters she did creepe.
then she came to Bretton hall
& there on ye Captayne did she calle.
Captayne if you will take ye payne
He shew you sport to fitt yor vayne.
(hoe) quoth ye Captayne I am here
I pray the buttler fill them bere
and wale be for her bye & bye
and soe ye came out wt a migtie crye.
ye hare went merryly ovr ye ground
ye Ecco made ye hills to sound
and there she found him sport and playe
Some what more then halfe a daye.
to Broughton heyres to ye roughe she crost
ye followed soe close she was not lost.
on ye mountayne syde ye made a shewe
one carried a horne but could not blowe.
Alas quoth ye hare I ame nere my death
my ledggs are lame short is my breath.
then to Dawbes hill she roundly fiedd
her hart was broken her nose itt bledd.
ye hounds ye toake her by ye heade
and this was ye last woords she sayd.
of Brettons hounds I stood in dowbte
I would I had gon a myle aboute.
I have ben ovr ye world soe wyde
In flint shire reard in flint I dyed.
god send vs all in heaven a place
till everie hare rune such a race ;
& ever let vs be marrie amonge
and soe He Ende my huntinge songe.
fnis.

[11] JUSTICES OF THE PEACE FOR
CHESHIRE, 1601.

In the last series of The Sheaf, the late Mr.
Earwaker published a list of the Justices for

1603, and in the preface to the document stated
that it was one of the earliest, if not the earliest
list known. As the present list from the Harleian
MSS. at the British Museum (No. 1535 f. 3a) is
two years earlier, and differs in many particu-
lars, it has been thought worthy of publication.
I hope to send in a few weeks another list for the
year 1620. WM. FERGUSSON IRVINE.

Justic's Comitis Cestrencis Ao. 1601.

Thomas Egerton miles do'is custos
Thomas Sackvill dois Buckhurst do'is These
Ricardus Vaughan Episcopus Cester
Pettrus Warberton Justic's
Ricardus Lewkenor miles Just' Cester
Henrons Townsend miles alter Just' Cestr'
Hugo Cholmonleyghe miles
Rowlands Stanley miles
Ricardus Bulkeley miles
Raundlphus Brereton miles
Edwardis Fitton miles
Willus Brereton miles
Georgius Beeston miles
Pettrus Leighe miles
Johannes Egerton miles
Johannes Sauage miles
Georgius Boothe miles
Edwards Warren miles
Georgius Leicester miles
Thomas Venables baro de Kinderton
Pettrus Warberton de Arley
Thomas Wilbraham de Woodhey
Thomas Leighe de Adlington
Johanns Poole de Poole
Raunlphis Davenport de Henbury
Hugo Calveley de Leey
Henricus Delves
Thomas Brooke de Norton
Thomas Holcroft
Thomas Smithe de Houghe
Raundlphus Maniwaringe de Piner
David Yalle iuris Ciuilis Doctor
Willus Dauenpord de Bromhall
Ricardus Grosvenor de Eaton
Rowlands Dutton de Hatton
Henricus Maniwaringe de Caringhan
Willus Leversage de Whelocke
Ricardus Cotton de Cumb'mer
Thomas Aston de Aston
Thomas Lawton de Church Lawton
Johanns Massey de Podington
Thomas Stanley de Alderleighe
Thomas Marbury de Marbury
Hugo Beeston de Beeston
Henricus Berkenhead de Huxley
Thomas Bunbury de Stanney
Robtus Hide de Norbury
Johannis Ardren de Arden
Thomas Trafford
Willus Brereton de Asheley Armigris

NOTES.

[12] THE SEAL OF ST. JOHN'S HOSPITAL, CHESTER.

(See No. 1, January 1.)

My attention has been drawn to a reproduction of a photograph of this seal in Canon Morris' "Chester during the Plantagenet and Tudor periods," on page 154. On comparing this with the original, at present in my hands, it is evident they are from the same matrix. The specimen figured in Canon Morris' book is rather damaged, but it preserves one interesting feature absent in mine, namely, the lamb within a circle, held in the right hand of the saint.

Canon Morris also states that the hospital was founded between the years 1188 and 1200. He is no doubt correct in this. The date given in my note was taken from Ormerod.

In the Inquisition taken 5 Edward III., it was found that each of the 13 "poor and feeble men" should receive every day "one good loafe whereby he may sufficiently be sustained, one great dishe full of potage, half a gallon of competent ale, and one peece of fishe or flesh as the daie shall require [*Ibid* p. 155]. The allowance sounds an ample one for a poor and feeble man, especially the daily half gallon of competent ale!

HOLLY.

FEBRUARY 5, 1896.

ORIGINAL DOCUMENTS.

[13] CHARGES OF SIMONY AGAINST THE RECTOR OF WEST KIRBY, 1632.

Eschequer Deposition by Commission 8 & 9 Charles I. Hil: No. 20., Chester.

Writ dated at Westminster, 28 November, 8 Charles I. [1632] directed to Henry Sutton, gent., Edward Russell, gent., Peter Bennett, gent., and Richard Wynne, gent.

Interrogatories to be administered to witnesses to be examined on behalf of Sir William Massey Knight, Nicholas Setchell, Clerk, George Massey, Richard Nicholls, John Kelly alias Kally and Hugh Barrowe depts. at the suite of Thomas Glover, Clerk, Compt.

1. Inprimis do you know the parties plt. and defts. &c. &c.

Ex parte defts.

1. WILLIAM GLEGGE of Caldey Grange in co. Chester Esq. aged about 72 years, deposes that he

knows the parties plt. and defts., and has known the parsonage of West Kirby for 60 years. He also knows Thomas Billinge, clerk, who has been incumbent of the said parsonage for the last 28 years to deponent's knowledge.

3. Deponent says that William Massey, Esq., late grandfather of Sir William Massey, Knt., George Massey, Esq., late uncle to the said Sir William, and John Massey, Esq. deceased, late father of the said Sir William were in their several times reputed to be farmers of the tithes of the said Rectory or Parsonage, and that their servants called proctors gathered the said tithes for their respective uses. Dept. has heard that the said several farmers held the said tithes under a lease for years, under the yearly rent of £28 Os. 4d., and that Sir William Massey paid to the said Thomas Billinge £18, and £6 to his curate, to free the said Billinge from all duties belonging to the said Rectory. The said Sir William Massey is now reputed to be farmer of the said tithes as all his ancestors were, and they have taken the same for more than 60 years, until the said Sir William was interrupted in part thereof "about harvest last was twelvemonth." A.D. 1631.

4. Dept. "verely thinketh in his conscience" that the said Tho. Billinge came to the said parsonage without paying any money or other reward for it, because he was of "soe smale and poore estate as that he was not of ability" to give any "gratuity."

1. RICHARD COVENTREE of Caldey grange in co. Chester, yeoman, aged about 70 years, has known the said Billinge for about 12 years, and that he has served the cure at the said parsonage from the time he came thither "untill his presentacon had by the said plt."

3. Knows that the said Sir William Massey and his ancestors have received the tithes and profits of the said Rectory for 60 years.

ROBERT BILLING, Clerk, Curate of BACKEFORD in co. Chester, aged about 33 years.

5. Dept. has heard by the report of Thomas Billinge his father that the plt. after he had got a presentation of the said parsonage from the King, did by Mr. Russell and divers person solicit dept's. father to leave his said induction in the said parsonage, so that he (plt.) might come to the same, and that he (plt.) would give to dept.'s father £20 a year for his life, and £20 or £30 a year to deponent's brother to serve the said cure, and also £30 each to 2 other of the children of dept.'s said father, in lieu of his right to the said parsonage. Dept. has also heard that plt. offered his (dept.'s) father a great sum of money for the said parsonage.

5, 6. JOHN BILLINGE of Saughall in co. Chester, Schoolmaster, aged about 21 years, knows that either before or after the said presentation of the said Rectory from his Majesty. plt. tried by all

means in his power to come to the said parsonage or rectory and to avoid Thomas Billing deponent's father then incumbent from the said church, and also tried by "Mr. Doctor" Foster and Mr. Mallory Dean of Chester to make the said Thomas Billing confess that he had come to the said Church by simony, and offered him £20 a year during his life if he would resign, and £30 to dept. to serve the cure during his life, and to dept.'s brother Robert and to his sister £30 each in lieu of the same resignation, to be paid to them within 1 year. Afterwards at a meeting held at Boughton an agreement was come to to the effect abovesaid, and articles were drawn up for the same purpose.

7. The 3 several papers now shown, 2 whereof are dated 19 Aug. 1631, and the 3rd whereof has no date, are true copies of the original writings made in that behalf between plt. and dept.'s father, and are in in dept.'s own hand writing, and that thereupon dept.'s father sealed and executed a resignation of the said parsonage, which he nevertheless kept in his own hands until plt. had performed the rest of the agreement.

HENRY HARPER, of the City of Chester, gent., aged about 37 years, was present at a meeting at Boughton between plt. and Thos. Billinge when "Mr. Deane" Mallory, Dr. Foster, and Mr. Ric. Mallory were present and there was some talk about the said Billinge resigning the benefice to plt. Certain papers were drawn up by dept. by the direction of the said parties, but nothing was settled while dept. was present, and he does not know what took place after he left.

ELIZABETH WYATT wife of William Wyatt of Chester "glaseor" aged about 53 years, understanding that the said Dean and others were at a meeting at Boughton went there to speak to the said Mr. Dean touching the placing of dept's son to be the King's scholar in the minster (?) of Chester, and took with her a quart of wine to give the said Mr. Dean as a "thankfulness" for his good will, but dept. does not know what conference the said persons had there.

1. PETER BLINSTON of Burton in co. Chester clerk, aged about 70 years, says that the said Thomas Billing was inducted parson of the said Church 1 Jas. I [1603]

2. Dept. believes that the said Billinge was presented to the said Rectory by Thomas Savage, after the death of Winstanley who was then parson thereof. Dept. has heard John Massey Esq., deceased, father of the said Sir Wm. Massey say that the said induction was against his will.

3, 4. As above.

6, 7. RAFFE BUCKLEY, of Little Mollington, in co. Chester, husbandman, aged about 32 years, says that he was sent for to the house of the said Thos. Billinge, in Mollinton, where dept. also dwelt, to witness a bond or writing which he thinks was a bond from plt. to the said Billinge for

payment of a yearly sum of money as a "free gift and of charity." At the same time there were present Mr. Russell, the said Thos. Billinge, and Robert and John Billinge, his sons.

HUGH DOD, of Chester, gent., aged about 73 years, deposes as above.

4. JOHN COTTINGHAM, of Little Neston, in co. Chester, gent., aged about 70 years, deposes that he thinks the said Billinge came clearly "to the said Rectory because he was then wellbeloved with the then bishop of the said diocese," and was unable to give anything for the same by reason of his poverty.

5, 6, 7. RICHARD MALLORY, of Chester, gent., aged about 28 years, deposes that about Dec., 1630, after the first presentation to West Kirkeby, granted to plt. and before the second granted by the King to plt. there was a meeting at Boughton, where were present Mr. Dean Mallory, of Chester, dept.'s father, &c., &c. At this meeting it was agreed that the said Billinge should resign the said parsonage, and should give power of attorney to dept. to commence a suit against the dept., Sir Wm. Massey, for the arrearages of all manner of tithes due from the said parsonage for 7 years past, for which purpose Hugh Dod subscribed his name as a witness, being a notary. Thereupon plt. and dept. became bound to the said Billinge for the payment of £20 per ann. &c., he on his part to become bound for the performance of the said agreement, and plt. and dept. sealed the said article, but because the said Billinge refused to seal a bond on his part, dept. put the said bonds and articles into his pocket and afterwards saw them all burned.

Depositions of witnesses taken at the City of Chester at the house of Folke Salisbury, gent., 15 January, 8 Charles I. [1633], before Henry Sutton and others, Commissioners.

Ex parte quer.

5. WILLIAM FOSTER, D.D., aged about 57 years, deposes that he gave to the plt., Thomas Glover, Clerk, the full, real, actual, and corporal possession of the Church and Rectory of West Kerby alias West Kerkby in co. Chester according to the endorsement of the Letters of Introduction, and that there were then present Wm. Glegg, Esq., Ric. Mallory, gent., George Bennett, gent., Jon. Glegg, Barnaby Stursaker, with several others.

6. WM. GLEGG, of Cauldye Grange, Esq., aged about 72 years says he knows that the plt., Thomas Glover, and others by his appointment have served and still serve the cure of the said Church of West Kirby, and administer the Holy Communion and perform other "rites" and duties there.

2. RICHARD YERWOOD, of Mobley, in co. Chester, yeoman, aged about 24 years, deposes that he knows that Thomas Billinge, Clerk, was convicted of simony before His Majesty's high commissioners at York, and was sentenced for the same and

removed from the Rectory and benefice of West Kirby where he was minister. The said sentence was openly published at York for dept. was present and heard it.

JOHN RABON, of West Kirby, in co. Chester, husbandman, aged about 36 years, believes that the tithes and glebe lands belonging to the Church and Rectory of West Kirby are worth per ann. about £100.

RICHARD JOHNSON, of West Kirby, husbandman, aged about 20 years, believes that the said tithes and glebelands are worth "eight score" powndes per ann. or thereabouts.

GEORGE BENNETT, of Greasby, in co. Chester, gent., aged about 45 years, has known all the defts., except Jon. Kelly, for many years, but has only known plt. since his induction to the said Rectory.

2. RICHARD MALLORY of Mobley, gent., aged about 29 years, believes that the paper copy now shewn to him is a true copy of the sentence pronounced against the said Mr. Billinge for simony.

3. 4. THOMAS WASSE of Chester, gent., aged about 27 years deposes that after the sentence of deprivation pronounced against Thos. Billinge, the plt. Thomas Glover tendered to the Bishop of Chester a copy thereof, whereupon the said Bishop declared the said rectory to be void, and immediately afterwards plt. tendered to the said Bishop a presentation from His Majesty under the great Seal of England to him of the said parsonage of West Kirby, which was accepted and thereupon plt. was instituted to the same.

LAWRENCE BOOTH, of Chester, gent., aged about 32 years says that on behalf of plt. he tendered a copy of a sentence of deprivation against Mr. Billinge late parson of West Kirby to the Bishop of Chester, which was accepted.

JOHN JONES of Chester, gent., aged about 27 years, says that the copy now shewn to him is a true copy of the original writ of quare impedit now depending before the King's Justices for the great Sessions of the county of Chester wherein the said William Massey is plt. against John Bishop of Chester and the said Thos. Glover, Clerk, deft's. concerning the right of presentation to the said Church and Rectory of West Kirkbye.

FEBRUARY 12, 1896.

ORIGINAL DOCUMENTS.

[14] CHARGES AGAINST A WIRRAL SQUIRE, 1649.

State Papers, Domestic Interregnum, Vol. A 183, pp. 94-96.

[30 July, 1649.]

1. That Mr. WILL GLEGG Esq. was a Comissioner of Array and acted as a Comissioner of Array in

Chester when Prince Rupert was there and in Wirral signed warrants for the Contry people to meete, and be listed under Sr. Thomas Powell for the defence of Wirrall against the Parlamt. partie.

2. That ye sd. Will: Glegg Esq. received into his house and yett keepeth certain books plundered from Mr. Boardman Minister of Bidston by an officer under the Comaund of Capt. Manwering wch. sd. Capt. was qrted at ye sd. Mr. Glegg his house at the same time and before the sd. plunder.

3. That the sd. Mr. Glegg threatened to lay some in Bidston Parish by the heeles, in Chester then in the power of the Kings partie for pulling down pictures in Church windowes according to ordinance of Parlamt., when afterwards monie was demanded from the sd. Mr. Glegg for repaire of his parte of the sd. windowes.

4. That the sd. Mr. Glegg was an occasior. of the Imprisoning of Mr. Boardman for refusing the oath imposed by the Majr. at Birkett that he might put his owne sone into ye place at Bidston.

5. That Mr. Glegg aforesaid offered fortie shillinges to some souldiers at Birkett of the Kings partie to kill Mr. Boardman who adhered to the Parlamt. and refused to administer an oath for the Kings partie as above.

[August, 1649.]

For answer to sertin informations that were given to the Sequistrators of this devison of the hundred of Worrall.

1. That I should be a Commissioner of a Rea it is most Scandilose and untrue, for as I am a Christian and hope to be saved there was never any of the King's party ever made any such motion to me by word of mouth or writing, and it is not unknown to you how I have behaved my self and suffered my children to hazard their lives and fortunes in the Parliament's service both in England and Ireland, how I have lived always at my own home among you, how I have been used by the "Cavaleers" of Chester and for my submission and joining with Col Moore when he came into this country with the Parliament forces I was taken prisoner with a troop of horse from my own house and brought to Chester and committed to the Castle of Chester for declaring myself for the Parliament, so I lay a prisoner there, and was forced to ransom my self out of prison by reason of the hard usage and for the benefit of my health, and was forced to pay £38 besides my fees and charges in prison. I had some rents owing me in Chester and hoped I should have got them, but they told me I was a traitor for joining Col. More. When the forces of Chester the second time came to my house and took me and my son William Glegg away with them prisoners, they came "dereckly" to my Chamber and I had not time to put on my clothes. They took away my wife's and children's clothes and everything they could carry away. They took 7 of our horses with the saddles and my wife and children had much trouble in saving the kine.

When we came to Chester we were committed prisoners to the Marshall and remained close prisoners for 7 whole weeks with threatening words to the effect that I should never come out that I should rot there. At last my said son William being out upon his "perroule," Sir Wm. Brurton made an exchange of myself and my son William for Sir Nicholas Barron Knight. Sir Wm. Brurton's favour was much therein, or else I was quite out of hope. After this, when I was at home in such great fear, for they still threatened to make me prisoner again, that I scarcely lay any night in my bed, the forces of Chester came to my house. I sprang out of bed, took my clothes in my hand, and ran out and lay down in a corn field, and so saved myself. My son, Edward Glegg, came about 12 o'clock that night from Howton Garrison, and brought my nephew, Capt. Lucke Loyd, and his son and their 2 men with them. They were forced to run out of their beds, and hide themselves in the fields, or else we had all been taken prisoners. The forces broke the stable, took my horses with their saddles and bridles; they plundered the house, and took away all they could carry. I had 4 of my best oxen kept at Morton, and my cattle had been abroad, and were only brought home the day before, so they were all taken, and I was made a poor man, but I praise God that myself and my sons "skaped ther hands."

You may see and know what a Commissioner Res" I am, and if you doubt of any of shall make "oth" of it.—WM. GLEGG.

Whereas information was given unto you Gabriell Bourdman was plundered of his books Bidston, and brought to Geaton to use and kepes them, for his plundering it unknown to me or eaver hard of such things tell report came that a soldier of Capten Manwringe called at Geaton to whither his Capten was there, and he was told that he was not there, and so he went to Chester, and for his bookes or any other goods I never so much as did see any of them, nore were left at my house, for I inquired, and all my family utterly denie any was left ther," and as to the Captain's quartering at my house, he came there sometimes as well as to other men's houses. We dare not deny him quarters when that party was master of the country.—WM. GLEGG.

3. I never threatened to lay some of the people of the parish of Bidston by the heels for breaking the windows in Bidston Church, but William Teliar asked me being at Bidston to pay for the window that was broken in the chancel. I told him that those who broke it ought to pay for it, and that if anything in that window gave offence it should be taken out and not the whole window broken. I gave him no money for it, but I told my want, William Prison, to speak to the glazier and to pay him his due, so he gave him 6s.—WM. GLEGG.

4. Whereas information was given that I was a cause of imprisoning Mr. Gabriell Bourdman for hindering the taking of an oath sent by the Mayor of Berked, I protest that I never knew of his refusal and imprisonment till some of the parish told me. The Churchwardens came to me at Geaton and told me they must have some one to serve in the Church, so I told them that my son William was a Minister and a Master of Arts, and that if the parish liked he should serve there, to which they agreed. As to the said oath sent to be taken in the Churches, I refused the taking of it, whereupon all the parish of Heswall refused the taking of it. Complaint was made about me the following day to the Commr. of Array in Chester and Sir Ric: Gravinor his "Shrife" blamed me very much for giving a bad example in opposing anything that might be for the benefit of the King's party, and told me he should have committed me for opposing that oath, but that he would spare me if I would appear at my next summons to answer for my refusal.—WM. GLEGG.

5. Whereas information was given that I should give 40s to some popish soldiers to kill Mr. Gabriell Bourdman, I wonder that anyone should be so base as to say such a thing. "I hope there is none so much unchristian as to have such a thought against me." I appeal to you what a senseless thing it is that any should go about to kill him, "his owne lude carriage hath made him rediculous to all good men and these informares may easily be judged what speret possesses them."—WM. GLEGG.

I doubt not but it appears to you by a letter that came from London to some of your hands and by Mr. John Doutton keeper of Bidston Park that he will take his oath that there came a letter from London to William Telier of Bidston to send to London £50 and then Mr. Bourdman's business would be done, for, says the letter, Mr. Henry Wilkocke has taken an oath that Mr. William Glegg of Geaton was a Commr. of "a Reay" and that Wm. Teliar must procure another to swear the same, and must get it done before a magistrate or the Mayor of Chester in all privacy and sent up to London. Mr. Doutton says he advised Wm. Teliar not to meddle in such a matter because if it were discovered he would be undone. They had some words about it, Mr. Doutton calling Wm. Teliar a "Roge" because he gave "mentenance to mentesayne" a forsworn man Hen. Wilkocke who had taken a false oath against an honest gentleman Mr. Glegg of Geaton when all the country knew that he (Mr. Glegg) was not a commr. of Array. So by this time I hope you see the malice that has devised this information against me, for this Wilkocke has married a wife who is a drunkard and made him desperate in commission, and he and Mr. Bourdman went to London together and contrived this against me, which is as false as God is true. The whole country will

witness how falsely I am accused by these men and Mr. Bourdman's credit is recorded what a blasphemous fellow he is, and that his being in prison doth make it manifest.—WM. GLEGG.

I utterly deny ever setting my hand to any paper or warrant to join with any Commission of Array or to join with any of them in making taxes or levies upon the country, or was ever desired so to do, and of this I am willing to make oath.—WM. GLEGG.

[15] THE BISHOP OF CHESTER'S VISITATION
FOR THE YEAR 1554.

(Continued from No. 3, January 8.)

DEANERY OF FRODSHAM.

ASCHTON.

Against the Churchwardens—they are to repair the churchyard before the Feast of S. Michael under pain of a fine of xxs. [Later] all repaired, so the Churchwardens assert.

ROSTORN

Against the Churchwardens—the Church & churchyard are in a ruinous state & they are in want of all ornaments & other necessities.
[Lying loose between the pages is the following return.]

ROTHSTORNE

The Vyker of Rothstorne Sir. Per' Shawe.

The Churchwardens.

Robt. Bowres. Hugh Gandye

John Meyre Ryed. Hattton.

Theys be the thyngs whych be wantyng wythyn ye sayd Churche.

Imprimis. a paxe.

Item. an albe.

Item. a vayle.

Item. the hyghe alter ys to be repeyred & not done.

Item. the cha'sell ys owf of Reparatyon both ye windowes & the Rouffe.

Item. the Churche ys ewf of Reparatyon both the windowes & the Rouffe.

BUDWORTH MAGNA

Against the Churchwardens—the churchyard wants repair & they need the books. They are to amend & supply the deficiency before the Feast of S. Michael under pain of a fine of xxs to be paid to the use of the Queen. [Later] All amended so the Churchwardens assert.

FRODSHAM

Against the Churchwardens—they need the crucifix [carent figura crucifixi]. They are to supply this deficiency before the Feast of St. Michael under pain of a penalty of xjs. [Later] All amended so the Churchwardens assert.

GRAPNALL.

Against the Churchwardens—they are to amend the churchyard before the Feast of Easter under penalty of excommunication.

BOWDON.

Against the Churchwardens—the Chancel out of repair by default & negligence of the Lord Bishop or of the farmer Mr. Tatton, and the rest of the ornaments by default of the Churchwardens. [Later.] Well repaired.

(To be continued.)

NOTES.

[16] BISHOP PEPLOE AND CHANCELLOR
GASTRELL.

When Samuel Peploe became Bishop of Chester in 1726, he found Peregrine Gastrell, the nephew of his predecessor, holding the office of Chancellor of the diocese. Between the newly-appointed bishop and his predecessor a long-continued struggle had been waged in connection with the Wardenship of the Collegiate Church of Manchester, a position held by Peploe. But the two men could never have worked in harmony under any circumstances. Gastrell was a strong Tory and High Churchman, the friend and defender of Atterbury; Peploe, an equally strong Whig and Latitudinarian, who had championed the Hanoverian cause at Preston, when it was in possession of the Jacobite troops in 1715. No wonder that their relations were always embittered. Peploe moreover was not magnanimous, and on succeeding to the see, he appears to have visited the uncle's treatment of him upon the head of the unfortunate nephew.

The latter was, however, well able to take care of himself; and after many private attempts at a reconciliation, he gave his grievances to the world in a pamphlet of 71 pages, published in 1747. This pamphlet bears the title, *An Enquiry into the Exercise of some parts of Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction, in three letters to the Right Reverend Father in God, Samuel, Lord Bishop of Chester, with a Preface. By his Chancellor. Hereunto are added in an Appendix: No. 1. A Collated Copy of the Table of Fees, which according to Law, was placed, and remains in the publick Registry at Chester, in such sort as every Man, whom it concerneth, may, without difficulty, have the Perusal, and take a Copy thereof. No. 2. An English Literal Translation of it. No. 3. Some Notes. No. 4. Some other Letters.* The pamphlet was printed for John Page, Bookseller, at Chester, and sold by T. Longman and T. Shewell, in Pater-noster-row, London.

In the preface, the Chancellor declares that the publication of these letters has been forced upon him by his failure to elicit an answer to

them when privately sent to the bishop. He considers the subjects of the letters of such public concern, and the differences between his diocesan and himself of so serious a nature, that it is essential that the world at large should have a correct understanding of the affair. Hence, in spite of his great respect for the episcopal order, and at the risk of bringing reproach on the Church and her jurisdiction, he is constrained to publish these letters.

The first letter relates to *Ecclesiastical Fees*. The Chancellor had openly declared that the received fees which were not due." The latter demanded that the charge may be particularised. "I ask," he writes, "what fees I unwarrantably demanded and received? Of whom? For what? And, when? Let the particulars be specified in writing. Let them be published throughout the diocese, and proved."

"If Particulars will not be specified, published, and proved, now they are called for and insisted on by one who hath a Right to demand them; I must stand clear of the Accusation, in the Opinion of all Men; and the Propagators be convicted of lying. I will not mention the Guilt."

Gastrell goes on to describe the antiquity of the office of Chancellor, and the provision to be made for his support. "Anciently the Bishop was bound, out of his own Revenue, to give a suitable Salary to his Chancellor, if he was not otherwise provided for.

Afterwards, to ease the Bishops of that charge, it was the Law and Practice for Chancellors, as for other ordinary Judges, who did not receive Salaries from the Publick, to be allowed such expences, as were and now are called *Sportules*, or Lawyers Fees, to be paid by the Suitors in every Business, and for those Officers, whom the Law had made necessary to them in the Execution of their Offices, to receive the like Fees in the like Cases; the Proportion to be demanded according to Custom, not according to any written Law, and estimated or taxed by the Judge of the Court, to which they belonged, and the Officers sworn that they would not demand more than the Sum taxed; and, if in the Taxation the Judge happened to err, the Party aggrieved might have the Error corrected upon an appeal to the next superior Judge.

It is probable in those times some Bishops were too arbitrary in their Grants; therefore in the Beginning of the Reign of Queen Elizabeth, an Act of Parliament was made (1 *Elis. Cap* 19: 8. 7.) and is now in Force, and hath been extended in Equity and Intention, to a Prohibition of Bishops' Grants, that they might not erect new Offices at Pleasure, nor augment the Fee or Salary of an ancient Office; but might grant ancient Offices with the ancient Fee, for the life of the Grantees: For if their

Estates depended upon Uncertainties &c., able Persons would not serve them in such Offices; or would not discharge their Office with any Alacrity, if they have not such certain Estates for their Lives, as their Predecessors had in the same Offices.

And because in those Times (as I apprehend) there were frequent disputes about the accustomed Fees, vexatious and injurious to the Officers and to the Publick; For the better Understanding of the State of the Offices, the Acts to be done, and the various Instruments to be issued out of them; and to ascertain the respective Fees to the respective Officers, a Canon made and ratified in the same Reign, enjoined That neither other nor Greater Fees should be received by any Bishop, Ordinary, or other Ministers, for the Future, than those which were accustomed to be received in the Beginning of the Reign of her then Majesty: That a certain table, containing the sums severally, of every one of this Sort of Fees, be fixed up in every Consistory, before a certain Day appointed in the Canon.

But this Canon being found ineffectual, another made and ratified in the same Reign (A.D. 1597) enjoined that the Table should contain every one of the Fees, one by one, which had been more frequently and usually accustomed to be received, as well by the Judge, as by every one of the Officers and Ministers of the Court, from the Beginning unto the Eighteenth Year of the same Queen, and an authentic Copy of the said Table to be delivered by every Judge to their respective Bishops, to be kept in the Archives of each.

By this it appears, that not the Bishop, but the Judge of the Court, was deemed the proper Judge of the Fees.

And one of the Canons of 1597 is to the following Purpose: If any where there was any Doubt which had been the most usual Fees unto the eighteenth Year of the said Queen, then those were to be taken for lawful, which were approved of by the Archbishop, &c.

This shews, that where there was any Doubt what had been the usual Fees at that Time, the Archbishop, not the Bishop, was the proper Judge.

The Table of Fees, now hanging up in the Consistory at Chester, by the Date of it, appears to have been prepared about two Years before the first of the Canons before-mentioned; then it was deemed the true Table of Fees for the Particulars expressed in and implied by it, and was hung up according to Law, to be the future Rule of Fees.

Again, a Canon, made in the Reign of King James the First, enjoined the Register, belonging to every Ecclesiastical Judge, to place two Tables, one in the Consistory, the other in the Registry, in such sort, as every Man, whom it concerned, might without difficulty come to the Perusal and take a Copy thereof, on Pain of Suspension from his Office

for six Months, if at any Time he removed, or suffered the same to be removed, contrary to the true meaning of the Canon.

Pursuant to this Canon the old Table was continued, and now remains in the Consistory; and a true copy of it was fixed up and now remains in the publick Registry at Chester. They are placed in such Sort, as every man, whom it concerneth, may, without Difficulty, have the Perusal, and take a Copy thereof.

Hence your Lordship and all men must grant it to be the true Table, by which the Bishop and all the Officers should regulate their Demands of Fees for the Particulars therein expressed, or thereby implied; unless it can be supposed that any Register would be so imprudent as to hazard Suspension, by removing, or suffering the true Table to be removed, or so unjust as to fix up a false table in its place.

When I first entered upon the Execution of the Chancellor's Office, now above twenty-three years ago, the present Deputy-Register (who hath been above forty years concerned in the Registry) gave me a Copy of that Table (wrote by one of my Predecessors) to be a Rule, upon every Emergency, to direct me in my own Demands of Fees, and in taxing the Fees of other Persons, in order to save me the Trouble of going to the original Table; and never since I was Chancellor, did I know, or hear, that any other Table of Fees was legally settled, and fixed up, nor is any other now fixed up in the Consistory and publick Registry at Chester."

In the appendix, Gastrell prints a copy of the Table of Fees in the original Latin, as well as a translation of the same. As this table gives a good idea of the extent of the Chancellor's jurisdiction, &c., it shall be given *extenso*. The difference in the value of money in 1582 and at the present time must of course be taken into account.

(To be continued.)

Q U E R I E S.

CHURTON.

[17] There are two Churtons, Churton-by-Farndon and Churton-by-Aldford. A few weeks ago there was a most interesting notice about "Churton," implying there was once a Church there (see No. 2, Jan. 1). Can readers of the "Sheaf" give any information on this point? There was a cross of stone at Churton, just opposite where the present "Red Lion" Public House stands, but it has entirely disappeared, with the exception of one piece (octagonal) of the shaft, now used as a stepping stone, a hundred yards or so from its original site.

L.E.O

[18] ST. MARY'S AND ST. BRIDGET'S BELLS.

Some time ago I learned of a bell, about 40lb. weight being in the possession of a marine store dealer in Chester, with the date and initials engraved thereon. I have a rubbing, of which I enclose a rough copy:—

1656 It would be interesting to learn the W history (if any) of this bell. It corresponds in date with those removed from St. Bridget's to St. Mary's, referred to in the account of the "Dedication of St. Mary's Bells," in the *Courant* of the 22nd January. The size, however, shews that this bell could not have been intended for the tower. Perhaps you could throw some light on the matter. Hemingway, vol. ii., p. 115, "refers to a tradition in the parish of St. Bridget's that the church had formerly five bells, but one was seized by a churchwarden for a parish debt, and carried to Waverton." It may be noted that the bell from St. Bridget's dated 1656, which is now at St. Mary's, has the name William Warrington as one of the churchwardens, and the bell I write about, with the same date, has the letter W to represent the surname. The present owner of the bell has had a tongue fixed into it, and it is now used for his work-people.

HARPER GATTHORPE.

Barrow-in-Furness.

FEBRUARY 26, 1896.

NOTES.

[19] BISHOP PELOE AND CHANCELLOR GASTRELL.

(Continued from No. 16, February 19th.)

The following is the Table of Fees referred to by Gastrell, of which he prints the original Latin and an English translation:—

THE ENGLISH TRANSLATION, &c.

April the ninth, in the Year of our Lord, One thousand five hundred eighty-two. } The Table of Fees within the Diocese of Chester, due and of old accustomed to be paid.

To the
Chancellor. Register.

£ s. d. £ s. d.

FIRST, A Citation primary seven pence 0 0 4 ... 0 0 3
A Citation by Ways and Means; a Citation with Intimation or Inhibition; a Citation of *quorum Nomina*, or those whose Names are enter'd by the Hand of the Register; a Monition to pay Expences;

Letters of Purgation, or Filiation; Letters to sequester or suspend a Seat: Letters of Relaxation upon the Sequestration; a Commission to absolve anyone excommunicate: a Commission to set a Price upon Goods; a Suspension of a Curate from Benefice or Office; for every several Instrument two Shillings six Pence; of which—to the Chancellor twenty Pence—to the Register ten Pence.. 0 1 8 ... 0 0 10

Letters Testimonial upon Ordination of a Clerk, for every Sentence given; Letters Testimonial upon a decree final; Letters to sequester or gather the Goods of a Person deceased; Letters to sequester the Fruits of a Benefice; Relaxation of the same Sequestration; Letters of Remission; *Significavit* to our Lady the Queen; *Supersedas* of the same *Significavit*; Commission to examine Witnesses upon a Will of a person deceased, and to administer the Oath to the Executors or Administrators of any person deceased, or to examine Witnesses for Parties upon any other Matter; Commission for placing a Seat, or to build a Seat; Commission to assess a Tax (called a *Lay*) upon a Pariah for Reparation of a Church, and the like; Licence to eat Flesh; Licence to practice Physick or Surgery; Licence to solemnize Matrimony without Banns thrice published; Letters Testimonial upon an Account; Letters Testimonial upon Subscription of Articles of Religion, for every several Instrument ten Shillings; of which—to the Chancellor six Shillings eight Pence—to the Register three Shillings four Pence 0 6 8 ... 0 3 4

For registering every Account and the Letters of Acquittance upon the same, to the Register 0 3 4

Letters Testimonial upon a Sentence given, or upon Institution of a Person bene-

ficed, for every Instrument, several, thirteen Shillings four Pence; of which—to the Chancellor six Shillings eight Pence—to the Register six Shillings eight Pence 0 6 8 ... 0 6 8

For a final Decree at the Acts; a Monition to set forth Tithes, Letters, Testimonial of good Fame, Letters of Citation upon Request from another Judge, upon Promise to grant the like; an Admission and Registering of a Royal Prohibition, and of a Consultation, for every several Instrument five shillings; of which to the Chancellor for every one three Shillings four Pence—to the Register twenty Pence 0 3 4 ... 0 1 8

For every one before the Head Judge, or his Deputy, sworn a Compurgator, and for Absolution of every one, at the Instance of a Party excommunicated, for every one eight Pence, of which—to the Chancellor four Pence, to the Register four Pence 0 0 4 ... 0 0 4

For Exhibition, and Subscription, of Letters Testimonial upon Consecration of a Chapel; for Exhibition of the foundation of a Church, or Collegiate Church, and of the Statutes; for every one five Shillings, of which—to the Chancellor two Shillings six Pence—to the Register two Shillings six Pence 0 2 6 ... 0 2 6

For Excommunication of every one, (if it shall happen) for Absolution of every one in like manner, for every one fifteen pence—to the Chancellor seven Pence—to the Register eight Pence 0 0 7 ... 0 0 8

For Entry of a Purgation, Filiation, Citation, and *quorum Nomina*, or of those whose Names are entred by the Hand of the Register, for every one four Pence 0 0 1 ... 0 0 3

For Subscription of every Inventory exhibited 0 0 6

For Examination of every Witness, upon a Matter exceptive, Libel, Allegation, Positions additional, and other single Exhibits, for

Chancellor only—for Exhibition of a Presentment, to the Register four Pence only.....	0	0	4	...	0	0	4
For Exhibition, and Subscription, of Letters for the Office of Curate, Schoolmaster, Preacher, and Lecturer, for every one—to the Register four Pence only					0	0	4
For Appearance of every one upon the Crime of Adultery, Fornication, or Offence presented, twenty two Pence, to the Chancellor nine Pence, to the Register nine Pence—the Residue to the Apparitor.....	0	0	9	...	0	0	9
For a Decree of the Judge upon the same Crimes, eighteen Pence	0	1	0	...	0	0	6
For a Copy of this sort of a Decree eighteen Pence to the Register ..					0	1	6
For a Dismission upon Penance done, duly certified, two Shillings eight Pence—to the Chancellor sixteen Pence, to the Register sixteen Pence...	0	1	4	...	0	1	4
(To be Continued.)							

MARCH 4, 1896.

NOTES.

[20] BISHOP PEPLOE AND CHANCELLOR GASTRELL.

(Continued from Nos. 16 and 19, Feb. 19 and 26.)

For Letters of Ordination twelve Shillings eight Pence—to the Chancellor two Shillings, to the Register two Shillings, the Residue to the Officers of the Lord Bishop	0	2	0	...	0	2	0
For Admission of a Resignation with the Act, eleven Shillings four Pence—to the Chancellor six Shillings eight Pence, to the Register four Shillings four Pence.....	0	6	8	...	0	4	4
Exhibition of a Proxy in this sort of Business, two Shillings six Pence.....	0	1	6	...	0	1	0
For registering Letters of Induction duly certified, three Shillings four Pence to the Register only					0	3	4
For every Search in the Records for any Proceeding, and Instrument (beside a Will) three Shillings four Pence to the							

Register only; and for a Search of a Will, two Shillings six Pence	0	3	4				
For a Probate of a Will, and granting Administration, according to the Statute, if the form of the Statute be observed							
For taxing a Schedule of Expences,—to the Chancellor one Shilling—to the Register four Pence	0	1	0	...	0	0	4
For Letters of Institution and Induction, to the Chancellor thirteen Shillings four Pence—to the Register ten Shillings—the whole Fees one Pound one Shilling four Pence; the rest remains to the Lord Bishop...	0	13	4	...	0	10	0
For a Consecration of a Chapel, together with the Letters Testimonial, <i>sic</i> Pounds thirteen Shillings four Pence,—to the Chancellor twenty Shillings,—to the Register thirteen Shillings four Pence—the Residue to the Lord Bishop	1	0	0	...	0	13	4
For Letters to a beneficed Person to assume a Coadjutor, twenty Shillings,—to the Chancellor five Shillings,—to the Register five Shillings,—the Residue to the Lord Bishop	0	5	0	...	0	5	0
For the Fee of the Register for discharging a Commission for Parties (to wit) for every Day, in which he is to ride, for himself, and Horse, ten Shillings; for every Day, in which he shall stay with a Party, for dispatching a Commission of this Sort, over and above Diet, for himself, and Horse, ten Shillings					0	10	0
For reading every Schedule of Excommunication, to the Judge only	0	0	4				

For the Proctors. £ s. d.

FIRST, For every Proxy in writing	0	2	6
For every Libel in Causes of Tithes, of Right of Patronage, of Legacy, and of Matrimony	0	6	8
For every Libel in other Causes and Articles	0	5	0
For every Allegation concluding, either in writing, or at the Acts	0	3	4
For every Matter reconventional, or Matter against a Libel	0	6	8
For Exceptions and Replications	0	6	8
For every Matter additional.....	0	3	4
For finishing an Answer personal	0	2	0
For Interrogatories to be finished	0	3	4

For finishing an Account upon a Will, or an Administration	0	3	4
For every Sentence	0	2	0
For every Schedule or Bill of Expenses ...	0	1	8
For every Schedule of Excommunication ...	0	1	0
For every Act in Writing given	0	1	0
For an Appeal at the Acts in Writing interposed	0	3	4
For every Appeal from a Sentence definitive	0	1	0
For the Fee of a Proctor on the first Court Day	0	2	0
For the Fee of a Proctor, for every other Court Day, to the end of a Cause	0	1	0
For a Brief to be finished upon the Merits of a Cause to inform the Judge	0	3	4
For the Fee of a Proctor on The Day of Information	0	2	0
For a Protocol of Appeal before a Notary publick	0	6	8
For Letters Testimonial upon this Sort of Appeal	0	13	4
For the Fee of a Proctor for dispatching a Commission for Parties, (to wit) for every Day, in which he is to ride for himself and Horse	0	6	8
For every Day, in which he shall remain with a Party, for dispatching a Commission for Parties, over and above Diet	0	10	0

To the Apparitor General.

FIRST, For every Rector and Vicar within the Diocese aforesaid, beneficed in the Time of the Visitation of the Lord Bishop	0	0	8
Also, From every Curate, Schoolmaster, and the Wardens of every Parish or Chapel, in the Time of the Visitation of the Lord Bishop	0	0	4
Also, An Entry of every Citation, at the Instance of a Party	0	0	1
Also, For every Institution and Induction	0	1	4
Also, For every sentence at the Instance of a Party given	0	2	0
Also, For every Will or Administration granted, if the Goods of the Deceased exceed Forty Pounds according to Custom			So for other sums under forty Pounds.
Also, for every Adulterer, Fornicator, or any other blameworthy Person presented, or by Officer cited	0	0	4
Also, For a personal Execution of a Citation at the Request of anyone	0	0	6
Also, When he rides for any blameworthy Person by the Office only cited (the Visitation of the Lord Bishop, and the Persons in the same detected and presented only excepted), for every Mile ...	0	0	1
Also, For a corporal oath of every Witness or Party principal, and for every oath taken by the Judge about the like causes	0	0	1
Also, In the Paschal Synod for every Rector and Vicar	0	0	4

Also, For every Deacon or Priest by the same Reverend Father ordained 0 0 4
 Also, For every one excommunicated..... 0 0 1

This is a true Copy of the Table of Fees in the Episcopal Registry at *Chester*, openly fixed up and set forth; a faithful Collation with the same being made by me.

(Signed) EDWARD ROBERTS,
 Deputy Register.

(To be continued.)

REPLIES.

CHURTON.

[21]

[See No. 17, February 19.]

The Church at Churton referred to in Bishop Cotes's Visitation Enquiries (See No. 2, January 1) is that more commonly called Bruera Chapel. An alternative name was Church on the Heath. (Bacon's *Liber Regis*, ed. 1786, p. 1207). Church on Heath, Lea cum Newbold, Saughton, and Huntington, formed the Chapelry of Bruera, which in 1868 was constituted a separate parish. These townships were included in the Chester Parish of St. Oswald's. The building is ancient, containing Norman portions.

M. A.

[22] ST. MARY AND ST. BRIDGET'S BELLS.

(See No. 18, February 19th.)

In reply to Mr. Harper Gaythorpe, I beg to say that the letters ^w_{1,2} on the bell to which he refers, are the initials of John Scott, of Wigan, a famous bell-founder in the 17th century. Particulars respecting him will be found in a paper on *Bell-Founders in Lancashire and Cheshire*, written by the late Mr. J. P. Earwaker. It appeared in the *Transactions of the Lancashire and Cheshire Historic Society* for the year 1890.

Might I suggest that a complete list of the inscriptions on Cheshire bells should be collected and published in the "Sheaf?"

CAMPANOLOGIST.

We entirely accept our correspondent's suggestion. There is a complete collection of the inscriptions on the bells in the Deanery of Wirral in *Wirral Notes and Queries*, vol. II. We think that it would be the best plan to take first the ancient Deanery of Chester, which included the following churches and chapels:—In Chester City—St. Bridget's, St. John Baptist, Little St. John, St. Mary's, St. Michael's, St. Olave's, St. Oswald's with Bruera Chapel, St. Peter's, Holy Trinity, the Cathedral; in Cheshire and Wales: Barrow, Christleton, Dodleston, Eccleston, Farndon, Guilden Sutton,

Hawarden, Holt with Iscoyd, Ince, Plemonstal, Pulford, Tarporley, Tarvin with Hargrave, Thornton, and Waverton. We shall be glad to receive accounts of the bells of these churches with their inscriptions, &c.

EDITORS.

ORIGINAL DOCUMENTS.

[23] JUSTICES OF THE PEACE IN CHESHIRE IN 1620.

(See No. 11. January 29.)

(Harl. M.S., 1535, f. 3b.)

Frans. viscount St. Albion Can [Chancellor]
Henry viscount Mandevell Tre [Treasurer]
Edward Earle of Worcester paeale [Privy Seal]
Lodowick duke of Lenox steward
John Earle of Predgwatter [sic for Bridgewater]
Gilbert Lord Gerrard
Sr Petter Warb'rtan Justice of c. plas [Common Pleas]

Sr James Whitlock Justice of Chester
Sr Henry Towensend Justice of Chester
Sr George Boothe knight and baro'ett
Sr Thomas Savage Kt. and baronett
Sr Robert Cholmonley baronett
Sr Randulph Crewe sergt. at Law
Sr Richard Bulkeley Knight
Sr William Brereton Knight
Sr Vrian Leighe Knight
Sr Petter Leighe Knight
Sr Robert Needham Knight
Sr Richard Brooke Knight
Sr Richard Wilbraham Knight
Sr William Davenport Knight
Sr Edmund Trafford Knight
Sr Richard Egerton Knight
Sr Randulph Manwaringe Kt
Sr Henry Bunbury Knight
Sr Thomas Delves Knight
Sr Richard Lea Knight
Sr Thomas Brereton Knight
Sr Richard Grosvenor Knight
Sr John Donne Knight
Sr William Massey Knight
Thomas Mallorey Deane of chapt
Richard Murray Doctor of Divinity
Petter Warberton of Arley
Thomas Brooke of Norton
George Cotton of Combermere
George Vernon
William Brereton of Asheley
Thomas Marbury
Edward Dutton of Hatton
Petter Daniell of Tabley
William Leversage
David Yalle Doctor of civill Law
Humfrey Davenport
John Minshall of Minshall

William Davenport
John Savage of Barrow
Edward Dode of Edge
George Spurstow
David Massey of Brorton
Rich: Brereton of Wettenhall
Thomas Dodd Archdeaco of Richmond
Arthur Starkey
Henry Birkenheade
John Massey of Coddington
Edward Glegge
William Glegge
William Swetenham
George Byrom clerics

MARCH 11, 1896.

ORIGINAL DOCUMENTS.

[24] A DEED OF THE SKINNERS' COMPANY, A.D. 1555.

The following is a copy of a deed found among the papers of Mr. William Corles, who carried on the business of a skinner and watglover in this city in the 18th Century, and was handed to me by his grandson, the Rev. Harry Corles, of Bury St. Edmunds. Accompanying it was a more recent deed, probably of the end of Elizabeth or of the time of James I. It is a revised copy of the older deed, and in what it retains, verbally exact, with some variations in spelling. The whole of Article 3, and all relating to imprisonment in Article 5 is omitted. The signatures are the same in all respects.

Chester.

F. P. DODD THOMAS.

Hereafter folowe the perpetuall concordces and agrements made and to be used amongestes the hole bretheren of the occupacion of gloves porsors baggmakers and poynters Wythin the Cytie of Chester and ther successors for the Commyn Welthe and proffitt as well of the sayd Cytie as of eny of the sayd bretheren of the Mysteryes and occupacyons for ever to endure as ensuythe.

Ffyrst it is agreid and concludett by the Aldermen stuwards compeyned with the most pte of the brethern of the said occupacon that if eny brother of the said occupacon do bye eny kyndes of freshe felles whiche shall come or be brought at eny tyme or tymes hereafter to the Comon hall of the Cytie of Chester or to eny other place withyn the said Cytie or the libties of the same that the said brother after he haith so bought the sames shall therof yeve notyue to the Aldermen of the said occupacon whiche said Aldermen Two Stuwardes & foure of the most aunoyent & discrete brethern of the said occupacon shall devyde the said felles in two pts and the one half of sames delynd to the

said brother who hath so bought theym and the other half equally to be devydet among thother brethern of the said occupaon paying therefore so moche as the said brother who so bought theym shall depose he payd for the same Prydett that if the said Aldermen do not devyde & pay for theym within one weke next after notyee thereof yeven as is aforesaid that then the said brother that so haith bought the sames to be at libtie to sell or otherwise use the said felles so bought as is aforesaid at his will & pleasure.

Itm is agreid concludett and concordett amongst the said brethern of the said occupaons that if eny brother or brethern of the saide occupaons do lacke or want suche felles that then the said brother so wantyng upon knowlage of the said devysion shall have fyrst a reasonable pte of the same felles to hym to be assigned by the said Aldermen Stuwads and four psons to be appoynted as is aforesaid paying for the same accordyngly as is in the last article mencyoned and appoynted And the rest of the said felles to be devydet as is above mencyoned and if eny brother doo breke eny poynt of the Articles above mencyoned that then the same brother so offendyng shall lose for eny tyme that he doith soo offende to pounde of curraunt money of Englund to be levied by the Shyreffe of the said citie for the tyme beyng and the Stuwads of the said occupaons thone half to thuse of the comon boxe of the said Citie and thother half to thuse of the brethern of the said occupaons.

Itm it is fforther concludett and agreid amongst the said occupaons that as ofte as eny of the said brethern of the said occupaons do fortune to travell and go abrode into the countrey to eny place to bye or to gett eny kynde of the said felles And so bye the same that then at his comyng home with the said felles or if he send theym home The said brother so bying the sames to make the lyke warnyng and yeve the like notyee as is in the fyrst article expressed and the lyke devysion and partions thereof to be made as lykewise in the said article is mencyoned upon payn of to pounde to be levied as is in the next article before mencyoned Prydett that the saide Aldermen Stuwads and brethern of the said occupaons shalbe from tyme to tyme contrybutorys to such charges as the said brother haith byn putto aboute the byinge of the said felles.

Itm it is fforther concludett and agried amongst the said occupaons as oftetyms as it shall happen eny metyng to be at eny place that if eny brother of the said occupaons do absent hymself havyng reasonable monyoon and warnyng by eny pson by the comandement of the Stuwads of the said occupaon that then eny such brother so offendyng & absentyng hymself to lose for eny tyme twelve pence to thuse of the said occupaons.

Itm it is fforther concludett & agreid amongst the said occupaons that if eny of the said brethern

at eny metyng when they be together do mysorde hymself in the peence of the said Aldermen Stuwads and other the brethern in word or otherwise in mysrule after warnyng two or thre tymes yeven onto hym that suche brother so offendyng to lose for eny tyme twelve pence to be levied by the said Stuwads of the said occupaons to thuse of the same occupaons and if eny recystaunce be made in levying therof, then the Aldermen and Stuwads of the same occupaons to comytte hym to warde to the northe gate, ther to remayn untill the said forfeiture be paid, and further to be ordered and ruled by the said Aldermen and Stuwads.

Itm it is fforther concludett concordett, and agreid amongst the said occupaons that all orders beyng agreable with the lawes of this Realme and the Comon welthe of said Citie hereafter to be made by the said Aldermen, Stuwads, and hooll occupaons, or the most pte of theym shalbe from then forthe obsvrd and kepte amongst the said occupaons in as large and ample manr. and forme as if the sames were expressed in these psents. In witnes whereof John Smyth, Alderman, maior of the Citie of Chester, at the intercession, humble request and desire of the said Aldermen, Stuwads, and brethern of the said occupaons to these psents haith caused the seall of office of Mairaltie of the said Citie to be putt the secound day of January in the secound & thyrd yerres of the reignes of o'r most drad Souargn lord and ladye Phillip and Marye by the grace of God Kyng and Quene of Englund fraunce Naples Jerusalem & Irelande defenders of the faith Princes of Spayn & Cioele Archedukes of Austrie dukes of Mylloyn burgndie & brabant coyntes of haspurge flanders and Tyrell.

Maystr Bronneshanke	Ryod Brerewod
Maystr Ball	John Anyon
Gylbert Whythead	Wyllym Woodd
John Fyasher	Ronald Walker
Petur Flecoher	John Mershe
Thomas Barrowe	Ryod Caldey
Ryod Yonge	Ryod Coke
Rondull Huhson	Robert Crosse
Ryod Pecco	Ryod Whytehed
Robert Heryve	Wyllym Maddocke
Robert Fyasher	Ryod Gryffe
Wyllm Mycnll Dayle (P)	Lawrence Smythe
John Smythe Mayre	Wyllm Gerrarde, Recorder
Thomas Aldersey	Thomas Smythe

NOTES.

[25]

WILLIAM SMITH, D.D.

Dean of Chester, 1758-1787.

One of the most distinguished names in the roll of the Deans of Chester is that of William Smith, who presided over the Chapter last century for nearly thirty years. He was the son of the Rev. Richard Smith, Rector of All

Saints', Worcester, in which city, he was born 30 May, 1711. He received his early education at Worcester Grammar School, where he made great proficiency in his studies. In 1728, he proceeded to Oxford, becoming a member of New College in that University. He graduated as B.A. in 1732, and as M.A. in 1737.

Soon after he had taken his bachelor's degree, he had the good fortune to become known to the Earl of Derby, of whose family he became an inmate for three years, with the position of *Reader* to his lordship. His connection with the Stanley family proved of the greatest service to him throughout his career. The first evidence of this was his presentation by Lord Derby to the Rectory of Holy Trinity, Chester, immediately after his ordination in 1735.

Mr. Smith soon gave proof of his classical scholarship by the publication in 1739 of a translation of the well-known work of Dionysius Longinus on *the Sublime*. This translation was considered very masterly, and won the warmest praises of the critics. During Smith's lifetime, it ran to three editions, and two others appeared after his death.

"On a *State fast*, 4 Feb., 1740, our Author preached in Trinity Church on Prov. 14, 34: 'Righteousness exalteth a nation, but sin is a reproach to any people.' This sermon was printed at the request of his parishioners, and inscribed to them. The Right Honorable Edward, Earl of Derby, had succeeded that nobleman who had presented Mr. Smith to Trinity Church; but Mr. Smith still continued to be esteemed at Knowsley, notwithstanding Knowsley had changed its master. He, who had been long considered as the Earl of Derby's Chaplain, was constituted in form, by letters patent, 2 Aug., 1743. On 31 July, 1746, our author preached an Assize Sermon at Lancaster, on St. John 8, 32. This Sermon is inscribed to the High Sheriff and Grand Jury, being published at their command."

In 1746, party spirit was very high in Chester, owing to the recent Jacobite invasion. The Tories were headed by Sir Robert Grosvenor, the Whigs by Mr. Mainwaring of Bromborough, who was Baron of the Court of Exchequer for Cheshire. A clergyman named Parry libelled Mr. Mainwaring, who resented the affront by pulling his nose. Mr. Smith, whose sympathies were on the Whig side, wrote the following epigram on the incident:—

Dunstan, with forceps strong and tight,
As popish legends tell,
Caught *Satan* fairly by the nose,
In *Glassenbury* cell.

O Chester Folk, how you'd have laughed
At miracle so quaint:
To see poor Devil stamp and twist,
When hamper'd by the Saint!

And yet a *Layman* brave and bold,
No Popish Saint, I ween,
Serv'd him again the self-same trick,
As you yourselves have seen.

You joke!—took *Satan* by the nose,
And pull'd him hard!—Aye marry:
The *Baron's* knuckles held him fast
In *shape* of Parson Parry.

In 1748, Smith was appointed Head Master of Brentwood Grammar School, in Essex. His appointment did not, in those lax days, necessitate the relinquishment of his ecclesiastical benefice. But scholastic work proved irksome, and after retaining the position for a year, Mr. Smith resigned it, and returned to more congenial labours. In 1753, he was licensed as one of the Ministers of St. George's Church in Liverpool, on the nomination of the Corporation there.

In the same year, he published a Translation of *Thucydides*, in 2 vols. quarto, dedicating it to Frederick Prince of Wales, the father of George III. This work was reprinted in octavo.

In January 1758, the Deanery of Chester became vacant by the death of Dean Brooke. "There were many candidates for this dignity; but Mr. Smith was so well supported by several of his illustrious *Friends*, especially by his noble Patron, the Earl of Derby, whose interest was powerful at Court, and who prevailed on the *Right Honourable* Earl Granville, then President of the Council, and on his Grace the Duke of Newcastle, to unite with him in recommending *Mr. Smith*, that his Majesty, K. George II. presented him to the *Deanery*. He now took the degree of *Doctor in Divinity*. On 28 July, *Dr. Smith* received institution, and was installed the same day by that learned and accomplished Preacher the Rev. *Mr. Mapletoft*, vicar-dean."

(To be continued.)

MARCH 18, 1896.

NOTES.

[26] WILLIAM SMITH, D.D.,
Dean of Chester 1758—1787.
(Continued from No. 25, March 11.)

For the first nine years of his Decanate, Dr. Smith only paid occasional visits to Chester, residing for the most part at Liverpool; but in 1767, he resigned St. George's, and determined to take up his abode in the Deanery. The Liverpool Town Council marked their esteem of his services by presenting him with 150 guineas on his departure. On coming to view the Deanery House in Chester, he composed the following lines:—

Within this pile of mould'ring stones,
The Dean hath laid his wearied bones,—
In hope to end his days in quiet
Exempt from nonsense, noise, and riot;
And pass, nor teiz'd by fool nor knave,
From this still mansion to his grave.
Such there, like richer men's, his lot,
To be in four days' time forgot.

Dr. Smith was able to devote some of his leisure to his classical studies, the result of which was made manifest by the publication in 1770 of a translation of Xenophon's Hellenics. He still retained his Rectory of Holy Trinity, together with the Chapter Rectory of Handley, to which he had been appointed in 1766. He resigned Holy Trinity, however, in 1780, on receiving the valuable Rectory of West Kirby.

A short memoir of the Dean, prefixed to his collected Poems, was published in 1788 by the Rev. Thomas Crane, of St. Olave's, Chester (afterwards vicar of Over). Some extracts from this curious composition have been already given. The following are derived from the same source.

"Dr. Smith was now the Dean of Chester Rectory of Handley, and West Kirby; but his best parochial preferment happened late in life: he was advanced into his *seventieth* year, and began to feel the infirmities ever attendant on age and a delicate constitution. He had hitherto been a constant and powerful preacher. He began now to preach less frequently, as every exertion fatigued him exceedingly. But when he could no longer preach from the pulpit, he preached from the Press, in publishing (in

octavo) "Nine Discourses on the Beatitudes" in 1782.

The Dean died 12 January, 1787, and was buried in the Cathedral on the 19th of the same month, the Bishop (Porteus) and five Prebendaries acting as Pall-bearers. A monument was erected to his memory by his wife, who had been a Miss Heber, of Essex, with the following inscription:—

SACRED TO THE MEMORY OF
WILLIAM SMITH D.D.
DEAN OF THIS CATHEDRAL, AND
RECTOR OF WEST KIRBY AND HANDLEY IN THIS
COUNTY,
WHO DIED THE XIITH OF JANUARY MDCCLXXXVII,
IN THE LXXVITH YEAR OF HIS AGE.
AS A SCHOLAR, HIS REPUTATION IS PERPETUATED
BY HIS VALUABLE PUBLICATIONS,
PARTICULARLY HIS CORRECT AND ELEGANT
TRANSLATIONS OF LONGINUS, THUCYDIDES AND
XENOPHON.
AS A PREACHER, HE WAS ADMIRER AND
ESTEEMED BY HIS RESPECTIVE AUDITORIES
AND AS A MAN HIS MEMORY REMAINS INSCRIBED
ON THE HEARTS OF HIS FRIENDS.
THIS MONUMENT WAS ERECTED
BY HIS AFFECTIONATE WIDOW.

"The Dean" says Mr. Crane, "never was a *Stipendiary Curate*. The moment he was ordained a *Priest*, he became a *Rector*, and enjoyed ever after an income which far exceeded his expenses. An enemy to ostentatious legacies, he bequeathed the chief of his fortune, which was very considerable, to his widow and his Nephew, for he had no children. He gave one hundred pounds to the Chester Infirmary, and one hundred pounds to the fund for Widows of Clergymen in the Archdeaconry of Chester: these he esteemed useful charities.

"The Dean was tall and genteel: his voice was strong, clear, and melodious. He spoke Latin fluently, and was complete Master not only of the Greek, but Hebrew Language. His mind was so replete with knowledge, that he was a living library. His manner of address was graceful, engaging, delightful. His Sermons were pleasing, informing, convincing. His memory, even in age, was wonderfully retentive; and his conversation was polite, affable, and in the highest degree improving."

The Dean's Poems are not conspicuous for their merit. The longest and most ambitious is entitled 'Knowsley,' in which he celebrates the beauties of the place and the virtues of its

owner. The following epitaph on an Infant does not seem destitute of merit.

An Infant's Fate may make a Parent Sad,
An Infant's Fate should make a Parent glad.
Rapt out of life ere Cares and Woes begin,
I knew no sorrow, for I knew no sin.
Death has no sting for him who dies so young;
Reader, repent, since thou has lived so long.

F. S.

[27] "THE BOLD LADY OF CHESHIRE."

The *Newcastle Chronicle* contained some time back the following passage:—

"When, in the year 1588, Queen Elizabeth took upon herself the command of her forces in person, and gave her historic stirring address to some twenty-three thousand men at Tilbury Fort, the enthusiasm and loyalty of the nation knew no bounds. Not only the hearts of men, but the hearts of women, fired by the example of their Queen, were stirred to the lowest depth with feelings of chivalrous devotion to Queen and country. One lady, in particular, Mary, the wife of Sir Hugh Cholmondeley, of Vale Royal, near Chester, displayed such valour and patriotism, that she became known as 'the bold lady of Cheshire.' In a moment of enthusiasm, inspired by the stirring events of the time, Queen Elizabeth bestowed upon her the accolade of knighthood, a royal action probably without precedent."

Mr. W. D. Pink, writing to *Notes and Queries* (15 Feb., 1896), says that "this bold lady of Cheshire was daughter and heiress to Christopher Holford, of Holford, by Elizabeth his wife, the daughter and co-heiress of Sir Randle Mainwaring, of Over Peover, Cheshire. By her husband, Sir Hugh Cholmondeley, she was mother to the first Viscount Cholmondeley. I do not know of this incident of her 'knighthood' being elsewhere recorded. As stated, it is probably without precedent, although we are not without instances that are nearly its equivalent. Upon several occasions where gentlemen have died before receiving the honour that would have been theirs, by command of the Sovereign, their widows have been authorised to take and enjoy the rank and precedence they could have held had their husbands survived to receive knighthood."

EDITORS.

ORIGINAL DOCUMENTS.

[28] INQUISITIO POST MORTEM OF JOHN WHITMORE, OF CHESTER AND THURSTASTON.

Welsh Records Inqns. p. m. 16 Hen. 6, no. 10.

Inquisition taken at Chester before Richard Masey Mayor of the City of Chester and Escheator of Cheshire, on Wednesday next

before the feast of St. Dunstan 16 Hen. 6., by the oath of Robert de Hale, Richard Weston, Thomas Bradford, John Hykelyn, David Whyte, Bartholomew Lyaldon, Thomas Hame, John Sotyngnam, John Layet, John Mynor, Robert Harryson, and Robert de Wolley, jurors, who say that

JOHN DE WHITMORE did not hold of the King in capite nor of any others on the day of his death any lands or tenements within the City of Chester, but the said John was seized in his demesne as of fee of 15 Messuages, 15 gardens, and 1 cellar with appurtes in the City of Chester which are held of the King as Earl of Chester in socage by fealty only, and are worth per ann., clear, 13s. 8d.

Also of 13s. 4d. rent issuing out of 1 messuage with appurtes in Goslons of the said City, which John Herford now holds; also of 9s. rent issuing out of the messuage with appurtes in Goslons of the said City, which John Dedwod now holds; and 6s. of rent issuing out of 1 messuage in Estyatestrete of the said City, which John Launcelyn lately held: all of which said rents are held of the King in socage by fealty only.

John Whitmore died on Sunday next before the feast of the Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary last past; William de Whitmore is his kinsman and next heir, to wit, son of William de Whitmore, son of the said John de Whitmore, and was then aged 21 years and more.

Welch Records Inqns p.m. 16 Hen. 6 no. 10.

Inquisition taken at Macclesfeld before John de Legh del Rigge, Escheator of the King in the county of Cheshire on Monday next before the feast of the Invention of the Holy Cross, 16 Hen. 6., by the oath of John Savage junior, William de Stanley, Robert de Legh of Adlyngton, Robert del Dounes, John de Worth, Richard de Vernon of Haslyngton, Richard de Moreton, Roger de Mottrum, Richard de Hokenhull, Robert de Worth, John de Sutton and Richard de Davenport de Wheltrough, jurors, who say that

JOHN DE WHITMORE died seised in his demesne as of fee of the Manor of Thurstanton with appurtes which is held of the King in capite by knights service, and is worth per ann., clear, 10 marks.

Also of 10 messuages, 2 tofts, 100 acres of land, 20 acres of meadow, 100 acres of pasture and 6 fishings with appurtes in Calday which are held of William de Stanley as of his manor of Hoton in socage, and are worth per ann., clear, 10 marks.

The said John de Whitmore died seised of 2 messuages, 40a. of land and 20a. of pasture with appurtes in Gilden Sutton which are held of Thomas de Bruyne of Stapulforde in socage, and are worth per ann., clear, 60s.; also of the messuage and 6a. of land with appurtes in Tranemore, which are worth per ann., clear, 5s., but of whom held the jurors know not.

John de Whitmore died, &c. [as in previous Inqn.] W. F. I.

[29] BELL INSCRIPTIONS IN CHESTER DEANERY.

ST. JOHN'S, CHESTER.

- 1.—Prosperity to all our Benefactors, 1710.
- 2.—Peace and good neighbourhood, 1710.
- 3.—ABM. RUDHALL cast us all, 1710.
- 4.—JAS. CREW, JUNE., ESQ., SIR ROBERT GROSVENOR, BT., SIR CHARLES BUNBURY, BT., WATKIN WILLIAMS WYNNE, ESQ., GABL. WETTENHALL, ESQ., JAS. COMBERBACH, ALDERMAN, CHURCHWARDENS, A.D. 1733.
- 5.—Prosperity to the Church of England, 1710.
- 6.—BAN. STANWAY, THOMAS DODD, CHURCHWARDENS, 1710.
- 7.—GOD save QUEEN ANN, 1710.
- 8.—Prosperity to the Society of Chester Scholars, 1733.

Particulars respecting these bells will be found in the Rev. S. Cooper Scott's History of St. John's Church.

ST. MICHAEL'S, CHESTER.

- 1.—Fear God. Honour the King. 1726.
- 2.—Prosperity to the Parish. 1726.
- 3.—JNO. WILLIAMS and THOS. JONES, ESQES., 1726.
- 4.—LAW. GOTHER and WILLIAM HUGHES, ALDERMEN and CHURCHWARDENS, 1726.
- 5.—LAW. GOTHER and WILLIAM HUGHES, ALDERMEN and CHURCHWARDENS, 1726.
- 6.—SIR RICHARD GROSVENOR, BARONET, 1726.

A paper on the Bells of St. Michael's by the Rev. J. Godson, will be found in Vol. IV. of the new series of the *Journal of the Chester Archaeological Society*.

MARCH 25, 1896.

ORIGINAL DOCUMENTS.

[30] THE PLAGUE AT NESTON IN 1666.

The ravages of the plague in Chester and its neighbourhood during the 17th century are borne witness to by every parish register. But we have rarely come across a more striking instance of this destructive agency than that referred to in the following document, which reveals the fact of *sixteen* persons dying in one house in Neston in 1666. The head of the house, George Tindall, appears to have been a farmer. A surviving son, Abraham Tindall, makes an affidavit of accounts relating to the estate, which is preserved in the Bishop's Registry. EDITOR.

[Abraham Tindall declares that he has] payed and disbursed for the funeralls and necessary uses of maintenance and supply of his father George Tyndall and Mary his wife, of Neston, together with 14 more of that family visited and lately

dead of the plague there as by the particulars followinge appeares, &c.,

Imprimis paid to William Wharton, shopkeeper, for necessaries for ye household	08 04 06
It. Paid to Mr. Everton for moneys that I borrowed for the house use	03 10 00
It. Paid to Mr. Betson for meate and drinke and other necessaries	03 00 00
It. Paid to harvest men	03 00 00
It. Paid to Simon Looker for bread.....	01 01 00
It. Paid Mr. Bridges for wine	00 06 00
It. Paid Mr. Jackson for strong waters.	01 03 00
It. For a coffin and other stuffs from the apothecary	01 02 06
It. Paid to Robert Wilkinson for diet and lodgings for my sister.....	01 07 06
It. For ten weeks' diet for my brother..	01 05 00
It. For my brother's cloaths, and given to bear his charges for his journey to serve his Majesty in the wars.....	03 00 00
It. for making graves for sixteen that dyed out of our house	00 06 06
It. for a nurse to looke to my brother & others of our family in sicknes	00 18 00
It. paid the Cooper's wife for lookinge to sick people of their family.....	00 14 00
It. given our man Edward for his use...	00 02 06
It. for horses & for lookinge to them in our sicknes.....	00 07 00
It. paid three men for fenceng & lookinge to the grounds	00 19 00
It. paid to Anne Masson.....	00 05 00
It. paid for drawing my accompts... ..	00 02 00
It. paid Cleansens (?)	00 07 00
It. paid to Andrew Lowe for 6 measures of malt.....	00 15 00
It. paid to Grace Bennet for a measure of wheate	00 04 08
It. paid to Catherine Danham for a measure of rye.....	00 03 00
It. paid to Thomas Axon for a measure of wheate	00 04 00

33 06 02

Towards which summe this accomptant acknowledged that hee hath received for the uses aforesaid the particular summes followinge, viz.—

Imprimis. One hundred and twenty measures of barley at 18d per measure	09 00 00
Item. Seventeen measures of masling (*) at 2s. 6d. per measure.....	02 02 06
Item. Seven and thirty measures of oates which was spent in the house amongst ye cattle.	
Item. Fourteen measures of French wheate sould for 12d. per measure.....	00 14 00
It. 11 measures of pease sould at 18d. per measure	00 16 06
It. Seaven measures of fitches at 16d. per measure	00 09 04

* Maselin, a mixture of wheat and rye.

It. Thirty pound weight of pewter.....	01 02 06
It. One brass pott	00 08 00
It. A combe to brew in and a tub.....	00 10 00
It. A paire of vergenalls.....	02 07 00
	<hr/>
	17 09 10

[31] A PETITION FROM THE PARISHIONERS OF
CHURTON HEATH CHAPEL.

(See Nos. 2, 17, and 21, Jan. 1, Feb. 19, and
Mar. 4.)

With further reference to the enquiry made by L. E. O. as to the allusion in Bishop Cotes's Visitation to Churton, the following letter from the inhabitants of Churton-heath, in 1646, may be of interest. It is taken from among the Royalist Composition papers at the Public Record Office, Chancery Lane.

W. F. I.

TO THE RIGHT HONOURABLE THE COMMITTEE
FOR PLUNDERED MINISTERS.

The humble petition of the Parishioners of Churtonheath Chappell alias the Chappell of Bruara in Com. Cestr.

Humbly

Sheweth that the said Chappell standeth almost foure miles from the Cathedrall Church and in itselfe is a parochiall Chappell and one of the Auntientest Chappells in the sayd County wch in auntient tymes was called ye Church on the Heath.

Therefore in regard to the distance of the places and the foulness of the way haveing noe meanes allowed unto it except Seaven pounds in the hands of Sir Hugh Calveley.

Your petitioners humbly desire there may be some competent means allowed for their minister being an able and honest man.

And your petitioners shall ever pray, etc.

Chas. Walley	Widow Taylor
Willm Colley	Petter Georg
Richard Madook	Anthony Hotchkin
John Hotchkin	Hugh Dancaester,
John Canluweley	Hugh Caulverley
Willm Nickall	John Stanley
Raphe Cotton	Raphe — [P]
Richard Lardge	Roger Jepson
John Williamson	Thomas Cotgrave
Edward Calueley	John Harrisone [mk]
Robert Frances	Peter Wirrow [mk]
John Hotchkine, Junior	Raphe Hotchkine [mk]
[mk]	Peter Roberts [mk]
George Canluweley	Richard Williams
Richarde Speede	Thomas Hitchensone [mk]
Robert Williams	Robert Davies [mk]
John Clive	John Roberts
Thomas Hanket [P]	Nicholas Tailoure
John Edge	John Miridith
William Axson	Thomas Davies [mk]

Widow Trafford	David Speed
Widow Davies	John Newton
Widow Harrison	Thomas Thomasson
Ellis Sharples	James Canlverley
William Axson Junior	Peter Nicoll
William Warton	Robert Hatton
John Peele	James Dunne
William Peele	

[32] THE BISHOP OF CHESTER'S VISITATION
FOR THE YEAR 1554.

(Continued from No. 3, Jan. 8.)

DEANERY OF NANTWICH.

WYBUNBURY.

Against the Churchwardens—the altars not rebuilt, they want a manual, the churchyard is in ruin, the windows lack glass. John Wolley and John Huett the Churchwardens appeared and were enjoined to repair all these wants before the Feast of the Nativity of St. John the Baptist under pain of a fine of xls.

WYSTASTON.

Against the Churchwardens—they have not the image of the Crucified One. Ordered to repair this omission before the Feast of the Assumption of our Blessed Lady under pain of a fine of 13/4 to be paid to the use of Her Majesty the Queen. [Later] All supplied.

MYNSHULL.

Against the Churchwardens—for default in repairing the Church. Ordered to rebuild the altars before the Feast of St. James under pain of a fine of xls. and to supply the Crucifix before the Feast of All Saints under pain of the same fine.

Then follows a clause which is difficult to decipher—it appears to read:—"Comparuerunt iconimi et carent crucifixe et h'ent [habent] eucaristin' penden' cora' summo altare no' erecto sed carent reparacione eccl'ie." This would seem to mean that though the Rood was wanting, the Host was suspended before the place of the High Altar, which had not yet been erected; the church was in bad repair. They are to procure a crucifix before a certain day under pain of suspension from the Church, etc., and to emend the building before the Feast of Pentecost under pain of a fine of xls. [Note in margin] John Mynshull sold two bells and Raphe Myshull one.

BADLEY.

All well.

WRENBUURY.

Against the Churchwardens—because the Church is in ruins.

ACTON.

Against the Churchwardens—the Church needs repair and the necessary ornaments are wanting. [Later] They have emended all.

Against John Cleyton and Roger Chytwood—because they have not confessed nor communicated since Easter last. John Cleyton appeared and denied the charge and asserted that he had confessed and communicated at Mynshull, the Curate also supporting this statement, he was enjoined in future to attend his own Pariah Church and so dismissed. Roger Chytwood excommunicated.

Against William Cleyton—because he disturbed divine service and has not received the consecrated bread nor the holy water. Dismissed on promise of amendment.

(To be continued.)

[33] BELL INSCRIPTIONS IN CHESTER DEANERY.
[Continued from No. 29, March 18.]

THORNTON-LE-MOORS.

(1) WILLIAM WRIGHT SAMVEL NORFOLK
CHVRCHWARDEN 1708.

(2) JESVS BE OVR SPEED 1625.

(3) GLORIA IN EXCELSIS DEO 1625

W.B.

(4) CAST BY JOHN WARNER & SONS LONDON
[Modern]

Below the inscription on the first bell are the letter R. A. within a heater-shaped shield on either side of a representation of a bell. The letters R. A. stand for Ralph Assheton of Wigan, a well known Lancashire bellfounder of that date.

ST. MARY-ON-THE-HILL, CHESTER.

- 1.—Jesus be our spede. C.W., G.C., E.H. 1657.
- 2.—Gloria in excelsis Deo. C.W., G.C., E.H., 1657.
- 3.—Dulcedine Vocis cantabo Tuo Nomine, C.W., G.C., E.H., 1657.
- 4.—Jucunditate soni sonabo Tibi, Domine. C.W., G.C., E.H., 1657.
- 5.—Charles and John Rudhall fecit. Wm. Orford and John Grindley, wardens. 1786.
- 6.—1783.
- 7.—Recast by John Warner and Son Ltd London. 1629 St Bride. In Mem. W. Topham 1896. Archdeacon Barber Rector.
- 8.—Recast by John Warner and Son Ltd, London. 1657. St. Bride In mem. W. Topham, 1896. Archdeacon Barber, Rector.

The latter initials in the first four bells are those of George Chamberlain and Randle Holme. The 7th and 8th bells, which have recently been recast, were removed from the demolished church of St. Bridget's. The inscriptions on them formerly were "God save His Church, our King, and Realme, 1629." "William Warrington, Thomas Bolland, Churchwardens. 1657. Full particulars of these bells will be found in the forthcoming History of St. Mary's, by the late Mr. J. P. Earwaker.

HAWARDEN.

In 1663 there were five Bells. In 1740 they were sold and six new ones purchased from Abel Rudhall, of Gloucester. They bear the

following inscriptions, with the initials of the maker and the date 1742 in each case:—

No. 1.—"Peace and good Neighbourhood."

" 2.—"Prosperity to all our benefactors."

" 3.—"Prosperity to this Pariah."

" 4.—"I to the Church the living Call, and to the grave do Summon all."

" 5.—"George Hope, Churchwarden. Thos. Fox, Sidesman."

" 6.—"Abel Rudhall, of Gloucester, cast us all."

These bells were repaired and re-hung in 1879, by Mallaby. The following extract from Willet's "Memoirs of Hawarden," published in 1822, may be of interest. "In the year 1740 on the birth of a Son and heir to Sir John Glynne, Bart., the ringers, in their expression of joy, cracked some of the bells, the recasting of which cost £150. To defray the expense, the parishioners borrowed so much school money, for which they pay the master interest to this day. It is observed in the Rawdon papers that noblemen in the seventeenth century presented churches with sets of bells. Had such a notion prevailed here (and under circumstances it well might), the parish ought to have been much benefited, for the aggregate interest already paid amounts to £450.

APRIL 1, 1896.

ORIGINAL DOCUMENTS.

[34] THE CONSECRATION OF CREWE HALL
CHAPEL IN 1635.

The following is a translation of a Latin document preserved among the Harleian Manuscripts (2176, f 22b) relating to the above:

"At the principal mansion of the Right Honourable Sir Ranulph Crew, Knight, at Crew, within the parish of Bartomely, in the County of Chester, before the Reverend in Christ John [Bridgeman] Bishop of Chester, on Sunday, the ninth of August, in the year of our Lord 1635, in the presence of me, Edward Russell, Notary Public, Secretary, upon which day, at the door of the Chapel or Oratory aforesaid, Sir [R] Crew, after the third part of a Psalm had first been sung, personally intimated to the said Bishop, who had then come thither on his requisition, that he had newly erected, at his own cost, a place in his house for sacred uses, wherein he might better serve God; whereupon the said Bishop, in compliance with the aforesaid requisition, set apart the Chapel aforesaid for sacred uses, and so, for the consecration of the said Chapel, the said Sir Ranulph

Crew then, at the door, in the sight of all the people, delivered into the hands of the said John, Bishop, a certain writing, subscribed with his hand and seal, of which the tenor is as follows:—

"In the name of God, Amen. I, Ranulphe Crewe, Kt., Lord of this Manour, consideringe how God (like a bountifull Mr.) hath made me His Steward, and entrusted me with more of these earthly goods than manie other of my fellow servants, doe earnestly desire to retribute unto the Lord some parte of his owne in a thankfull acknowledgment of His free mercie and infinite bountie bestowed on me. And therefore havinge built up this roome for the honour of his name, to be a place for him to descend into, and for us to attend Him with our devotions, doe humbly intreat you (right reverent father as His appoynted deputy in this Behalfe) to offer it up to His Majestie, & see to consecrate it to His service; for which end I doe here resigne & give up the properties I had formerly in this place into your sacred hands, and doe intreat you to present and appropriate it unto God, that it may be onely His house hereafter, & a roome of residence for His Grace, herein to meete us His unworthie Creatures to impart unto us His most holie will and to receive from us a penitent confession of our sinnes, to afford us a gracious ease in our devotions, & to seale us an assurance of salvation by His Sacraments. And finally that we may hereafter doe such acceptable service to His Majestie as may most glorify Him on earth, & at last advance our soules to His eternall kingdome above in Heaven, through Jesus Christ our Lord & Saviour."

Upon the receipt of this, the said Lord Bishop entered the said Chapel by himself (the people being excluded) and received possession and seisin of it, and for a short time offered up his private prayers within it, the door being closed. Then forthwith opening the door, he admitted the people and ascended a seat near the table or altar, and read publicly public prayers, and certain selected Psalms with a lesson, after which, a hymn having been sung, Mr. Edward Bold, Clerk, M.A., preacher of the Word of God, mounted the stand or pulpit and made a sermon; and immediately after the sermon was ended the said Bishop, in the sight of the people, read with a loud voice, and published the deed of consecration in writing hereunto annexed, and so dismissed the people with the Blessing.

In the Name of God, Amen. We, John, Bishop of Chester, having respect unto the pious and religious devotions and supplications of the Right Honourable Ranulph Crew, Knight, Lord of the Manor of Crew, within the parish of Bartomley, in the County and in our Diocese of Chester, have decreed that the place or chamber constructed for a Chapel for the use of the house of Crew, and fitted up and adorned with the things necessary for the same, thirty feet in length, and seventeen feet

and a half in breadth, shall be, at the petition of the said Sir Ranulph Crew, founder of the same, consecrated and dedicated; and do consecrate the same Chapel for Divine service unto the honour of God, and do openly and publicly pronounce it to have been thus consecrated and dedicated and to be so perpetually and remain for the future. And to the aforesaid Sir Ranulph Crew and his family and successors, lords of the Manor of Crew aforesaid, we commend it in the Lord, and grant, by these presents, license for the offering of public prayer to Almighty God and for the hearing of sermons and for the performance of other divine offices, sitting for such an oratory within the same, as much as by law is allowed (saving always the right and interest of the mother Parish Church of Bartumley) provided always, however, the said Sir Ranulph Crew and his family aforesaid shall partake of the Holy Communion of the Supper of the Lord in the Parish Church of Barthomley three times in every year (one of them being the Feast of Easter in each year). (Saving always our Episcopal rights and the dignity and honour of the Cathedral Church of Chester in all things) which things all and singular for ourselves and our successors we thus determine and establish by these writings as the law requires.

Read 9th August, 1635, by me,

JOHN CHESTER.

[35]

THE HOYLE LAKE.

The following particulars respecting the Hoyle Lake are embodied in a recent report drawn up by Messrs. Wood and Brodie, an eminent firm of civil engineers, with reference to its being deepened:—

"We have gone," they say, "very carefully into all the information obtainable as to the character of the Lake from charts and other information from 1689 to the present time, and it may perhaps be well to give you a history of the Lake in a summarised form.

The first chart we have been able to find is one by Collin, dated 1689, which shews a wide lake extending from Hilbre to the Rook Channel. At this period Hoylelake was a recognised anchorage, having a depth varying from 15 to 30 feet at low water spring tides.

In Eyes' Chart of 1755, the Lake appears to have a depth varying from 18 to 24 feet at low water, with deeper water at each end, leading into the Rook Channel and one of the channels of the Dee respectively.

In Messrs. Fearon and Eyes' Chart of 1767, the Lake is shewn as a wide channel, having depths varying from 15 to 24 feet at low water.

A chart by George Thomas, in 1813 shews a channel somewhat narrower, but still having depths of from 12 to 24 feet at low water.

In 1835 the first regular annual survey of the Liverpool Bay was made on behalf of the Dock Authorities, and it shews in greater detail than any of the previous charts the then existing state of the Lake, from which it appears that the shallowest portion of the Lake was at the Dove Spit End.

The 1835 survey shews the Lake as a deep elongated pool, having a maximum depth of 21 feet, with its centre line about 500 yards distant from the shore, and having a length of about three-quarters of a mile. From this central Lake, in the direction of the River Dee, the water gradually shallowed to a point opposite the end of Hilbre Island, where a depth of two feet only at low water was obtained. In the direction of the Dove Spit the water shallowed more quickly, and for a distance of about one-quarter of a mile, the sand in the bottom of the Channel was bared at low water, afterwards again deepening in the direction of the Dove Spit, where two-foot soundings are shewn.

From 1835 the Lake appears to have silted up rapidly, as the greatest depth shewn in the chart of 1840 opposite Hoylake is 15 feet. At this time a second portion of the Lake or Pool is shewn, having a depth of three feet opposite the end of the Red Stones. The Hilbre end is shewn as drying three feet in several places.

In 1846 the pool is still further shallowed, and has travelled in the direction of the Mersey, having also become much narrower. The site of the Lake between the Red Stones and Hilbre is shewn to dry five feet, while at the other end the figures indicate a narrow drainage gutter only, the bottom of which appears to dry two feet.

In 1853 a short Pool of 600 yards only appears, having a maximum depth of six feet, the drainage of the area finding its way to the Rook Channel.

In 1866 the Pool appears to have moved in the direction of the Rook Channel still further, the chart shewing depths of three feet only for a length of about 1500 yards, the drainage water still finding its way to the Rook Channel.

In 1870 the Pool appears to be in much the same position as in 1866, and the depths do not appear to have varied very considerably.

In 1877, the last year during which the Lake was considered of sufficient importance to the navigation of the Port of Liverpool to warrant its being sounded and included in the Charts, the Pool appears to have travelled still further in the direction of the Rook Channel, the deepest portion being now nearly opposite Dove Point, and having a depth of six feet.

During the whole period from 1689 to the present time, the centre line of the Lake does not appear to have varied in position to any great extent, while the depths of water in the main channels—both in the Dee Channel and the Rook Channel—have practically remained constant, although the latter has very considerably narrowed.

With regard to the Hoyle Bank, although its outline has varied very considerably from time to time, it does not appear to have silted up at the same rate as the Lake, the 1835 chart shewing portions within about 500 yards of the Lake, to dry 25 feet at low water, which is approximately the same as the height at corresponding places at the present time.

It seems, therefore, that the conditions which have obtained during the whole period of the silting up of the Lake have not been materially changed, and that unless some steps are taken at an early date to prevent accretions of sand and silt, nothing in the natural course of events may be expected to prevent the complete sanding up of this channel, and the extinction of Hoylake as a port for fishing vessels."

[36] THE VISITATION OF THE BISHOP OF CHESTER, 1557.

CHESTER [DEANERY].

xvth August,

afterwards ij. November.

PARISH OF ST. OSWALD.

The office against the Churchwardens there—The Church wants repair, the churchyard is defiled by animals and cattle [*per brutes, et cattalia*]. The Curate has not access to the Holy Eucharist at night time, nor has he a suitable dwelling-house [*mansam*]. The Churchwardens appeared and state that the duty of repairing the Church lies with the Dean and Chapter; that Thomas Green rents the churchyard, and that the keys of the Church are in the hands of the clerks of the Cathedral Church. Ordered to communicate with the Dean and Chapter on the matter.

Against Geoffrey Langley—carried off part of the tabernacle in spite of the Churchwardens. Excommunicated.

ST. MICHAEL'S.

Against George Bucee—because he absents himself from service on Sundays and Holy Days. He appeared and stated that he did not absent himself for any religious reason [*causa religiosa*], but because of his trade, which required him to work on Sundays. Dismissed.

Against Nicholas Barnes—for a like offence. He appeared, and he is a shoemaker, and carries on his trade during the time of divine service. Wherefore the judge enjoined him to desist in future, and instructs all those of his craft "to sett open th're shoppis untill ix. of the clocke upon holidais. And he dwelles with Peter Tonge, and occupies the same. [Note] He does not wish to pay the fee."

Against Peter Calkyn—for a like offence, he is to desist in future and because he is poor he is forgiven the fine.

Against William Shortes [P] and [P] for a like offence. [Later.] The man appeared, but the woman was ill, and he denies having done so, whereupon he is required to purge himself by the oaths of iij men on Friday viz. xij November.

Against Edward Taylor, shomaker—for a like offence. The servant of John Mason, he states that he attends devine service on Sundays, and Feast Days, he submits himself to correction, whereupon the Judge enjoined him to attend his own parish church in future, under pain of excommunication. [Note.] Nothing for fees.

SYNT MARTENS.

Against Gilbert Ormston—propter linocenum. Excommunicated. Later, this man appeared and denied the charge, whereupon he was required to purge himself by the oaths of six men on the xij November.

Against Margaret Fletcher—for defiling the churchyard anendis [P] the Blessed Sacrament. Excommunicated.

Against Agnes Griffen and Ellen Maroe—for a like offence. Agnes Griffen appeared and denied the charge and is ordered as if she had done so to abstain in future. Maroe excommunicated.

(To be continued.)

APRIL 8, 1896.

ORIGINAL DOCUMENTS.

[37.] SIGNATURES TO THE THREE ARTICLES IN CHESHIRE IN 1563.

Among the papers now in the Diocesan Registry is an oblong strip of parchment measuring about 31 inches by about 9, and covered closely on one side and half way down on the other with original signatures. It is endorsed "Ministers' Subscriptions, Queene Elizabeth's time ye yeare 1572." This endorsement is, however, not in a contemporary hand and, as will be seen later, the date is incorrect. The document is very much faded and is in a dirty condition; in addition to which each signatory wrote after his own custom, so that altogether it presents about as many difficulties to the transcriber as can well be imagined.

I have spent many hours in an effort to decipher the document and have in the main succeeded; the result is given below.

The document contains the original signatures of many of the Cheshire clergy to the famous "Three Articles," which were required to be signed by an Act of Parliament passed in the 5th year of Queen Elizabeth, entitled "An

Act for the assurance of the Queen's Majesty's Royal power over all estates and subjects within her Highness' Dominions." By the fifth clause, it was enacted "That every archbishop and bishop within the realm shall have full power by virtue of this Act to tender the oath aforesaid to every spiritual and ecclesiastical person within their proper diocese," etc. The oath referred to, was set forth in the Act of Supremacy (1 Eliz. 1) but in Cheshire for some reason, that does not appear, the "Three Articles" were substituted and the clergy required to sign these. It is abundantly clear from internal evidence that these signatures were all affixed in the year 1563.

Besides the general historic interest that attaches to the document, the list of signatures appended supplies many names hitherto unknown as incumbents of the various parishes in the diocese, at a time when documentary evidence is very scarce, and so will make it of more local interest.

Yours,

WM. FERGUSSON IRVINE.

Cloughton, Cheshire.

DECLARATIO publica
cui subscribant omnes et singuli
Clerici et Presbiteri.

FIRSTE WE DO ACKNOWLEDGE AND CONFESSE the Quenes majesties prerogatyve and Supremacie of government of all estates and in all causes as well eccl'iastical as temporall within this Realme and other her Highnes dominions and Countres to be agreeable to goddes worde, and of right to apertayne to her Highnes in such sorte as in the acte of Parliament expressed, and sithence bie her Majesties Injunctions declared and appointed.

ITEM WE DO ACKNOWLEDGE and confesse that the Bishoppe of Rome, bie scripture and worde of God, hath no more an'ctie than other Bishoppes have in their Provinces and Dioces. And therefor the power w'oh he nowe clameth, that is to be Supreme head of the Universall Churche of Christ and so to be above all Emperours Kinges and Princes is an usurped power contrarie to the scripture and word of God and contrarie to the example of the Primitive Churche, and therefore is for most just causes taken away and abolished within this Realme.

FURTHERMORE WE DO GRAUNTE confesse and acknowledge that the Boke of Comon Prayer and administration of the Hollye Sacramentis set furthe bie an'ctie of the Parliament and p'rtlie [presently] used is agreeable to the Scriptures word of God and the Order of the Primitive Church and that hit is Catholicke Apostolicke and to the

advauensing of Goddis glorie and the edyfeinge of Goddis people bothe for that hit is in a Tonge that may be understood of the people and also for the Doctrine and forme of ministracion of the same.

William Wall prebendarius

Nicholas Bucsie prebendarius

Robert Hebiltwhaite prebendarius

[Two signatures erased.]

Dns John Gynson [Johnson] parvus canonus

Dns Richard Caldey parvus canonus

Dns John Mayre parvus canonus

Dns Randle Barnis

Dns Randle Cotgreyv

Dns Robert Houghton

Dns John Carlelle subdiaconus

William Manns ludimagister

John Shawe hipodidasculus.

Richard

Subsc' clericorum infra Coll' de Mancestr'.

Robert Prestwygh prest

Sr Edward Howlre prest

Subscriptio clericorum infra Decanatorum

Cestrie et Malpas

Roger Gorstlow Rector of Waverton

Per me John Dye Rector of Tilston

Per me Robert Danold of Hanley

Per me Richard Dod of Tatnall [Vicar]

Hugh Dod rector of Coddington

Edward Bagshaw Vicar of [Tarvin]

Per me William Colle Rector of Dodylston

John Lowe Rector of Pulford

John Holt of Aldford

Per me John Lawton of Torpley

Roger Bennet Vicar [St. Oswald]

Per me Randle Hunt of Malpas

Per me curatum John Helys of Plemstow

Per me Richard Alcock of [St] John's [Chester]

Per me John Whetton [of Barrow]

Per me Thomas Sharpe Rector of Thurstaston

Per me Roger Wyllyams curate of

Per me David Johns, curate of Worthembre

Per me John Myryke curate of Overton

Per me Hugh Denson curate of Stoke

Thomas Betson curate of Neston

Thomas Fayrohyld curate of Boncorne

Richard Werberton of Mer

Hamlet Tayleor curate of Dytton

Per me Hugh Wudward curate of Peuer Inferior

Randle Barker of Ouer vicar

Per me John Barlow Rector of Manpas

Per me Robert Plant Rector of Swett[enham]

Harre Bridge curatte at Knottisford

Per me William Marcroft of Bechedell

Per me Thomas Evans curat of Lyme

Thomas Collear of Macclesfield

Nicholas Hyde vicar of Mottram

William Herdman minister [?] of Middleton]

Per me Edward Acton } Prestbury

Per me James Wyttaours }

Per me Roger Hodgekinson curat [of Bury]

Per me Henry Trafford Rector of Wilmale

Per me Roger Wrigley curitt of Oldham [?]

Per me Philip Fawdon curat of Moburley

George Heroot [of Saddleworth]

Walter [gualtherus] Mosok Rector of Alderlegh

Nicholas Fydlar rector of Taosall

[Ellis] Wallwerke curate of Prestwiche

William Langley rector of Prestwiche

Lawrance Pylkynton [of Radcliffe]

Larenes Hey [of Altham]

Per me Edward Cokerell Vicar of Bolton

George Dobson vicar [of Whalley]

John Bellet p'br off Clederock [Clitheroe]

Edward Perkyll curate [of Blackburn]

George Bromley curate of Chyrche

Per me Richard Jones clericus and Rector of Burye

Per me Peter Blake [curate of St. John's]

Per me Henry Snape [curate of St. Mary]

Ryc. Lowther curat of Bregetts

Thomas Fynlowe curate St. Michaels Chester

Thomas Tadgill Rector [of] Trenytat

John Blakyn [curate] of Eccleston

Per me Robert Barker prist [St. Oswald]

Richard Manley

Per me Peter Jackson vicar of Estham

William Ducker p'son of Th[ornton]

Roger Sefton p'son of Beby[ngton]

John Gorstlyow p'son of Wal[asey]

Thomas Mawdysley curat off Burton

Richard Coke curate of Brombrough

William Wryght [Rector of] Wodehu[reh]

George Walley curat at Christilton

Per me Ellis Madoc of Bangor

Per me John Fernehed of Lymm

Wyllyam Pyke vicar of Frodsham

Robert Penketh Curat of Dersbury

Thomas Spode of Bodon

Richard Yeaton of Budworth

William Holcroft of Wever[ham]

William Clerke curate of Goestre

Thomas Robinson curate Aston supra Marcum [Ashton-on-Mersey]

Reohard Swayene curat of

Per me George Assheton of

Ryc's Bryches de Law[ton]

Per me John Smalwood of Copn[all]

Edmund Newsom vicar of Prestbury

Edward Heype curat of Assheton

Per me Richard Thyrlwynd

Humfrie Birron of Chedill curate

Wyllyum Byrum curate of Mydleton

Thomas Mawdesley [schoolmaster of Middleton]

Thomas Clerke of Stockport

Thomas Frenohe curate of Lowe

John Aspeden curate of Brinley

Richard Law [?] curate of Didesbury [?]

Edward Pendleton vicar of Eccles

Ryc. Hecheon curat of Rosty

Ric. Deane Prest [of Harwood]

Roger Blakey [of] Colne

John Nutter [Johanes Nutterus] curat of Eccles

John Felden Dean of Blakeburne [Vicar of Colne]

[Dorso]

William Lembage, Vicar of
 Per me Edward Trutbecke curat
 George Smithson curat of Southtownton
 Eycharde Raylton curat at the Bowes
 William Pratt
 By Mathew Blamyex [P]
 Cristofer Holynson [or Johnson] curate of Bollton
 Per me Robert Caulken Vicar of Bunburie.
 Per me James Leyke.
 Per me Randle Sondford.
 John Lowe Vicar of Acton.
 Per me Gilbert Southworthe [Minshull].
 William Beddow [of Marbury].
 Mathew Dods [of Wibunbury].
 Robert Kinsey Rector of Bartumley.
 William Browne, Rector of Wytaston.
 John Tenche Curate of Wrenbure.
 Eycharte Beynion Vicar of Whytegate.
 John Barton chap[lain] to Ric. Starky Esquer.
 Eycharde

[38] THE BISHOP OF CHESTER'S VISITATION
 FOR THE YEAR 1557.

(Continued from No. 36. April 1.)

ECCLESTON.

Against the Wardens—they lack the books and
 other necessarys. Excommunicated.

POFORD.

Against William Rogerson—because he retains in
 his possession a legacy of xls. for the reparation
 of the Church.

[Lying loose among the pages of the Visitation
 is the following.]

Curato de Poford.

Will'm Rogerson } Cite eundem ad comparendum in
 in parochia. } ecclesia Sancti Oswaldi Civi-
 tatis Cestrie die Mercurii viz.
 xvj. die Mensis Februarii
 hora ix ante meridiem ejus-
 dem diei.

[And in another hand]

Vestrum reverendissimum mandatum executum est
 per me Georgium Jacson Rectorem ecclesie
 parochialis de Pulford.

Willms Rogerson non est in parochia mea et ubi
 moram traxit me latet.

[Endorsed] To the Curat of Poforde.

POTON.

Against the Wardens—do not have devine service
 at a suitable hour.

Against Henry Bretherton and Joanna Manley—
 because they compel the Curate of Poton to
 celebrate at their houses when he ought to cele-
 brate in the Chapel at Poton.

INCE.

The Chancel wants repair.

SUTTON.

Against the Wardens—the chapel needs repair in
 many parts.

TREVIN.

Against the Wardens—the Church and Churohyard
 need repair.

THORNTON.

Against Joan Gatcliffe—because she is absent
 from Church on Feast Days. The woman denied
 the charge. Enjoined to attend church in future
 under pain of the law.

Against Joan Quark [?]-because she does not
 attend church on Sundays. She appeared and
 denied the charge. Ordered to purge herself by
 the oaths of four neighbours on the Saturday
 next after the Feast of the Exaltation of the
 Holy Cross.

Against Gilbert Tirer—because he tolls the bells
 when the Curate is in the pulpit. He appeared
 and denied the charge. Ordered to purge him-
 self by the oaths of ten men on the Saturday
 next after the Feast of the Exaltation of the
 Holy Cross.

(To be continued.)

APRIL 15, 1896.

ORIGINAL DOCUMENTS.

[39] THE REV. RICHARD WRIGHT, CURATE
 OF BIDSTON, 1667.

Mr. Urwick, in his *Nonconformity in Cheshire*
 (p. lxvi.), enumerates Mr. Wright, of Bidston,
 as one of those who suffered ejection after the
 passing of the Act of Uniformity in 1662. The
 following suit before the Chancellor's Court in
 1667, however, shews that if he were ejected, he
 afterwards conformed, and was restored to the
 living, as indeed Mr. Urwick points out later on
 in his book (p. 69). Very little is known about
 Mr. Wright. To judge from Article 1, he only
 appears to have been settled at Bidston for five
 years previous to the suit, which would make
 the date of his coming to the living 1662, the
 year of the passing of the Act; while from the
 transcripts of the register at Chester, it seems
 that the Rev. Hugh Burches was curate in
 1668, that is, in the year following the suit.

The case gives us an interesting picture of
 an effort being made among the parishioners to
 raise the wretchedly low stipend, which at this
 time attached to the living, something under
 £20 a year, though it strikes one as odd for the
 incumbent to be obliged to sue one of his
 supporters in the Chancellor's Court, in order
 to obtain payment of this voluntary contri-
 bution!

Unfortunately, the papers (the originals are
 in the Episcopal Registry, Chester) are not
 complete, and so the result of the suit is not

known. The reason why Robert Urmiston did not pay his contribution was probably owing to some disagreement between him and the Curate, as he was a man of considerable property, and at his death in 1671 left a personal estate valued at £685. There is, however, evidence that he had strong leanings towards Nonconformity.

Yours,

WM. FERGUSSON IRVINE.

Claughton.

In the Name of God Amen. Before you etc John Wainwright Vicar Spiritual etc Richard Wright, Clerk, Curate or Minister of the Parish Church of Bidston etc, against Robert Urmiston of the Parish of Bidston etc

1. Imprimis. The aforesaid Richard Wright for the space of 5, 4, 3, 2 or 1 years last past was and is Clerk in Holy Orders etc & curate of the Parish Church of Bidston

2. Item. That within the tyme mentioned in the p'cedent Article the Parishioners and Inhabitants within the Parish of Bidston aforesaid taking into consideraon the smalnes of the sayd Richard Wright's stipend and for his future stay & encouragement did subscribe or cause to be subscribed their names with their severall sumes or contributions to bee payd by them unto him yearly at the Feast of St. Michael the Archangell during his Incumbency at Bidston aforesayd as is contayned in the schedule hereunto annexed, etc.

3. Item. That amongst the rest of the parishioners and Inhabitants within the Parish of Bidston aforesayd the sayd Robert Urmiston did subscribe or cause to bee subscribed his name for the annual paym't of eight shillings per annum at the Feast of St. Michael the Archangell to the sayd Richard Wright during his Incumbency etc.

4. Item. That since the aforesayd subscriptions the sayd Robert Urmiston hath annually or at the least one yeare payd to the sayd Richard Wright the sume of eight shillings at or about the Feast of St. Michael etc.

5. Item. That upon the Feast of St. Michael the Archangell Anno d'ni 1667, now current the said Robert Urmiston ought to have payed, and ther is due and owing from him the sume of eight shillings to the sayd Richard Wright according to his sayd subscription, and though the same have been demanded of him on the part and behalfe of the sayd Richard Wright yet hee hath and still doth refuse to pay the same, etc.

[The Schedule.]

Wee, whose names are under-written in ye consideraon of ye shortnesse of our minister's means at p'sent and for his future encouragement amongst us doe freely and voluntarily give unto Mr. Wright (our forsayd minister) ye several summe unto which we have annexed our names to be payd him truly and yearly at Michael-

mas. We likewise request ye rest of our loveing neighbours and parishioners to doe ye like, to prevent our minister's removal and ye sad consequence therof. We doubt not therefore of yor willingnesse herein (respectively) to proportion yor contributions according to yr several abilities which will be an obligation upon yor friends as alsoe upon Him to be more abundant in his labour for yor souls.

George Bennett is willing to give towards Mr. Wrights augmenting the

sum of a year	00 05 00
Henry Williamson	00 10 00
William Talor	00 06 00
Thomas Hancock	00 05 00
John Kinston.....	00 05 00
Richard Wilson.....	00 05 00
Nathaniell Jones	00 05 00
John Parbut	00 02 00
Ro. Wilson.....	00 05 00
Thomas Wilson.....	00 05 00
Henry Bennett	00 05 00
Thomas Bennett	00 05 00

[This name is erased and above it is written Widdow Bennett... 00 01 06]

Joseph Phalliptes.....	00 02 00
Thomas Daves	00 01 00
Thomas Maddocke	00 02 00
Miles Pemberton	00 05 00
John Lee	00 01 00
An[?] Bennett	00 01 00
—[?] Kaventry	00 01 00
Richard Deane	00 06 00
John Rathbone	00 04 00
John Trueman	00 03 04

[a second list]

Thos. Harrison	0 5 0
John Hand.....	0 2 0
Robert Urmiston	0 8 0
John Webster	0 5 0
James Berd.....	0 2 0
Thomas Gill	0 2 0
Henry Watts.....	0 2 0
John Urmiston	0 2 6
John Pemberton	0 2 0
Robert Bennett.....	0 1 6
Henry Bennett	0 1 0
John Whitehead	0 1 0
John Rathbone	0 1 6
Richard Kitchin	0 1 0
William Erby.....	0 1 0
William Dod	0 1 0
Richard Lineker	0 1 0
James Anderton	0 1 0
Richard Jackson	0 1 0
Robert Quele	0 1 0
Robert Mires.....	0 1 0

[Endorsed "dat' et exhibit' 5 Decembris 1667."]

Depositions taken 12 March, 1667[8] in the case Richard Wright, clerk, versus Robert Urmiston, &c.

Thomas Hancock, of Moreton, in the Parish of Bidston, aged 37 years, etc., says that above two years ago the parishioners of Bidston, taking into consideration the smallness of Mr. Wright their minister's allowance, and the great pains that he took amongst them, did agree to augment his said allowance by an annual voluntary contribution out of their own private purses, and to that purpose a time was appointed for the neighbours to meet, and a great many did meet, and at that time did by themselves or their directions subscribe to the schedule shewed to this deponent, etc.

Henry Bennett, of Saughall-Massey, in the Parish of Bidston, aged 60 years, and John Kingston, of Forde, in the Parish of Bidston, gave similar evidence.

[40] THE BISHOP OF CHESTER'S VISITATION
FOR THE YEAR 1557.

(Continued from 38, April 8.)

x. Sept. DODLESTON.

Against Nicholas Graunor [Grosvenor]—because he disturbs Divine service with a drawn sword [*gladio suo evaginato*]. Ordered to do penance in linen. And later the penance was commuted by his paying ijs. into the hands of Mr. Hanson towards the repair of Chester Cathedral.

x. Sept. TORPORLEY.

Against the wardens—the Church needs repair.

Against the parish clerk [?]*—because he is unlettered [non est sufficiens in litteratura].*

THE PARISH OF ST. PETER'S, CHESTER.

Against Ralph Bostock, William Wetter [?] Andrew Taylier (iiijd.) Thomas Salowis (iiijd.), Robert Buncorne (ijjd.), John Tinder (ijjd.) William Melington (null) Edward [?] Rosengreve.

Because they do not attend their own Parish Church on Sundays and Feastdays. On which day they all appeared except Rosengreve. and confessed their fault but they have not done so obstinately and they submit themselves to the Judge's correction. Enjoined to attend their own Parish Church in future under pain of the law except Wm. Wetter [?] who has been licensed by the Bishop as a singer in the Choir of the Cathedral Church.

Against Robert Hill—because he works during time of Divine service on Sundays and Feastdays. He appeared and confessed having done so during a time of necessity. Enjoined to reform himself in this matter in future under pain of the law.

PARISH OF ST. JOHN'S, CITY OF CHESTER.

Against Peter Orede—because he is absent from Church. Excommunicated.

Against John Hale—because two of his daughters died without the sacraments of the Church through his negligence. The Judge enjoined him to purge himself by the oaths of four men

on Friday, the xij. November next, etc., and to attend mass on the Feast of the Nativity of our Lord.

Against Katherine Wiston—quia fovet incoenium. She appeared and denied the charge and is to purge herself by the oaths of four neighbours on Friday the xij November.

HOLTE.

Against John Allen John Griffet (xjd.) John Flecher, Humfrey Pinor (ijjd.) William Henkyn, Thomas Chaterton (vjdd.)—Because they disturb divine service at the time of consecration. They appeared and confessed their fault, and submit themselves to the Judge's correction. Wherefor the Judge enjoined the Curate of Holte to declare the matter openly from the pulpit on the next Sunday.

(To be continued.)

NOTES.

[41] A CHESTER MAN'S ESCAPE FROM THE WRECK
OF THE ROYAL GEORGE, 1782.

The wreck of the Royal George in 1782, while under repair at Portsmouth, with the loss of 900 lives, is one of the greatest calamities in the history of our Navy. The annexed extract from the *Universal Magazine* of that year may interest some of your readers:—

The following miraculous preservation of Henry Bishop, a young man about 19 years of age (son of Mr. Bishop, of Chester, Currier) who was on board the Royal George, at the time of the late dreadful accident, is said to be strictly true:—at the time the vessel was going down he was on the lower deck, and as she filled, the rapidity of the water, forced him, almost insensibly, up the hatch-way, when at that instant he was met by one of the guns, which had fallen from the middle deck, and striking him on his left hand, broke three of his fingers, one of which has since been amputated. He, however, found himself in a few seconds floating on the surface of the water, till he was luckily taken up by a boat.

Northgate.

W. ROBERTS.

APRIL 22, 1896.

NOTES.

[42] A CHESTER TRIAL A HUNDRED YEARS AGO.

A pamphlet lies before me entitled "AN ACCURATE STATEMENT OF THE TRIAL OF James Price and Thomas Brown, BEFORE THE HON. FRANCIS BURTON, Esq., at the ASSIZES holden for the COUNTY PALATINE OF CHESTER, the 6th day of APRIL 1796, Charged on Oath, with a Strong Suspicion of having on TUESDAY the

19th of JANUARY last past, between the Hours of Eight and Nine in the afternoon of the same day, on the King's Highway, in the Parish of *Thorton-in-the-Moors*, in the County of *Chester*, feloniously assaulted PETER YOXALL, who was carrying on Horseback HIS MAJESTY'S MAIL from Warrington in the County of Lancaster, to the City of *Chester*, and taking from his Person, the said MAIL BAG, with the LETTERS and other ARTICLES contained therein." Chester: Printed by E. Monk, 1796.

This pamphlet contains a fairly detailed account of the trial, from which it appears that Peter Yoxall, a post-boy, aged 15 years, received at Warrington Post-Office at 6.20 p.m. on the 19th of January two bags, containing the Manchester and Warrington letters, to take to Chester. He reached Frodsham in safety, and there received a third bag. Continuing his journey, he got about three-quarters of a mile of the Chester side of Dunham-on-the-Hill, when he saw, in the moonlight, two men riding before him on horseback. On coming up to them, they turned their horses' heads upon him, and one of them seized his, and said *Stop, or I'll blow your brains out!* They then opened a gate and led the horse into a field. Their faces were covered with crape, so that Yoxall could not see their features. They took him off his horse, tied the three horses to a tree, and fastened the lad's hands behind him, and his hat over his face. Having next set his back towards them, and secured his legs in a portmanteau, they proceeded to rifle the bags, a task which occupied them about half-an-hour. At the end of this time, they took their departure, telling Yoxall that if he attempted to move till morning, there were two men watching him, who would cut off his arm. This threat did not deter the boy from seeking to free himself, which he accomplished in an hour and a half. He at once went to the nearest turnpike and called the man in charge, and also the constable of Mickle Trafford. He then set out for Chester, where he arrived about half-past twelve. Steps were taken without delay to discover the robbers.

They were apprehended at a public-house at Gosta Green, Birmingham, on Friday, 22nd January, and were eventually brought to trial before Mr. Justice Burton, at Chester, on the 6th of April, when their crime was clearly brought home to them by the evidence adduced. The jury found them guilty, and the Judge sentenced them to death. Both the men made a confession of their guilt to the Rev. Peplow Ward, on the 19th of the month. Price owned to having been a professional thief for some

five years, and gave a long list of robberies in which he had taken part. With respect to the robbery of the mail, he made the following statement:—

"That he in company with Brown had stopped at the Bear Inn in Manchester about a week. That on Monday, Jan. 18, they looked out for horses for the purpose of robbing the Warrington Mail the next evening. That they took their bridles and saddles with them to a field near Manchester, where they caught two horses, one of them a chestnut mare, which Brown rode, and another without shoes, which was turned out again on that account. That two silk handkerchiefs were left by them in the field, from whence the mare was stolen; one was tied round the saddle and girths, to hinder the stirrups making a noise, and some corn was in the other. Price's saddle was covered with his top-coat, and Brown's saddle with a bag; Brown's was a little cross-barred silk handkerchief; that Price left his saddle and bridle in the ditch, and went and purchased a cropt bay horse for 8l 8s and led it to the place where his saddle and bridle were left in an old halter, which he put into his pocket after having cut the noose off, for the purpose of tying the post boy's arms. That Brown put a piece of thin cord for the same use into his pocket, at the Bear Inn. That Brown slept on the 18th about ten miles from Manchester, on the Warrington road, where he got the chesnut mare shod; the sign Price thinks was the Crown. That Price came about ten o'clock and slept at the same place; that the next morning (the 19th) Brown and Price set off about five o'clock, and rode together to Warrington where Price stopped at an inn, at the foot of the bridge, and breakfasted, and went to enquire for a letter from Brown's wife, ordered to be left at the Post Office till called for. That Brown went forward a few miles, for fear of being seen with the chesnut mare, and breakfasted. That Price was obliged to stop for some time on account of the letter (the Post Office not being open), which made Brown uneasy, and caused him to set out on foot towards Warrington, from the place where he breakfasted, to meet Price. That, as soon as Brown saw him, he returned for his mare, and overtook him about a quarter of a mile from Daresbury, on the Frodsham road. That they sometimes rode together, and sometimes separate, to avoid suspicion, till they came to Parry's [the inn-keeper of the Nag's Head] at Trafford. That they fixed on the spot where they were to stop the boy on the road that

morning. That the evidence given by Parry, his daughter, Nield, the blacksmith, &c., in proof of their pretending to go to Wrexham, is true; that when they left Parry's house they went to Tarvin, and drank coffee at a house on the left-hand side; that the stables were up the yard, on the right-hand side; that they remained there till seven o'clock, and then set off to commit the robbery, that he (Price) put on a drab-coloured top-coat over his blue top-coat, in order to disguise himself; that they went through a lane called Morley-lane, into the Warrington road, nearer to Parry's house at Trafford than the field where the post-boy was robbed. That they opened the gate ready to take the boy and mail to the spot fixed on for opening the letters. That Brown had an handkerchief tied over the bottom of his face, and held a pistol towards the boy, when they stopped him. That Price had a piece of an old rug over the bottom of his face, which was cut from an horse-cloth belonging to Parry. That Brown had two pistols in his pocket, and Price had three. That they tied the boy's arms behind his back with a thin cord, taken out of Brown's pocket, and slouched his hat over his face. That they placed him with his back towards them, whilst they opened the mail-bags, and tied all the horses to a tree. That when they had examined the letters, they took the bridle, saddle, and mail-pillion from the post-horse, and turned him loose, and then tied the boy's handkerchief over his face, and put him on his saddle, turned upside down, close to a tree, and passed the piece of an old halter, brought from Manchester, round the tree, and under the boy's arms. That a coat-strap was buckled under his knees, and round his legs; that his feet were put into the portmanteau. That Brown wished Price to leap over the hedge into Morley-lane, close to the place of the robbery, and said it would save a mile and half riding, but Price refused, not being a good rider. That Price observed to Brown, when they left the boy, that he seemed a knowing jockey always on the listen, and that he never cried; and that he feared a discovery on that account; that they returned round through Morley-lane to Tarvin, and passed close on the other side of the tree where the boy was tied. That Price, soon after they passed through Tarvin, pulled off his drab-coloured top-coat, and to avoid discovery, threw it, together with the piece of an old rug, into a wet ditch, and put an heavy stone, to sink it to the bottom. That the ditch was close to a hay-rick, on the right hand side of the road towards Tarporley.

That the description given in the evidence respecting them at Tarporley, Nantwich, Wolverhampton, and Birmingham was accurate."

[At Tarporley, James Fleet, an innkeeper, deposed that about 10.30 p.m. on the 19th, the two men stopped at his house, and had "two sixpennyworths' of gin and water." At Nantwich, where they arrived about 11.30 p.m., John Griffin, Landlord of the Griffin, gave them refreshments. He testified to the rapid rate at which they seemed to have been riding. Joseph Darlington, of the Bull's-head, Nantwich, also deposed to having given their horses corn at midnight. They reached Woore, in Staffordshire, at 3 o'clock on Wednesday morning, and Wolverhampton at 2 in the afternoon. In the evening they took a post-chaise for Birmingham, where they were apprehended on Friday, the 22nd.]

"That Brown went the day after their arrival at Birmingham, viz., January 21, to Thomas's livery stables. That a man who keeps a five-court at Birmingham fetched the horses from thence, and put them to grass near Birmingham. . . . That the property taken out of the mail was a bill of £150, which was burnt at Allen's [the innkeeper of the house where they were arrested] just before Tart [the constable] came in, and an £8 bill overdue, which Price attempted to pass without effect at a shop at Wolverhampton, where he purchased three handkerchiefs. That there were two half-guineas in the letters and 1s. 7½d. taken out of the pouch bag. . . ."

Thomas Brown, whose real name was Smallman, in his confession acknowledged a large number of robberies, and confirmed the statement made by Price. He declared that had he had his pistols on him at the time of his apprehension, he should certainly have shot the constable. . . . That he particularly requested letters might be directly written to Nottingham, Derby, Burton-on-Trent, &c., containing the descriptions of the horses he and his accomplices had stolen from those places and their neighbourhoods during the last two or three years, and that the owners of them might be desired to come over to Chester without delay that he might have it in his power to inform them where their property might be found. That he was very anxious to see all the farmers who had lost horses out of Cheshire, within the last two or three years. That he particularly requested that it might be made known to the

public that he had never been guilty of the *least cruelty whatever* in the depredations committed by him. That he never stopped a carriage when a woman or child was in it. That he never robbed a poor man, but was ready to relieve the distresses of the indigent. That he liberally supported his accomplices (when in custody); that he had experienced very contrary treatment. That his wife and infant child were greatly in want of common necessities; his own property having been withheld from them by a man he had formerly assisted when in difficulties, and to whom he had entrusted a large sum of money and other property previous to his commitment.

The two highwaymen were executed on Saturday, 30th April. They both acknowledged the justice of their punishment, and hoped the spectators would take warning by their end. Brown was only 26 years old at the time of his death, and Price about the same age. During his confinement, Brown figured a coffin with the representation of a body in it on the wall of his cell, and wrote underneath the following lines:—

Behold the corpse within the coffin lies,
With stretched out limbs and closed eyes;
But, ah, poor Brown! no coffin thou shalt have,
Nor yet a shroud, nor yet a peaceful grave.
Prisoners all a warning by me take,
Repent in time before it be too late;
Repent in time, leave off your thieving ways,
Then you shall all see happier days.

The bodies of the men were after the execution hung in chains on Trafford Green, near to the spot of the robbery.

The pamphlet whence the above account is extracted contains a map of the roads round Chester along which the robbers went, in a corner of which is a representation of the gallows with the two bodies suspended. There are also two curious plates, one showing the men robbing the mail, the other their flight after committing the crime.

F. S.

APRIL 29, 1896.

ORIGINAL DOCUMENTS.

[43] THE BISHOP OF CHESTER'S VISITATION FOR
THE YEAR 1557.

(Continued from No. 40, April 15)

MALPAS [DEANERY] xvij Septembris 1557.

Postea ultimo Octobris.

MALPAS.

Against the Rector there—because he does not reside in his benefice and the rectory is in ruins.

[Note] A fair held on Sundays etc.

TILSTON. HANDLEYE. CODDINGTON HERTLEYE.
Omnia bene.

FRADSHAM [DEANERY]

xxviii Augusti. 1557 coram Magistro Hanson etc.

Postea. xxix, Octobris.

BOWDON.

Against the Churchwardens there—the church and churchyard in ruins. The Wardens appeared and were ordered to repair the churchyard before the Feast of All Saints under pain of a fine of xls to be paid to the use of the Cathedral Church. And the glass in the choir is defective through the fault of the Lord Bishop.

BUDWORTH.

Against the—? there—quia non tenet hospitium*
Against the wardens there—the church, churchyard, etc., need repair. The wardens appeared and are to amend all as specified in the bill of presentment before the Feast of All Saints under pain of a fine of iiij^s to be paid to the Cathedral Church, and likewise were admonished not to frequent the public fair in future on Sundays under pain of excommunication.

PREUE INFEBRIOR.

Against the Churchwarden there—the tower needs repair.

DEESBURIE.

Against John Crymes—because he carried away the wall of the churchyard and permitted his cattle to graze there. He appeared and was ordered to repair that which he had destroyed and to distribute iiij^d to the poor on the next Sunday in the presence of the curate.

ROSTOEN.

Against the wardens there—The church, churchyard, etc., needs repair, and the books for divine service are incomplete. The churchwardens appeared and are to amend all before the Feast of Christmas under pain of a fine of iiij^d. to the use of the Cathedral Church.

RONCOBN.

Against John Mayre the vicar there—to communicate with the Lord Bishop.

Against the Churchwardens there—they have not the Image of Christ (*carent imagine Cristi*), the books and other vestments. They are to amend all before the Feast of All Saints under pain of xxs., and under pain of sequestration of fruits if the chancel be not repaired.

WIRRELL [DEANERY].

xx Augusti. Postea. ij Novembris.

*The meaning of this charge is not known to me. *Hospitium* in mediæval Latin sometimes meant an inn, and sometimes synodals.

BURTON.

Against the wardens there—the church and churchyard need repair. [Later] They are repaired.

WALZEY.

Against the churchwardens there—the church and churchyard are in ruin. Excommunicated.

WEST KIRKBY.

Against William Musken and Ellen Tottie—excommunicated. The man is at the wars [regis gwaris] as the apparitor deposes.

BEBINGTON.

Against Thomas Englefield and Margaret Legge—excommunicated. The man is at the wars.

BACFORD.

Against — Kynge and —. The man is at the wars.

[Later.] The man appeared and admitted his guilt, and on his submitting himself to the correction of the Judge, he was assigned four days penance in linen, and to walk in the procession with a wax candle in one hand, and to certify etc., the penance to begin on the xxvij day of February, and the iij Sundays thereafter following.

HESWALL.

Against the Churchwardens there—they have not the images and vestments. Thomas Smyth and Richard Inglesfield appeared and admitted that they have not the image of St. Michael [?] Ordered to procure the same before the Feast of Pentecost under pain of a fine of xxs.

WOODCHURCH.

Against the Wardens—the Churchyard needs repair. Thomas Urmston one of the Churchwardens appeared and stated that it had been repaired.

Against John Arrowsmyth and Margaret Maurie. The man is at the wars.

NESTON.

Against the churchwardens—the gate of the Churchyard is out of repair. It is repaired.

(To be continued.)

[44] AN EARLY NANTWICH DEED.

The following early deed from the Moore Charters, now in the possession of Captain Stewart, will be of interest, being a grant of land in Coole-lane, near Nantwich. The name of the grantor is curious, and is suggestive of the Crusades, though a simpler explanation of its derivation may be the correct one.—Yours, &c.,

HOLLY.

Universis etc. Nicholas Sarazen son of Robert Sarazen greeting etc, know ye that with the consent of my heirs I have granted etc to Sarlin Wincestre all my land in Colelane next to the land of Andrew son of Waran which contains in width forty-eight feet and in length sixty feet to have and to hold etc at a rent of five shillings annually to be

paid at two terms namely two shilling and sixpence at the Feast of the Nativity of St. John the Baptist and two shillings and sixpence at the Feast of Christmas, for all service etc. [Warranty clause] Witnesses. Ric' vic' Cestr, Radulfo Junsarazen [?], Ric. fil. Radulf', Hug. fr'e ei', Hug' Buchard, H—o fil' Math', Rob'to fil' Heduinni. M—io Rod [?] Joh' Lodi Alexandro fil' Picot, Rogero Fabro et fil' ei' Sim', Rogero clerico et multis aliis.

NOTES.

[45] THE BEVERLEY FAMILY OF CHESTER AND DUBLIN.

(See No. 5, Jan. 8th.)

With reference to Mr. Gause's query in your issue of January 8th as to the family of Beverley, and their connection with Ireland, it will be noticed that on page 151 of the last series of the Sheaf, Mr. Earwaker printed the will of Sir George Beverley, of Chester, and in the introductory remarks mentioned that Sir George was knighted at Lexlipp, in Ireland, in 1604. As a further proof of Sir George's connection with Ireland, it may be noted that among the City Records at the Town Hall, Chester, are some letters from him about this date dealing with the question of sending over further supplies to Dublin to the troops there, he evidently acting in some capacity in the Commissariat Department. And, again, in the recently published appendix to the 26th Report of the Deputy-keeper of the Public Records in Ireland is indexed the Inventory of Ann Beverley, of Dublin, widow, 1696.—Yours, &c.,

GENEALOGIST.

[46] CHESHIRE BELLS.

(See No. 33, March 25.)

In connection with the series of bell inscriptions for Chester Deanery, which have been appearing in the Sheaf, a correspondent kindly sends us the following list of Cheshire bells, which were cast by the firm of Rudhalls, of Gloucester.

Mr. Abraham Rudhall started the Gloucester Bell Foundry in 1684. He was succeeded by his sons, Abraham and Abel, who were followed successively by Thomas, Charles, and John Rudhall. 520 peals are recorded in Messrs. Rudhall's catalogue, published in 1830. On their retirement, Mr. Thomas Mears, of the Whitechapel foundry, acquired and continued the Gloucester business under his own name, but after a few years he transferred the patterns, &c., to his London foundry.

List of peals of bells cast by Messrs Rudhall, of Gloucester, for Chester County:—

	Weight of	
	No. of	Tenor.
	Bells.	wt.
Acton	6	14
Alderley [1787]	6	13
Alsager	5	8
Andlem	6	9
Barthomley	6	13
Bowden	6	14
Budworth Great	8	22
" Over	5	11
" Little	5	7
Burton in Wirrall [1724]	5	8
Chester, St. John [1710]	8	15
" St. Michael [1726]	6	7
" Holy Trinity	6	8
Christleton	8	8
Congleton	6	11
Daresbury	6	10
Eastham [1757]	5	8
Frodsham	6	13
Gawsworth [1776]	5	11
Kirby, West [1719]	5	13
Macclesfield, Christ Church ...	10	24
" Parish Church ...	8	19
Malpas	6	16
Marbury	5	8
Marple [1731]	6	14
Middlewich	6	15
Minshull	5	10
Mobberley	6	12
Mottam in Longendale [1723] ..	8	11
Nantwich [1713]	6	10
Neston [1731]	6	10
Northenden [1750]	6	15
Sandbach	6	15
Stockport [1731]	6	14
" [1817]	8	24
Tarvin	6	9
Weaverham	6	9
Wilmslow [1733]	6	13
Wybanbury	6	15
Knutsford Nether	6	13

THE EDITORS.

MAY 6, 1896.

ORIGINAL DOCUMENTS.

[47] A ROYALIST ARCHDEACON OF CHESTER.

Dr. George Snell, to whom the following extracts from the Royalist Composition papers at the Record Office, Chancery Lane, refer, was a clergyman of some considerable distinction during the reigns of James and Charles, but suffered the loss of his livings (he was rector of Wallasey and Waverton, as well as being

Archdeacon), on the Presbyterians gaining the upper hand in Cheshire; as was stated on his tombstone in St. Mary's, Chester, *per injuriam temporis in communionem laicam redactus* (by the lawlessness of the times reduced to Lay Communion). It will also be seen by the following documents that even his private property was not exempt from the grasp of the conquerors, and he must have ended his days in sadly reduced circumstances.

Further particulars of Dr. Snell will be found in *Wirral Notes and Queries*, Vol. ii, p. 62.

WM. FERGUSON IRVINE.

Claughton.

GEORGE SNELL, OF WAVERTON, CO. CHESTER,
DOCTOR IN DIVINITY.

His delinquency was certified from the committee of Chester in these words:—

The grounds of his Delinquency and cause of Sequestrac'on of his Estate, being not only one within the compass of the advantage (sic) of Sequestrac'on, but within the ordinance for scandalous ministers one of the Episcopal faction, and incendiary at the first, of whose good bearing the Parliamte in theis trying tymes, the Country giues noe such report, as he is pleased to sett forth of himselfe, a Newtrall minister had bin bad enough, but his principles hath led him against the Parliamte and this cause in points of Judgmts and practise being a Delinquent, Scandalous, and non Resident, Pluralist, a tyme server and one that never shewed his zealous affec'on to the better sort of people in all his time, that wee can learne.

If wee knew any thinge, of his good carriage Wee should faithfully declare ye same unto you. The parties examined are men without exception honest and Godly as well of his parishioners as others. Many more might have bene taken to the effect as are sent, but wee conceived it needless to trouble you with more than necessarye, if he should be made capable of his former place it would be a greate grieve, and discouragement to ye well affected in theis partes. And a bad example to others of ye like condicon. But haveing assurance of yor fidelity and wisdoms, not to be deluded with the Glosses of any of that Partye whoe have misled his Ma'tye and endeavour to misinforme the Committees of Parliamnt wee leave the p'mises to yor serious and grave considerac'on and Judgement and shall ever remayne

Yor Honnours faithfull and
humble Servants

John Whitworth
Raph Judson
John Whittell
Sam Buck

To which the said Comes have affixed certain coppies of examinacons of severall psons of matters informeinge the truth of their certificate in theis pticulars. He took the N.C. and N.O. before the Governor and Committee of Chester as they certified on the 14 March 1645 (6). He compounded upon a Particular delivered in under his hand by which he agreed to pay such fine, &c.

By the Particular it appeared

That he was seized in Fee to him and his heirs in possession of and in certain lands and tenements lying in Towns and Fields of Gelden Sutton and Hargrave in the co. of Chester, worth yearly £66.

18 Aug 1646. Fine at a third £330

Petition of Dr. George Snell, Doctor in Divinity, Pastor of Waverton, within three miles of Chester.

Shewing that Petitioner lived within three miles of Chester and thus within the Power of both armies willingly paying to that of Parliament and compulsorily to that of the King he was with threats to his person and life driven to fly from his dwelling, leaving his wife and family there and from time to time he paid all Parliamentary duties as a testimony of his real affection to them, and that he had not otherwise so much as Colourably fallen into any delinquency otherwise than by his casual removal by falling into the King's Quarters in the uncertainty of those times. Petitioner with an humble protestation of his innocency never to have wilfully offended or otherwise incurred the penalty of sequestration under any ordinance—did nevertheless with all submission desire the benefit of the declaration of Parliament to be taken into consideration of the honourable Committee—to make his Composition.

"Noe Personall effects, but was seized and bought againe" his temporal real estate lay in Gelden Sutton and Hardgrave co. Chester and was worth £60 a year and not more.

Letter from Committee at Chester Satur July 4 1646, signed by

John Whitworth
Raph Judson
John Whittell
Sam Buck

Addressed to Committee at Goldsmiths' Hall.

DEPOSITIONS OF PERSONS REFERRED TO IN THE COMMUNICATION.

13 June 1646

THOMAS WOODCOCK OF BEDSON aged about 50 sworn, said he well knew Dr Snell and about Candelmas three years then ago the Dr came to Guilden Sutton and voluntarily preached a sermon (it not being his own benefice) to the following effect as deponent well remembered. He took his text in the sixteenth of Genesis and insisted concerning Sarah and Hagar which sermon was preached before Sir Thomas Aston's company when they were going against Norton Hall then a garrison for the Parliament—In which sermon he

compared the Parliament to Hagar the Strumpet and the Commissioners of Arrah [sic for Array] to Sarah the Mistress and his application was that the Parliament as the Strumpet Raigned (?) from her true mistresse the King. And likewise that that armye then going against Norton Hall afore-said were typically the Evangelical spirits which must reduce and bring in the Parliament to obedience to the King and therefore gave them encouragement to go on in their designs to that effect.

At the Committee for Sequestrations for the City of Chester, June the 5th, 1646

JOHN KERFORD of WHARTON aged about 30 years, Examined said he knew Dr. Snell was parson of the parish of Waverton worth then formerly £180 a year was always a very ceremonious man, except it were upon extraordinary occasions—neither had they any sermon usually in the afternoon

That when he did preach, he usually read service, and preached in his Surplice

That at the beginning of the wars he set forth a man and horse with arms who served under Sir Thomas Aston against the Parliament, until the horse was slain in the service—whether he maintained the man after deponent knew not

That he was always disaffected to the proceedings of the Parliament and manifested it both by his preaching and practise—few sermons passing wherein he did [not] inveigh against those who were averae to the proceedings of his Majesty.

That upon a time as he was preaching in the beginning of the troubles—he affirmed that proud presumptuous Mordecai that would not bow to Haman had by his pride endangered the lives of all the Jews and in like manner those that would not stoop to the Lord's anointed were like to bring destruction upon them all without God prevented it—or words to that effect.

That divers times he affirmed in his preaching that he that resisted the King the Lord's Anointed might as well resist Christ himself.

That a Petition as Examinant thought against Episcopacy coming by the hands of Mr. Tilton and Mr. Bruen two gentlemen in the parish to be subscribed—he refused to subscribe it and dissuaded others from doing so

That another petition coming as examinant thought for Episcopacy—some in the parish (of which examinant was one) refusing to subscribe it—he bid them be advised what they did for they would be carried before the Commissioners if they refused.

That usually when he went into the Chancel he turned towards the Communion Table.

RALPH VERNON of WAVERTON aged 50 — examined—having heard the former examination read—confirmed it with the exception of "resisting Christ if they resisted the King the Lord's

Anointed" he did not hear that, nor did he see him usually bow, excepting upon Communion days. Then he saw him bow towards the Table.

March 11, 1645 (6)

LIEUT. JOHN DUTTON—examined—said that about the time that Sir Thomas Aston and the Commissioners of Array were to meet in the Forest deponent being then present and newly come out of Ireland the constable of Gilden Sutton one Macocke did warn deponent three several times before the Commissioners of Array—and all by the commands of Dr. Snell or his countenancing of some warrant granted as the said constable affirmed to this Deponent

And further said that Dr. Snell in deponent's sight did seduce and hire all that he could get, and to several particular men he gave money conditionally to meet and join with Sir Thomas Aston—and likewise in deponent's hearing did threaten those who refused in menacing terms.

10 June, 1646.

ROBERT SMITH of BICKERTON, aged 36 years, examined, said he had seen Dr. Snell divers times both riding and walking with the enemy in their Company after the wars began with a sword and pistol, and further said that at the time of the siege of Namptwich the said Doctor Snell brought a Guard of "Munquettiers" to Beame Bridge and gave them command that none should pass again without "Tiquetts," and he further said that before the siege of Namptwich he heard the Doctor say among other discourse that then happened—That Black Bills were the best weapons the King could procure to beat down the Enemy.

11 June, 1646.

LAWRENCE RATHBONE of WAVERTON, aged 30 years, examined, said that he knew Dr. Snell. That he deponent having been robbed and despoiled of all his estate and livelihood by the rebels in Ireland was constrained to bring his wife and three children along with him to England to his father in law's house at Waverton, near Chester, who admitted him in part of his house for succour. Being in great indigence and want but not being able to keep him in any other way, deponent was willing to entertain any employment or way to earn subsistence for himself and family, but for a good space attained to no way at all. In which time he often heard and knew that the said Dr. Snell, Prebend Bispham, and Parson Duckworth did join together and set forth a man and horse and arms which had been several times shewn and presented before the Commissioners of Array for their service, but as it happened the riders employed by the Doctor and his associates of which they had employed several, left their service by means of some hurt they had received by the said horse, they being unaccustomed to riding, and the horse being skittish and wild. The Doctor hearing of Examinant and his condition,

sent for him to the Depot, and engaged him to ride the horse. He undertook the occupation and received the horse, &c., and so long as Examinant remained in the country he received his money from Dr. Snell. Further he deposed that the King coming down to those parts he with others was drawn away with Sir Thomas Aston to Whitchurch and Dr. Snell promised to arrange with Sir Thomas Aston that the latter should find what was needful for Examinant whilst he was away with Sir Thomas, which deponent believed the Dr. had done as Sir Thomas furnished him with monies whilst he was absent. That from Whitchurch deponent with the rest went in the direction of Shrewsbury and so along until he came to Edge Hill still as Dr. Snell's servitor, at which the said horse was killed under him the deponent, after which, as soon as he conveniently could he came down to Cheshire and left the service, and never subsequently meddled therewith. Whether Dr. Snell set forth another man or horse deponent knew not.

13 June, 1646.

WILLIAM WOODCOCK, of BEDSON, aged 50, Examined—he knew Dr. Snell—a copy of his former deposition.

Chester, March 14, 1646-7. Directed to the officers and others that served the King and Parliament, desiring them to allow George Snell Doctor in Divinity with his son George Snell and their horses and necessaries to pass through their guards and sentinels to London without let or hindrance.

Signed	Mic Jones
	Ro. Gregge, Io Bru[en]
	William Davies
	Edw. Bradshaw
	James Gartsyde
	Peter Leigh

A Particular of his estate under his own hand.

MAY 13, 1896.

ORIGINAL DOCUMENTS.

[48] THE WILL OF THOMAS BUNBURY OF STANNEY, ESQUIRE, 1600.

The following extracts from the will of Thos. Bunbury of Bunbury and Stanney, Esquire, will be of interest to many students of family history, by reason of the numerous genealogical particulars there given. Thomas Bunbury appears to have married twice, first to a Margaret Aldersey, and secondly to Bridget, daughter of John Aston, of Aston, Esquire. He died on the 5th May, 1602. The will is from the copy in the Bishop's Enrolment Books at the Diocesan Registry.—Yours,

GENEALOGIST.

In the name of God, Amen. xxviii day Aug. 1600.

I, THOMAS BUNBURIE of STANNEY, Esquire, etc.

Whereas by an Indenture dated 1st Oct., 11th Elizabeth, between me the sd. Thomas Bunburie on the one pte. and Henry Birkenhead of Huxley, Esqre. and John Goodman of Lincoln's Inn, Co. Middlesex, gent., on the other pte," etc.

"Capital house and messuages in Hoole, property in Wimboldes Trafford, Guilden Sutton, and Bunbury, to Bridget Bunburie my lovinge wief," etc.

"My daughter-in-law Anne Bunburie now wief to my sonne Henry Bunburie."

"My lands in Great Stanney alias Stanney Grange known by the names of the Cowhouse Marsh, Great Marsh, Higher and Low Cowhouse fields, Sheeppcote Croft, Poole Croft and Lower Meadow field."

"All that wynd milne and smithee, now in the hands of Thurstan Daynteth, in the township of Hoole, Tenement in Gulden Sutton, in holding of Andrew Cotgrave, to my daughter Margt. Shackerley."

"Thos. Bunburie, my 2nd son—5li yearlie rent charge of one little close or pasture in Great Stanney, called The Little Marsh."

"John Bunburie, my 3rd son—5li yearlie rent charge of one little close or pasture in Great Stanney, called ye Rakemore field."

"Richard Bunburie, my 4th son—5li yearlie rent charge of one little close or pasture, called Higher Meadow field."

"Jeffrey Bunburie, my 5th son—5li yearlie rent charge of certain little closes or pastures, called Blancherd's Croft, in holding of Wm. Cotton; The Little Meadow field and another, in holding of Henry Tutchett and others."

The above sums to be paid yearlie on the 1st of July in the utter Pentice in the City of Chester."

"My capital house etc of Little Stanney to him that shall be my heire."

"Cozen Ried. Bunburie and Cozen Wm. Aldersay and his now wyfe Marye."

"My sister Birkenhead," "my brother Birkenhead," "my cozen Henrie Birkenhead."

"I release my brother Massie of £10 which he oweth me."

"My sonne Hugh Shackerley."

"Peter Shackerly son of sd. Hugh."

Executors: Wife Bridgett, Richard Bunburie, and Wm. Aldersay of City of Chester, Alderman.

Overseers: my brother Ashton, my brother Birkenhead, sonne Griffin and sonne Meoles.
xxxiii August 1600.

Witnesses: Marie Aldersay, Robt. Wall, Edd. Cowley, Robt. Tailor.

Codicil: "Whereas I have a mortgage on a tenement of my cozen John Poole the younger of a house in Little Neston in the holding of Thomas Betson for £116 and whereas my sonne-in-law Henerie Bold doth owe xiili I cleerie remit the same to him," etc.

"John Hockenhull of Hockenhull and my cozen John Poole the elder."

"A house etc lying at the upper end of a Rake called St. Anne's Rake in Hoole Heath in the holding of Ried. Bunbury of City of Chester merchant."

xiii Mar. 1602

Wit. John Poole, Henrie Birkenhead, Ried. Bunburie, Wm. Aldersay.

Codicil mentions John Griffin of Barterton gent Marie his wief and Thomas his sonne.

NOTES.

[49] A PRE-NORMAN CHURCH AT BEBINGTON.

Most of us are familiar with the ancient churches of Wirral, or so much of them as the rage for over "restoration" has spared, and those who interest themselves in such matters can to some fair extent distinguish from their main architectural features the periods at which they were built or altered, as the popular architectural text books readily supply the main characteristics of style by which the features of the general architecture can be distinguished and classed. It is true that modern alterations have greatly confused such investigations, the copies of the antique fashions set into any ancient churches as improvements, and the reduction of ancient work to a modern appearance by scraping and chipping away the old surfaces have sadly spoiled our local antiquities, and the munificence of donors and restorers has too often been wasted on the latter operations, which are unnecessary for any structural advantage, injurious to the edifices subjected to them by obliterating both their history and the beauty that only age can give, and at the same time they are costly, and do nothing better than add to the contractor's bill. In many cases changes are so great that our old buildings have lost nearly everything distinctive of their origin, and it requires an expert to find anything beyond the fashion that their "restoring" friends have imposed on them. In spite of such loss of original character, it often happens that there are still points of interest to reward the careful seeker. Ancient work sometimes has its lessons when all traces of style are gone, the handiwork and manipulation of material in the past differed entirely from present methods, the tools with

which the work was done have left their writing on stone and timber, the setting and proportions of the stones in masonry, their bedding and jointing, the framing of timber and woodwork, the choice itself of the materials and their placing together, the craftsmanship of metals, all tell their own tale. When style may, under successive alterations and changes, have practically disappeared, the measures and proportions of old work are often clues to its history. Thus in some of our ancient churches may be found remnants of very old work only to be distinguished by a careful study of the characteristics of ancient manipulation. To one such instance I wish to make particular reference, submitting their evidence rather as one of high probability than of certain proof. It is well known that in many early churches the chancel and the nave do not lie in the same line of orientation, but the chancel is inclined from the right line of the nave. This feature is more common in very early churches than in the later styles, though when an early building has been replaced by later work, the old lines are often followed. The purpose of this deviation is not very clearly known—it is said to be symbolical of the position of our Saviour upon the cross. A later suggestion has been made, that, inasmuch as churches were orientated when founded, by taking the line of a shadow thrown at sunrise from a staff set up on the site of the altar, in such cases where chancel and nave were built at different times and at varying seasons of the year the direction of such shadow would vary with the season. This latter supposition does not seem tenable, since the deviation occurs in churches built in one style without interval of time for the separate parts. Also that the deviation, though differing much in degree, is always towards the north. Also that, though the system of fixing the orientation continued, the practice fell out of use for the most part in later buildings. In the ancient church of Woodchurch the deviation of the line of chancel and nave is almost 4ft.; the foundations of Overchurch Church seem to shew the same peculiarity; Bebbington Church has this inclination in a lesser degree, all three of these buildings being on very early foundations, over which later work has been superposed. It is of the latter church that I would endeavour to point out what may be learned from this initial peculiarity of structure. The south aisle of the nave is Norman, having an arcade originally of four semi-circular arches now reduced to three by various late and

modern alterations, the lower part of the wall of this aisle is also Norman, as evidenced by its somewhat coarsely-jointed masonry and cubical blocks of ashlar, roughly dressed with an axe. The upper portion of this wall has been altered during the first half of the 13th century by insertions of early-decorated windows, the substance of the wall being Norman, and its length coinciding with that of the interior arcade of the same date, about 1140. The deviation of the eastern part of the church towards the north, from the line of orientation, does not begin as usual by the deflection of the chancel, but about thirty feet from the west end of the aisle, or a little beyond its centre. An examination of the foundation, now below the ground level, shews the cause of this singular feature. The Norman wall has been set upon the remains of an earlier one, and follows its lines partially, a slight attempt having been made to straighten the Norman superstructure. This more ancient wall differs in its masonry from the one built upon it, the coursing being irregular and of smaller stones. It is furnished with a plinth, with a sloping set-off, almost three inches wide. At 30ft. from the west the deflection commences, and it continues 15ft. farther eastwards, the junction being further marked by a step downwards on the plinth. Here, then, is a fragment of a pre-Norman church. The 30ft. to the deflection marks the nave, and the 15ft. marked by the step down is the deflected chancel of the Saxon church, which, tradition says, occupied the site of the present South Nave Aisle, and the line of the old wall having been followed, when the Norman church was extended, so as to embrace both the nave and chancel of the Saxon church, has caused the deflection of the later building to begin abnormally in the nave of the present church. The Saxon Church then is shewn to have been a small structure, 45 feet in length, following the slope of the ground, the chancel having been a step lower than the nave. It had a south porch in the centre of its nave, for we find the ancient plinth returned southwards in its water-table, or coping, where the porch wall branched off. It is singular to find that many years ago before the church was restored, old people say they remember a step downwards in the old nave, a survival of the arrangement of the Saxon Church. This feature is not unusual in ancient churches. Chester Cathedral is a notable example. The setting of the two 13th Century windows of the nave at different levels is a reminiscence of the declen-

sion of the former Saxon Church towards the east. Thus these ancient foundations verify the oral tradition that the Saxon Church stood on the site of the south aisle, and if we take the size of the Saxon Nave as two squares of 15 feet each, and the chancel as one square, it will be found to fit exactly into the space of the south aisle of the nave, and we have thus recovered the dimensions of the primeval fane of Bebington. We have a further warrant for the identification of these remains, as belonging to Saxon times, in the Saxon name for the village, which was Whitechurch, (i.e.) the White Church. Wood was the common material for buildings of that period, and stone buildings were often designated "White," thus the early church was a stone structure, and, built of the silvery Storeton stone, might well be called white. So from these small fragments of foundations plainly preceding the Norman structure, from the careful study of the differing masonry, even without a single architectural feature to give a clue to date, these fragments, which would gain little respect from a modern restorer, who would chisel and point away their history, vouch for the truth of the tradition, confirmed also by the ancient name, that here stood the simple and primitive early church of Bebington before the Conquest, with nave, chancel, and porch, witnesses also of the continuance and order of worship on this spot for fully 900 years.

E. W. Cox.

MAY 20, 1896.

ORIGINAL DOCUMENTS.

[50] FAREWELL LETTER FROM SIR TIMOTHY FETHERSTONHAUGH, KNT. WRITTEN IN CHESTER CASTLE, 20 OCTOBER, 1651.

Sir Timothy Fetherstonhaugh, the writer of the following pathetic letter, was eldest son of Henry Fetherstonhaugh, by his wife Dorothy, daughter of Thomas Wybergh, of Clifton, in Cumberland, which Henry was the first of his family to settle at Kirkoswald, in the same county, being second son of Albany Fetherstonhaugh, of Fetherstone Castle, in Northumberland, by his wife Lucy, daughter of Edmond Dudley, of Yanwath, co. Cumberland.

Sir Timothy, who was knighted at Whitehall, on April 1st, 1628, married Bridget, daughter of Thomas Patrickson, of Calder Abbey, Cumberland, by whom he had seven sons and seven daughters.

Two of the sons, Henry and Robert, were killed at Worcester fight; two other sons, John and William, were of the Life Guard of King Charles II. Thomas, the second son, succeeded his father, married Mary, daughter of Henry Dacre, of Lanercost, in Cumberland, by whom he had, among others, a son, Timothy, from whom the present Mr. Fetherstonhaugh, of Kirkoswald, is descended.

Sir Timothy is said to have paid £700 for the service of King Charles I., and to have raised troops and served personally in the war. There is a petition in possession of the present owner of Kirkoswald, in the handwriting of Sir Timothy's widow, dated 1664, setting out her husband's services, and her own poverty, and asking for that relief which she never received.

Sir Timothy was taken prisoner at Leigh, in Lancashire, shortly after the fight at Wigan-lane, and committed to Chester Castle, where on the 1st of October, 1651, he was tried by court martial, and found guilty of a breach of the Act of 12th August in that year "prohibiting correspondence with Charles Stuart or his party," and sentenced to be beheaded at Chester that day three weeks.

James, Earl of Derby, was a prisoner in Chester Castle at the same time on a similar charge, and at supper on the night of Monday, 13th October, drank to Sir Timothy, and said: "Sir,—Be of good comfort, I go willingly before you, and God hath so strengthened me that you shall hear (by His assistance) that I shall so submit, both as a Christian and a soldier, as to be both a comfort and an example to you."

On the following morning his lordship took leave of Sir Timothy pretty much in the same words as overnight, and left Chester for Wigan, where he was beheaded the day following.

Sir Timothy suffered at Chester just a week later, namely, on the 22nd October, 1651.

R. D. RADCLIFFE, M.A., F.S.A.

Letter of farewell from Sir Timothy Fetherstonhaught, Knt., to his wife, written in Chester Castle, the night before his execution, 20th October, 1651. From the original at Rydal Hall, Westmorland.

My dearest it is a sad farewell I now must take and my greifes doe sup, abound for you and my poore . . . children this fatal sentence is irreuocable for yor sake be patient submitt willingly . . . pleasure of God which must be obeyed I haue taken and written what order

and direo . . . for the poore estate euery one
in these horrid times may doe wronge I pray God
. . . right though my life be taken my soull is
free and I hope by the mercyes of . . . uiour
shall liue with him eternally to whome I comend
itt and the and thy I hope God Almightye will
blesse you all and abate the mallice of yor and my
enemies my cosen Lowther unfortunately did a
displeasure (happly without th . . . they
would haue taken my life) he hath taken
pains to preserue itt he will take a childe
and that childe if itt be his prentise it is
p'uided for I thinke Richard fittest God
forgaue his death I forgiue all the world
and beg p'don of all Charitie ought to be used
legacies I have none I wish I could deale blessings
as I freely wish them to the and my children as
much as you can advise and educate them in the
feare of the lorde and let them never neglect
prayers and private dewties settle them in religion
there are now manye and scarce any good or
visible but the ould I desire them to love and still
to be helpfull and assistinge one to another and soe
God Almightye will bless and helpe them they
suckt nothings but virtue from thy wombe and in
the presence of God I speake itt thou hast beene to
me an unparalleld wife and a mother to thy children
though my death be fatall and some will make it
scandalous yet posteritie truth another generation
may not call it soe nor would our age have cald soe
some yeares since I hope in the eyes of God and
good people itt will be esteemed little lesse than A
maytirdome and I hope since no remedie I must die
(and soe must all) I shall die a good Christian
I desire my children to serue God diligently to be
painfull and patient and neuer to meddle with any
great matters or state or trouble but liue poorely
and quietly and I hope God will raise and bless
them I ame wearie of this woefull farewell my
prayers shalbe for my soull for the and thine as
longe as I may none more deserueinge than
thyselfe of all women liueing I haue tould as
much for directions as I can I haue few freindes
God Allmightie I knowe will raise the upp
some there is noble Sr francis Heward my good
brother and kinde cosen Kirkbride and my sonn
Kirkbride I pray you aduise with them and imploy
my sonn Kirkbride presently goe a bout itt and
either bye itt in some freinds name and part of itt
or all sould to pay childrens portions and
maintaine you I leaue you all to God and them to
the if I had the Indies I would leave itt to the
as God knows I have nothings I dislike that
Thomas lookes to that woman for his wife itt will
be ruine to him or her or both without salt
teares itt is time my thoughts and Actions be
wholy taken upp with the contemplation of heaven
where with comforte I hope wee shall meete And
till then God blesse my children and the and com-
fort the and thy poore unfortunate dying husband

Ty: fetherston

What can be spared either by byinge or com-

poundinge for the estate dispose of itt by sale or
otherwise I leave all to the and my children as
you please but I would have you doe for Jane and
Dorothe as I have sett downe if you can

20th of October 1651

Chester Castle

Indorsed: for my honored freinde
the Ladie Bridgett
Fetherstonhaugh
at Kirkoswald Cumberland present

[51] THE BISHOP OF CHESTER'S VISITATION
FOR THE YEAR 1557.

(Continued from No. 43, April 29.)

BANGOR DEANERY.

Ultimo Octobris 15[57].

HANMER.

Against the Churchwardens there—the Church and
Churchyard in ruins. The Churchwardens are
ill so the Vicar asserts.

WORTHENBURY.

Against the Churchwardens there—they require a
surplice for the — [F] and holy-water clerk [F]
The Churchwardens appeared and were enjoined
to repair the omissions before the Feast of
— [F] under pain of a fine of vjs. vjd., to be paid
towards the repair of Chester Cathedral.

MACCLESFIELD [DEANERY].

Coram Magistro Johanne Hanson—Augusti 1557.

PRESBURIE.

Against the Churchwardens there—the churchyard
needs repair. On which day Robert Barlow and
John Holinhd two of the Churchwardens
appeared and the Judge enjoined them to repair
the aforesaid before the Feast of St. Martin
under pain of a fine of xxs. to be paid towards
the repair of Chester Cathedral etc.

MOBERLEY.

Against the Churchwardens there—the church-
yard needs repair. Thomas [—] appeared and
is to repair the churchyard before the Feast of
St. James under pain of a fine of xls. to be paid
towards the repair of Chester Cathedral.

MOTTRAM.

Against the Churchwardens there—the Church and
Churchyard in ruins. Robert Winterbotham
appeared and confessed his fault and is to repair
the aforesaid before the Feast of St. James
under pain of a fine of xls. to be paid to the repair
of Chester Cathedral.

MIDDLEWICH DEANERY.

xvij. Septembris.

Against—[F]—because he buried his own child.
The man appeared and denied it. Afterwards
he paid vs. for the commutation of the penance
to the Dean of Middlewich, and submitted
himself.

HOLME.

Against the Churchwardens—the churchyard and
glass need repair. Let them be cited.

SONBACHE.

Against the Churchwardens—the chancel and church need repair, and the books and other necessaries are insufficient. The judge, because the chancel needs repair, decreed sequestration of the fruits from the farmer of the living, and the Churchwardens are to supply the required books before the Feast of the Nativity of our Lord under pain of a fine of xls. to be paid towards the repair of Chester Cathedral.

MEDIUS VICUS.

Against the Churchwardens—the Church and Churchyard need repair and the glass. Ordered by Mr. Hanson.

SWETNAM.

Against the Churchwardens—the glass needs repair. They are to repair it before the Feast of the Nativity of our Lord under pain of a fine of xiijs. ivd.

LAWTON.

Against the Churchwardens there—the Churchyard and glass need repair. Robert Unteen [?], one of the Churchwardens, appeared, and he is to repair the aforesaid before the Feast of St. Andrew, under pain of a fine of — to be paid towards the repair of the parish Church.

[Note] Refused to pay the fees—afterwards paid

MAY 27, 1896.

ORIGINAL DOCUMENTS.

[52] A ROYALIST ALDERMAN.

Following on the extracts from the Royalist Composition Papers relating to Mr. Thorp, the Mayor of Chester, and Dr. Snell, the Archdeacon, these dealing with one of the Aldermen of the City may be of interest. Perhaps the most curious thing in the papers is the reference to his interest in the “waterworks” of Chester.

Richard Broster was a member of a family which for many years held high rank in the city and he was probably second son of the Richard Broster, who was Sheriff in 1591, and seems himself to have filled the same post in 1631.

WM. FERGUSON IRVINE.

RICHARD BROSTER, OF THE CITY OF
CHESTER—ALDERMAN.

His Delinquency.

That he had been active against the Parliament and had lent much money to the Comrs. of Array.

He had taken many oaths against the Parliament and at the entering of the Parliamentary forces into the Suburbs of Chester was industrious; if it had lain in his power he would have kept them out.

He came in upon the Articles of Chester.

He took the N.C. before Wm. Barton 17 Sep. 1646, and the N.O. before the Committee in London 28 Sep. 1646.

He compounded upon a Particular returned from the country, also upon one delivered in under his own hand, by which it appeared

That he was seized in Fee to him and his heirs in possession of a certain tenement lying in Rowton and Howle in the co. of Chester, and divers other lands and tenements in the city of Chester and the suburbs thereof, particularly mentioned in the Particular, worth yearly £53 10s.

That he was siezed of a Frank tenement for life during three lives of a tenement in Saughton in the said County for which he paid 3s. rent—and was worth before the troubles over and above the reserved rent £3 16 4

That he was possessed of the Remainder of a term for 13 years then to come of other houses and lands in Chester held of Rowland Egerton gentleman at a yearly rent of 34/4d and others held of Mr. Jolly at a rent of £3 1 0 these together were worth above the reserve rent £1 5 4

He held a Certificate from very many of the best of the Citizens of Chester testifying that upon the taking in of the Suburbs of the said city he lost £2500 personal estate and that during the seige many of his houses were burnt to the ground—these formerly yielded him £80 a year—besides the loss of the water works which were of great benefit to him

22 Sept 1646.

Fine at a Sixth £170

His own Particular

At the Comitte for the Sequestration for the City of Chester July 18, 1646.

Honeured Gentlemen

In obedience and pursuance of an Order from yor Honr of the 25th of June last directinge us to certify the Delinquency of Richard Broster of the Cittye of Chester alderman against the Parliament and the particular of his estate Revenue and expectance, we humbly Certifye as ffolloweth, As concernynge his delinquency He hath been active against the Parliament, lent much money to the Comissioners of Array for the furthering their Designs, taken many oathes against the Parliament And at the enteringe of the Parliament's forces into the Suburbs was industrious to have kept them out if it had been in his power And as for his estate P'sonale and reale, yet remaineing he hath (viz)

IN JOHNS PARISH

	£	s.	d.
These fower houses } 4 houses and one			
upon the Racke } Croft that hath			
from him and he } beene setformerly			
holds them by lease } for p' ann.....	08	10	00
1 house, wherein he dwells his owne Lands	10	00	00
Another house, his owne Lands.....	08	00	00
Another house, his owne Lands.....	05	00	00

IN MICHAEL'S PARISH.

There are in Lease	1 Seller, sett for.....	02 10 00
	1 House, at	01 10 00
	IN MARIE'S PARISH.	
	1 House, at	01 04 00
	1 House, at	01 04 00

All which wee leave to your honour's grave consideration and remaine your honour's humble Servants,

Ralph Judson
John Whitworth John Wittell
Sam. Buck

A second Particular.

dated Chester Sep. 26 1646

signed by Ralph Judson and Randall Palin

A Tenement in Rowton parish of Christington	15 00 00
An acre of meadow in Fowkstablefore Parish of Tarvin.....	2 00 00
2 Closes (5½ acres) in Houle—parish of Plumstow	5 00 00
per annum	

As to, his Delinquency—they refer to the Chester Certificate.

Civit at Cestr. 29 die }
Augusti 1646 }

WEE whose names are hereunto subscribed doe verlee beleeve and make bould to certifie that Mr. Richard Broster of Chester Alderman upon the taking of the Suburbs of the Cittie wherein then hee lived lost in gold money plate household goodes App'ell Mault and Cowe leather and hides, Barke and cattle, to the valewe of Twoe Thousand five hundred powndes or thereabouts. As also wee doe hereby further Certifye that the said Mr. Broster in the tyme of the Seagues against Chester lost by fire severall fine Inn howses and other howses in the Suburbs wch were burnt to the ground of the yearlie valewe of fower score pounds and upwards besides his loss of his pte in the Waterworks in this Cittie, wch were greate Benefite unto him and wch were Battered downe. All wch wee make bould to Certife on the behalfe of the said Mr. Broster in regard not any man within this Citties or Suburbs hath suffered soe much and lost soe greate an Estate as hee hath in his kind. Soe subscribinge o'selves y'r Servants

Richard Wilson	Nicholas Ince
Edward Coddington	John Radley
Hugh Anderton	John Boydell (or Moxdell)
Henry Birkenhead	Will Sparke
Richard Dickenson	William Jones
Edward Williams	Reece Cotgreave
William Drinkwater	Thomas Cowper
John Alderson	Edward fish [?]
Hugh Leigh	Randle Holme
Richard Byrd	The mark + of William
William Bennett	Selbie
Humphrey Phillippes	Robert Sproston (or
The marke of William	Synoston)
Ince +	The marke of Richard
Tho Wright	Leay [?]

Raphe Drinkwater

Arthur Walley

Hew Powell

James Knowsley

William Bremfield

[? Brentfield]

Thomas Kettle

John Taylor

Cha Walley

Will Brasgerdell

Christopher Blease

Edward Crouke

The marke of Rimand

Leay [?]

Hugh Evans

John Taylor

Thomas King

Richd Roberts

Arthur Wilson

John Joynson

John Hulton

William Heywood

Christopher Walker

Randle Walker

[53] THE BISHOP OF CHESTER'S VISITATION FOR THE YEAR 1557.

(Continued from No. 51. May 20.)

NANTWICH DEANERY.

Apud Vicum Malbancum vj die [] 1557.

WIBUNBURIE.

Against the Churchwardens—the Church, churchyard, altars, and bells need repair. John Willeys and William [—] two of the churchwardens appeared and stated that the repairs had been done, whereupon the Judge dismissed them.

Against John Hassall—*quia fovet linocinium*. The man appeared and denied it, whereupon the Judge enjoined him to purge himself by the oaths of six men on Friday — day of November next.

Against Robert Burges and his wife—he married a wife within the prohibited degrees of consanguinity. [Note] Away in London, citation not served. [Later] On which day Robert Burges appeared and confessed that he had married within the prohibited degrees, whereupon the Judge, because he declined to submit himself to the correction of the Church, proclaimed him to be contumacious and as a punishment for contumacy excommunicated him.

BUNBURY AND BARTOMLEY.

Against the Churchwardens there—the church needs repair and the ornaments and altar in a delapidated state. Robert Davison, William [—] felse. Robert Barker and Richard Filden churchwardens appeared and are enjoined to amend etc.

Against Francis Moreton—suspected of heresy. [Note] Fled. [*anfugit*].

WRENBURIE.

Against the Churchwardens—the altars not repaired, etc.

ALDELEM.

Against Richard Hassall—because he married foreigners without dispensation [*quia maritavit alienigenas absque dispensacione*]. [Note] Fled. [Later note] Dwelling at Whitechurch.

ACTON.

Against John Cowop—because he worked on the Festival of St. Philip and St. James. His master asserts, "ytt was but a cappe makyng for bestes yt had brok in." The case dismissed.

JUNE 3, 1896.

ORIGINAL DOCUMENTS.

[54] ANOTHER ROYALIST MAYOR OF CHESTER.

(See Nos. 8, 47, and 52).

Mr. Charles Walley, to whom the following extracts from the Royalist Composition Papers relate, was Mayor of Chester in 1644 and 1645, thus, as stated in the extracts, being Mayor when, after months of siege and gallant defence, the loyal city was forced by stress of famine and pestilence to open her gates to the Parliamentary army. Mr. Walley was one of the six commissioners who refused to sign the terms of surrender. He died some twenty years later, and his will is now to be seen at the Probate Registry under date 1663.

WM. FERGUSSON IRVINE.

Cloughton, Cheshire.

CHARLES WALLEY OF THE CITY OF CHESTER ALDERMAN AND WAS MAYOR OF THAT PLACE WHEN THAT CITY WAS SURRENDERED.

His Delinquency

That he resided in the City of Chester ever since the Commission of Array was put in Execution there until the delivery thereof to Sir William Brereton and was a Commissioner of Array himself, and was one among others that opposed the setting up of the Militia in the said City—when Sir William Brereton went first down by authority from the Parliament to have set the same on foot there, and was in divers other ways active on that side, whilst the City was held a Garrison for the King.

That he petitioned in London 7 April 1646 took N. O. before the Committee in the Country 22 April 1646 and the N. C. before Wm. Barton 21 May 1646.

He compounded upon a Particular returned out of the country and by another under his own hand by which he submitted to such fine as might be imposed etc. By the Particular it appeared

That he was seized in Fee to him and his heirs in possession of and in certain lands and tenements called Abbotts Cotton in the Co. of Chester worth before the troubles yearly £90.

That he was seized of a like estate in other lands and tenements in Huntington in the same county the yearly value of above before the troubles was £34 15s.

That he was seized of a like estate in lands in Boughton, worth yearly £11.

That he was seized of a Franktenement during three lives of a messuage or tenement with appurtenances in Churton Heath, worth yearly £28 13s. 4d.

That he was seized of a like estate in other lands and tenements in Nantwich hundred worth £29 a year.

That he was seized in Fee to him and his heirs in possession of two messuages and tenements in the City of Chester. The one called the Redd Lyon "a greate parte whereof is burnt down, and the whole house nowe utterly ruyned and defaced which whiles it was standinge and used for a Common Inn before theis troubles yielded £30 a yeare rent, now of no value."

The other house he dwelt in in Chester a great part whereof is burnt to the ground and that which is standing very untenantable it was worth when the house was standing £8 a year.

Petitioner valued them at nothing, alleging that it would cost three times the value of the land they stood on to rebuild them.

"His houses in Boughton likewise are burnt downe."

His personal estate having been seized, he compounded with the Committee in the County for it.

14 May 1646

Fine £537—at a sixth.

PETITION.

In which Compounder mentions that he had lived in Chester for the greatest part of his life. When it was taken and made garrison for the King he could not without the loss of the greater part of his estate have removed, nor was he permitted, to stir yet during the time he was there he acted very little against the Parliament, and was oftentimes in danger of having to be questioned for his life—and by Lord Byron, the then bold Governor, he was "termed a traitor," and he was indeed a principal means for surrendering the city into the hands of the Parliament. During this time his estate was very much exhausted, his goods to the value of £1,000 taken away and plundered. He had contributed £100 towards the maintenance of the Parliamentary forces under the command of Sir William Brereton, and after the surrender he had conformed in all things to the command of Parliament taking the N.C. and N.O., and he was resolved to live in the Parliament's service, he prayed to be admitted to compound.

At foot—

"7 April, 1646. Letters to the County of Chester and City of Chester."

21 May, 1646. Certificate of William Barton that petitioner had freely taken the N.C. before him.

Chester, 22nd April, 1646.

Whereas wee are intrusted and authorized by the Deputy Lts. of the County and Sequestrators of the City of Chester to compound with Diverse Cittizens for theire p'sonall Estates for the more speedy raysing of moneys for paymt. of souldiers.

Theis are to certifie all whom it may concerne that (according to the said trust) wee have compounded with Mr. Charles Walley of the said City

Alderman for all his p'sonal Estate, that he hath paid in and secured the moneys agreed upon and taken the Oath appointed by Ordinance of Parliament of the fifth of April 1645.

And therefore wee desire that the said Alderman Walley may quietly passe to any of the Parliamt's Garrisons and Quarters, gather in his debts and enjoye his p'sonall Estate and freedome without any lett or molestacon.

HENRY BIRKENED.
WILLIAM DAUIES.
RICHARD BRADSHAWE.
JAMES GARTSYDE.
PETER LEIGH.
ED. GREGGE.

MR. WALLEY'S PARTICULAR.

A true p'ticuler of what I have paid and suffered since theise unhappy warres began as I will testifie upon oth if it be required

My wiffe paid to Sr William Brereton and to the Captain of Beeston Castell for p'position money	35
They have had for these 3 yeares last past for the publick from my barne at Cotton Corne worth	600
They had at my howse at St Johns within the suburbs when they were taken—Corne worth 160	
They have had from me in horsflesh to the number of xrite, worth at least	100
They tooke from me for the Publick 5 Cowes, worth	024
They had from me for the Publick 3 silver basons worth	055
Att the armyes cominge into the suburbs the made my howse the head quarters during the siege spent all manner of p'vision wch I valed not, but by unhappy accident as I believe my howse was fyerd most p'te of it burned downe great p'te of my goods carried away and lost by the souldiers those that remayned spoyled and pulled in peces wch howse and goods will not be made good with	250
I have one other house in the suburbs called the Red Lyon p'te of it burned all the goods gon and the house ruined wch will not be repayed wth	200
I had one other house in Boughton nere Chester both house and outhouse burned down to ground worth.....	140
I have now latlie compounded with the Comittees and Sequestrators of the Cittie for my p'sonall Estate for.....	200
I have no trade or traffic within the Cittie and noe subsistance but a little land in the Countrey wch for these three yeares past I have noe rent or p'fitt from and now is all sequestered all wch	

my losses and payments I humble pray may be taken into Consideration and that I may receave fauor and Compassion in my composition for my poore proportion of lond—wch I am to compound for

CHAS WALLEY.

Then follows a Report from the Sequestrators of Nantwich Hundred signed by

Thomas Mallbone	} Sequestrators
Robert Wylkes	
Willm Harrison	
Thomas Harwar	
Randall Hampton	
George Edgeley	

giving a valuation of Compounders land in their district also Particular of his estate in the Hundred of Broxton signed by

Raph Judson
Randall Palin
John Burscough
Ed Wilkinson

Letter accompanying same
signed by same persons
dated 24 April 1646

Report by Chester City sequestrators as to his property and his Delinquency signed

Raph Judson
John Whittell
Sam B[uck]
William L.

[55]

QUERY.

(See No. 47.)

Can any of your readers throw light on the question of the ancestry of Dr. Snell, the Archdeacon of Chester (1619—1646), extracts from whose Composition papers you published a few weeks ago? (No. 47, May 6th.)

The name is an uncommon one in Cheshire, and it would be interesting to know whether he were any relation to John Snell of Ufton, who founded the Snell Exhibition at Balliol College, Oxford. It seems not altogether unlikely, since, as Mr. Irvine pointed out in the introductory remarks to the Composition papers, Dr. Snell married Lydia, the youngest sister of Bishop Bridgman, while John Snell was a protégé of Sir Orlando Bridgman (son of the Bishop), the celebrated Royalist lawyer.

A further slight connection between the two is suggested by their connection with Scotland. John Snell being born in Ayrshire, and Dr. Geo. Snell receiving in 1621 the honorary degree of D.D. from the University of St. Andrews.—Yours, &c.

GENEALOGIST.

JUNE 10, 1896.

ORIGINAL DOCUMENTS.

[56] AN EARLY RENTAL OF SIR PETER DE THORNTON OF THORNTON-IN-THE-MOORS, DATED 1354.

By the courtesy of R. D. Radcliffe, Esq., M.A., F.S.A., I am able to send you the following interesting list of the tenants of Sir Peter de Thornton, Knt., in 1354. The heading of the document is, unfortunately, quite obliterated by damp, so that the list of names in the first two manors is illegible. After these follow particulars of Sir Peter's tenants and their holdings in the townships of Thornton-in-the-Moors, Elton, Coddington, Onston, Newton, Norley, Kingsley, Helsby, Arrow, Picton, City of Chester, Poulton, Acton, Trafford, Northwich, Middlewich, and Olton.

The original, which is a vellum roll about 5 feet 4 inches long and 8 inches wide, written on both sides, is in the possession of the Earl of Sefton, K.G. For the sake of convenience I have translated the document into English. The date, 27, Edward III. is still faintly legible, though it may be 21, Edward III., but the former is the more likely, and the two short abstracts of charters with which the roll ends, both mention the year 28, Edward III., though they are in a different hand and may be a few years later than the rest of the roll. On the whole, however, we may, I think, date the roll 1354.—Yours,

WM. FERGUSSON IRVINE.

Claughton, Cheshire.

THORNTON AND ELTON.

William Dage holds one message and — bovates of land and a little plot of meadow [*parvam placeam prati*] and renders to the Lord by the year at the aforesaid terms jxs. ijd.
 Roger son of John holds one message and two and a half butts of land [*duas landas et dimid' terrae*] by the year vjs. ijd.
 Richard de Hole holds one message and three butts of land and pays by the year viijs.
 Thomas de Barwe holds one message and two butts of land and pays vjs. iiijd.
 Adam Collesone holds one message with a curtilage and pays annually iijs.
 Thomas de Hole holds one message and one butt of land and pays annually iijs. vjd.
 Simon son of Randle holds one message and one butt of land and [torn] and pays annually ... xjxs.
 The same Simon holds another message and half a bovat and pays annually jxs.

Thomas Dagge holds one message and [torn]...vjs.
 The same Thomas holds one [torn] iijs.
 Richard le Reeve holds one message and one bovat and [torn] a quarter of one butt of land and pays xjxs. xd. ob.
 John the son of Randle holds one message one bovat and one-half part of a butt of land and pays annually xviijs. ixd.
 Roger the Clerk [*Clericus*] holds one message and one bovat of land and pays annually xviijs.
 Robert Potes holds one message and pays annually iijs. viijd.
 John son of Elot holds one message and two butts of land and pays annually vs. iiijd.
 John de Onston holds one message and one bovat of land and pays annually xviijs.
 The same John holds another message and two butts and pays annually vs.
 Adam de Hole holds one message and one bovat and pays xviijs.
 Alice the wife of William holds one cottage and pays annually iijs.
 Agnes the wife of Roger holds one message and two butts of land and pays annually vs. iiijd.
 John Sparwe holds one message and two butts of land and pays annually vjs.
 William Erneys holds one message and half a butt of land and pays iijs. jxd.
 Adam le Tailour holds [torn] ix.
 Robert Loce holds one cottage and pays annually iijs. vjd.
 Elena de Letesham holds one cottage and pays annually iijs.
 Agnes wife of Bradelegh holds one cottage and pays annually iijs.
 Willam Barlybred holds one cottage and pays annually iijs.
 Adam le Carter holds one message and two butts of land, and pays annually vjs.
 Randle le Hayward hold one message and three butts of land and pays annually vjs.
 William Cherewelle holds one cottage and pays annually iijs.
 Richard le Hayward holds one message and one butt of land and pays annually iijs. iiijd.
 Thomas Bronn holds one message and pays annually xvs. iiijd.
 Adam de Moore holds one message jxs. jd.
 John de Moore holds one message xjxs. xd.
 Roger le Bruyn holds xxijs. vjd.
 Richard son of Gefcok holds his lands and tenements of the Lord and pays annually xijd. and one pound of pepper
 Richard de Torperlegh of Elton holds his lands and tenements in Elton of the Lord, and pays annually xijd.
 Peter son of Robert de Elton holds his lands and tenements of the Lord and pays annually iiijd.
 And these three hold of the Lord by Knight service.

Sum total xiiijl. xjxs. iiijd. ob.

CODYNTON.

William le Kynge of Codynton holds one mess.
with half an acre of land and one butt of land
and pays annually ijs. ix*d*.
Richard le Shepeherd holds one mess. and one butt
and a quarter of land and pays annually...xviij*d*.
Randle Daa holds one mess, and one butt and a
half and a quarter of land and pays annually
..... ijs. ob.
Hugh del Heth holds one mess. and three acres and
a half and a quarter and three butts of land and
pays annuallyxijs.
Margery wife of Robert Skegge holds one messuage
and half an acre of land and pays annually.....ijs.
Richard le Taillour holds one mess. and two butts
of land and pays annually.....iijs.
Richard le Gayler holds one mess. and three and a
quarter butts of land and pays annually iijs. ii*d*.
James son of Roger holds one acre and a quarter
of land and pays annually.....ijs. iiij*d*. ob.
Robert son of Anot [P] holds one butt and a half of
land and pays annuallyxiij*d*.
Henry Throstal holds one butt and a half of land
and pays annuallyx*d*.
Sum total xxxjs. viij*d*.

(To be continued.)

NOTES.

[57] A SYMBOLIC WINDOW AT BEBINGTON.

In my last note, I endeavoured to shew how much may be learned from a minute and careful study of very small details in Mediæval buildings, and that from the peculiarities of certain masonry in Bebington Church, might be gathered the form of the original Saxon structure. The same church offers several other evidences of the extreme thoughtfulness and care with which the ancient masons worked, also their modes of expressing mystic meanings or symbolical ideas in their buildings. Take, for instance, the plain little conical semi-octagonal bracket which projects from the inner wall of the south aisle near the chancel. It seems at first difficult to find any meaning beyond caprice for a feature so oddly placed, but measurement will shew that here formerly ended the Norman nave, and the chancel began, and this little feature was set to shew the point where the people's part of the church (the nave) ended, although in the enlargement of the church, just prior to the Reformation, a portion of the former chancel had been thrown into the new nave, of which only one arch on each side had been completed. Again, why were the wall shafts that carry the chancel roof made shorter on the south than on the north side? Yet, so skilfully was this treated, that probably hardly

any of the inhabitants of the village know this fact. Also the north and south aisles, though perfectly harmonious in style, differ in almost every proportion and in detail, yet are so like each other as to attract little sense of difference.

Doubtless the north and south side chapels were built at the cost of different donors, and by different architects, who, though agreeing in general design, each kept his own theory as regards detail. This church is distinguished by the number of its brackets. In addition to that marking the limit of the Norman chancel, the chapels on the north and south of the chancel each contained two, those in the north were removed at the restoration of 1845. There are two in the chancel, beside a niche of lofty proportions, with a boldly sculptured canopy and finial, and a columnar pedestal for a statue. The brackets on the north of the altars have been for the support of figures, that in the southern chapel was probably of metal, as the stonework of the wall above the bracket is worn by rubbing on each side, apparently by polishing the figures. The brackets on the south were for lamps, and in the reign of Edward VI., when the chantries were suppressed, a small endowment for the maintenance of a lamp in Bebington Church was extinguished.

The niche before-mentioned not only is a fine feature in the chancel, but there is in connection with it a very curious and interesting architectural arrangement. Near to the roof, at the extreme east end of the south of the chancel is a narrow window. The great eastern window and the lofty ones in the aisles, admit such a flood of light that the purpose of this small window for lighting seems superfluous. It resembles a single-light clerestorey window, with a transom, and if it be one, it is the only example of an ancient clerestorey window in Wirral. A little consideration of its position and character will, I think, shew that it was introduced for a symbolic purpose, in honour of the patron saint of the church, St. Andrew, whose statue pretty certainly stood in the niche on the north of the high altar. On St. Andrew's day the rays of the sun stream through this small window upon the now empty niche, and would have gilded the figure of the Saint when it stood there, with the light from the portion of the window above the transom, while that from the opening below the transom falls on the north side of the altar. Thus at the celebration of the mass, on St. Andrew's Day, the divided ray fell upon the figure of the

Saint, and upon the sacred offering. Thus the contemplative designer of this chancel called to his aid, both the beauty of this temple made with hands, and the radiance of the great fane of nature to join in the spiritual acts of devotion. Yet so simply and unobtrusively was this done, that while the material fabric of the mystery stands open to all men's eyes, the veil is lifted only to those who thoughtfully seek to read its lesson.
E. W. Cox.

JUNE 17, 1896.

ORIGINAL DOCUMENTS.

[58] AN EARLY RENTAL OF SIR PETER DE THORNTON OF THORNTON-IN-THE-MOORS, DATED 1354.

(Continued from No. 56, June 10.)

ONSTON.

Henry de Werlegh holds one messuage, one bovate and five acres and a quarter of land and pays to the Lord annually at the Feasts of the Nativity of St. John Baptist and St. Martin
xviijs. iiijd. and for pannage xijd.
Adamson of Randle of Codynnton holds one messuage and three quarters of one bovate and pays annually
xvijs. iiijd. and for pannage xvijjd.
Roger Mayfay holds one messuage and half a bovate and two acres of land and pays annually
xjs. vjd. and for pannage xijd.
Laurence son of Randle holds one messuage and one bovate and part of one — [P] and pays annually
xijs. jxd. and for pannage xijd.
Richard le Reeve holds one messuage and one bovate of land and pays annually
xijs. and vjd. and for pannage xijd.
The same Richard holds another messuage and half a bovate of land and pays annually
xijs. and for pannage xijd.
Thomas son of Robert de Crouton holds one messuage and eleven acres and a quarter of land and pays annually
xxijs. iiijd.
Alanus Freysel holds five acres and a quarter of land and pays annually
vs. iiijd.
John le Frere holds one messuage and half a bovate of land and pays annually
vjs. vjd. and for pannage xijd.
William son of Thomas holds one messuage and half a bovate of land and pays annually
xjs. vjd. and for pannage xijd.
Adam son of John holds one messuage and half a bovate of land and pays annually
vjs. vjd. and for pannage xijd.
Richard Wylkoc holds one messuage and one acre of land and pays annually
ijs. vjd.
Alan son of Laurence holds one messuage and a quarter of a bovate and one acre of land and pays annually
vijs. iiijd. and for pannage xijd.

William Spryngefeld holds one messuage and five acres of land and pays annually
xijs. vjd.
Laurence son of John Frere holds one messuage and four acres of land and pays annually
xs.
Richard le Penker holds one messuage and two butts of land and pays annually
vs.
Richard son of Thomas holds one messuage and half a bovate of land and pays annually
vjs. vjd. and for pannage xiid.
James de Weverham holds one messuage, half a bovate, and two acres of land, and pays annually
xjs. and for pannage xijd.
John le Mercer holds one messuage and two acres of land and pays annually
iiijjd.
Agnes Skegge holds one messuage and one plot of land [*unam placeam terrae*] which is called * le Smythesrudying and pays annually
xs.
Robert Pekoc holds one messuage and a quarter of a bovate and half an acre of meadow and pays annually
iiijjs. vjd. and for pannage vjd.
Alice the wife of Roger holds one messuage and a quarter of a bovate and a little plot in a hay [*parvam placeam unius haye*] and pays annually
iijs. ixid.
John Cady holds two acres of land and pays annually
vs.
Thomas Brodere holds one acre of land and half an acre of meadow, and pays annually
iijs. ixid.
Richard le Reeve Henry de Werlegh, Adam son of Randle, Alice wife of Roger, William son of Thomas, Adam son of John, and John Frere hold one messuage and one plot of land called Le Gelderleyes and they pay annually
vijs.
James de Weverham, Richard son of Thomas, Laurence son of Randle, Alan son of Laurence, Robert Peock and Roger Mayfay hold one plot of land called Le Cronerudying and pay annually
ijs. vjd.
Robert de Sudlow holds one messuage and two acres of land and pays annually
vijs.
William le Kynge holds one acre of land upon the Bronnegge and pays annually
ijs. vjd.
Richard Daa holds one acre of land upon the same and pays annually
ijs. vjd.
Robert the son of John holds one acre and pays annually
ijs. vjd.
John Throstal Richard son of Roger le Mulward hold half an acre of land and pay annually
xvd.
Adam son of Richard holds half an acre of land and pays annually
xvd.
Richard son of Roger holds half an acre of land and pays annually
xvd.
Richard son of Henry holds half an acre of land and pays annually
xvd.
Richard le Foldreeve holds one acre of land and pays annually
ijs. vjd.
William son of Philip holds one acre of land and pays annually
ijs. vjd.

* *Anglice* The Smith's Bidding. A ridding was a piece of land reclaimed from heath or brushwood.

Richard son of Robert Sparks holds one acre of land and pays annually.....ijs. vd.
 Adam Russell holds one acre and a quarter of land and pays annuallyijs. jd. ob.
 Sum total... ..xiiijl. vjs. vijd. ob.
(To be continued).

[59] ABSTRACTS OF WILLS AT THE PROBATE
 REGISTRY, CHESTER.

From time to time in my researches at the Probate Registry, I note down wills that are of more general interest than those on which I happen to be engaged at the time, and I hope occasionally to print a few of those which throw light on obscure points in some of the Cheshire pedigrees printed in Ormerod's History of Cheshire.—Yours,
 GENEALOGIST.

In the Name of God Amen. 16 November, 1639.

RICHARD MASSEY OF COGGESHALL, in Co. Chester, yeom. Bodie to be buried at Great Budworth.

Mentions "Mauld Massey my wife."

"Edmund Massey my eldest son."

"Margaret and Elizabeth my daughters" and alludes to possible further children
 "Edmund Massey my father late deceased."

Executors: "Brother Edmund Massey and wife Mauld Massey."

Witnesses.

Edmund Massey.

Peter Richardson.

Richard Massey [sgd.]

Thos. Lawton.

Rich. Banerofte.

Value of inventory £47 0s. 2d.

Date of Probate 10 May 1640.

In the name of God Amen. 5 Sept. 1657.

"I RICHARD WILSON of town and parish of MOSBURY Co. Chester, bodie to be buried in my seat in the chancel of Mosbury.

Mentions "son Robert Wilson and his wife."

"A strike of corn every year to my sister."

"10s. to my sister's daughter."

"Cozen Mary Standish xiiid."

"Two goddaughters Margaret Wickstead and Alice Burges ijd. a peece."

Exors. Richard Plant

Robert Thirdgold of } my loving friends.
 Wilkesley.

Witnesses Rich. Plant [mk]

Robt. Trigold [mk]

Wm. Poole

Richard Wilson [mark]

Codicil before signature—sd. Rich. Wilson declared that he did leave to Robert Wilson his supposed sonne his wife and children the house and gleave lands in Mosbury, wherein he now dwelleth, which hee and all his ancestors time out of mynd, have held by and under the Rectory of Whitchurch at xjs. viiid., etc.
 [This will is at Somerset House.]

In the Name of God Amen 7 April, 15 Chas. ii.

I THOMAS MEOLLES of WALLAZIE Co. Cestr Esquire being sicke etc.

To be buried "in the burial place of my Ancestors in the p'ish Church of Wallazie" etc.

"Capital messuage lands and t'ents in Wallazie and in Poulton cum Seacum rents in Liscarth except Poulton Wind Mill I demise to my Exors. to following uses."—"to pay debes" etc. "and to pay Thomas Meoles and William Meoles either of them 100li. daughter Ann 80li. daughter Elizabeth 70li., dau: Chorlett 70li. sister Ellinor Gill xli, sister Elizabeth Hough. xli. Sister Susan Meoles, xlii. Sister Margrett Wilson ivli."

"To son Thomas reversion of Mess. and tent. etc. aforesd. in Liscart now in possession of John Young on a lease of 21 yeares."

"To Loving wife Charlett Meoles 3rd part of capital Mess. in Wallazie, 3rd part of rents and services out of Manor of Great Meoles and also Poulton Mill:

Exors "Loving friend and kinsman Francis Leeche of Mollington gent., and brother in law Josua Gill of Spittle and brother in-law Daniel Triocke of Ditton Co. Lancaster.

[S'gd] Thos. Meoles.

Wit.: Thos. Glover clerious

Robt. Hoole.

Accounts by first 2 above named Exors. filed 26 March 1664

Inventory £163 10s. 8d.

Funeral expenses ... £10 0 0

Proved 20 Nov. 1663 by first two named Exors.

In the Name of God Amen [17 July 1677].

JOHN MASSEY of GREAT SAUGHALL, Co. Cestr., gentleman being etc."

"Dwelling house in Great Saughall and all my lands of inheritance to Ales my loving wife during the term of her natural life and remainder to son Richard and his heirs male"—"he paying

£20 to my son Edward,

£20 to my son John,

£20 to my son William,

£10 to Robert and Mary son

and daughter of Thos. Mollineux."

"To the 2 sonnes of my son George namely. George and John 40s."

Remainder of land to son John and his heirs male, remainder to son Wm., ultimately to son Edward under same conditions.

Mentions "a lease that I have for a long terms of years in certain inclosures in Great Saughall, called the Heath Ground,"
 "to Ales my wife."

17 July 1677.

Witnesses.

Isaac Warmingham.

John Massey [Mk]

Thos. Jennyon.

Franc. Woods.

Proved 18 Dec., 1678.

NOTES.

[60] BISHOP GEORGE HALL'S CUP AT EXETER COLLEGE, OXFORD.

In his will, dated August 22nd, 1668, and proved at Canterbury, December 2nd, 1668, by Gertrude Hall, his relict, George Hall, Bishop of Chester (1662-1668), while remarking "because my owne relac'ons are, God be thanked, sufficiently provided for in this world I dare not charge my estate with any legacie or legacies unto any of them," was a benefactor to Waltham Abbey, the place of his birth, and also to Exeter College, Oxford, the place of his education. To the latter he gave, after the decease of his wife, Gertrude, his golden cup, and all his estate of land at Trethewen, in St. German's, in Cornwall. The land has since changed hands; but the cup, still carefully preserved, is thus described in the "Handbook to the Reproduction of Silver Plate in the South Kensington Museum from celebrated English Collections," by Wilfred Joseph Cripps, M.A., F.S.A., and published for the Committee of Council on Education, under the heading, "College and Corporation, Plate IV." "Hall's Cup, cup of gold, circa, 1660-70, at Exeter College, Oxford. Cup and cover. It is double-handled, pine shaped, and repoussé, with lozenge shaped gadroons, the upper row of spaces and the cover ornamented with flowers. Height 6in., width 5in., including handles, 6½in. On the cover are the words Col. Exon. Oxon; and on the cup itself, Col. Exon. Oxon, D.D., Geo. Hall, Ep. Cest. At the bottom 22 carats." Mr. Cripps further says, "Plate made of real gold is of the greatest possible rarity; what are called gold services being made in truth of silver-gilt. There were only some five specimens of gold plate exhibited in the Loan collection of 1862 at South Kensington. This beautiful cup at Exeter College represents the gold plate of our College Collections."

F.S.

JUNE 24, 1896.

NOTES.

[61] THE CHESHIRE NONJURING CLERGY.

About four hundred clergy, and a much larger number of laymen, refused, on conscientious grounds, to take the oath of allegiance to William III and Mary II on their accession to the throne in 1689. To these men the name of Nonjurors was applied. At the head

of the English clerical nonjurors were the Primate Sancroft, Bishop Ken, and other prelates, who had hazarded their lives and fortunes in order to keep the infatuated James within constitutional limits, but failed to see that he had forfeited their sworn allegiance in all that might be lawful and right. An Act of Parliament was therefore passed for their deprivation on 1st February 1691, on which day most of the clergy quietly quitted their livings. Among these were several Cheshire clergy, and I think it may interest your readers to bring together their names and some particulars respecting them.

The Bishop of the Diocese, the unworthy Thomas Cartwright, had followed King James to France, and had subsequently accompanied him to Ireland, where he died 15th April, 1689. Into the vacated see, William had placed Dr. Nicholas Stratford, a man of high character and great moderation, whose influence doubtless induced many of his wavering clergy to take the required oath. The Dean, James Arderne, and the Prebendaries of the Cathedral, seem to have all taken the oath, as did both the Archdeacons. But some of the parish clergy were men of stronger character, and had the courage to suffer for their convictions. I have so far been able to discover the following:—

(i). *Thomas Mallory*, Rector of Mobberley.

Mr. Mallory was born 3 June, 1657. He inherited a good estate at Mobberley, which had been purchased by his great grandfather, also named Thomas Mallory, who had been Dean of Chester, from 1606 to 1644. The family had suffered much in the civil wars for their adherence to the Royal cause, Richard Mallory, the son and heir of the Dean, being forced to compound for his estate with the Parliament. His grandson, the subject of this note, was sent to Oxford, where he matriculated, as a member of Gloucester Hall, 12 April, 1679. He took his B.A. degree from Brasenose College in 1682, and having meanwhile been ordained, he was appointed Rector of Mobberley, 26 May, 1684.

On his deprivation, Mr. Mallory seems to have retired into lay communion, and to have resided on his estate at Mobberley. He died unmarried in 1713. In Ormerod's *Cheshire*, vol. 1, p. 426, he speaks of a singular monument to his memory in the vestry of Mobberley Church. It consisted simply of a parchment stretched on a frame, which was painted in imitation of marble. The inscription was as follows:—

S. M.

Thomae Mallory, A. M., hujus ecclesiae rectoris,
viri pro sapia ac pietate aequae celebris,
ex abavo d'no Gulielmo Mallory de Studley,

Thomas Gerard holds Lynaymor and pays annuallyvs.
 Roger le Reeve holds one message six butts one acre and nine pennyworth of land and pays annuallyxijs. iijd.
 Mabilla daughter of Roger le Reeve holds one message two acres and two butts of land and pays annuallyxjs.
 Thomas de Crouton holds one acre of land and pays annuallyijs. vjd.
 Randle son of Philip holds one acre and pays annuallyijs. vjd.
 Thomas de Onston and Richard de Onston hold one acre of land and pay annuallyijs. vjd.
 Henry Del Bonk and Richard del Mere hold one acre of land and pay annuallyijs. vjd.
 Adam Gybbesene and William son of Randle hold one acre of land and pay annuallyijs. vjd.
 John Cook of the Marsh [*Johannes Cocus del Mershe*] holds one message and five and a half acres and four butts of land [*quattuor buttas terrae*] and pays annually.....xs. vjd.
 William Gryme holds one message with a curtillage and pays annuallyiiijs.
 William Getogode holds one message with a curtillage and pays annuallyijs. vjd.
 Matilda the wife of Alkoc holds one message with a curtillage and pays annually.....iiijs.
 Richard Godshep holds one message with a curtillage and pays annuallyijs.
 Matilda Byrre holds one cottage and pays annually.....ijs. vjd.
 John del Glashousez holds one message with a curtillage and pays annually.....iiijs.
 Elysoet Corry holds one message with a curtillage and pays annuallyiiijs.
 David le Chaloner holds one message with a curtillage and pays annuallyijs.
 John le Henster holds one message and three acres of land and pays annually.....xs. vjd.
 The same John holds one plot of land calle Lynaymore and pays annuallyvs.
 Inserted in a different hand.

Margery the wife of William son of Robert holds one message and one butt of land and pays annuallyvs. vjd.

Anna the daughter of Richard de Reeve holds one cottage and pays annually.....iijs. vjd.

John Deye holds one message and one butt of land and pays annuallyiijs. vjd.

Elyot Le Launder holds one message with a curtilage and pays annuallyiijs....

John Cryme holds one message and pays annually.....iijs. vjd.

Allice Sonster holds one cottage and pays annuallyiijs.

Richard de Onston holds one cottage and pays annuallyiijs.

John Fourneys holds one cottage and pays annuallyiijs.

William Balle holds one message and one butt of land and pays annually.....vs. ijd.

Richard Balle holds one message and one butt and half of land and pays annuallyvs. vjd.

David de Rushton holds one message and one butt of land and pays annuallyiijs.

William Crabwallle holds one message with a curtilage and pays annually.....iijs.

Amson of William holds one Cottage and pays annuallyiijs. vjd.

Hugh Symmesonne holds one message and 6 butts of land and pays annuallyxjs.

Richard le Spenser holds one message and 4 butts of land and pays annuallyxs.

John Coke holds one message and 3 butts and half of land and pays annually.....vijs. vjd.

William de Rushton holds one message and 14 butts of land and pays annually.....xivs. ivd.

William Fyppesone holds one message and one butt of land and pays annuallyiijs.

York holds one message and 3 butts of land and pays annuallyvijs.

William del Broke holds one message and 5 butts and pays annuallyxs.

Robert de Dutton holds one Cottage and pays annuallyiijs. vjd.

William Alkoc holds one message and 5 butts of land and pays annually.....vijs.

Walter del Walle holds one message and two and a half butts of land and pays annuallyvs.

Christiana the wife of John holds one message and one butt of land and pays annuallyiijs.

Hamo de Runcorn holds one message and half a butt of land and pays annually.....iijs.

Elycott Corinser [?] holds one cottage and pays annuallyiijs. vjd.

William le Dauber holds one message and two acres of land and pays annuallyvjs.

John de Yate holds one message and one acre of land and pays annuallyiijs.

John le Verdon holds one message and one acre and a half of land and pays annually.....ixd.

sum total.....xij vijs. vjd.

(To be continued.)

JULY 1, 1896.

NOTES.

[63] THE CHESHIRE NONJURING CLERGY.

(See No. 61, June 24.)

(b.) James Peake, Vicar of Bowdon.

Mr. Peake was educated at Cambridge, where he graduated as B.A. in 1672-3, and M.A. in 1676. He was a Fellow of Magdalen College. He was incorporated at Oxford, 11 July, 1676. In 1678 he became Vicar of Great Wilbraham, in Cambridgeshire, and in 1684 he was collated by Bishop Pearson to the Rectory of Bowdon, vacant by the promotion of Richard Wroe, 'the silver-tongued' preacher, to the Wardenship of Manchester College.

Previous to his appointment at Bowdon, Peake had been a curate of Wigan, the Rectory of which was held in *commendam* by the Bishop. His signature appears to the churchwardens' accounts at Wigan, 21st April, 1685, and again 7th May, 1686. Although appointed to Bowdon, he continued at Wigan till Pearson's death, and was in charge there on the arrival of the new Bishop Cartwright, whom he inducted into the living. It was one of the characteristics of that singular person to quarrel with everyone with whom he came into contact, no matter how similar his theological and political views might be to his own. He accordingly at once fell foul of Mr. Peake. In his Diary, 6th December, 1686, he writes: "I discharged Mr. Peake from attending the cure of Wigan any longer than till Christmas, because he is vicar of Bowden." On the 14th of the same month, he records that he had received "another satirical letter from Mr. Peake, which I answered." In the following year Peake preached (23rd Feb.) a sermon in Chester Cathedral on the duty of governors, before Lord Clarendon, Lord-Lieutenant of Ireland, and the Earl of Derby. This presumptuous conduct brought the vials of Cartwright's wrath upon his head. The *Diary* (25th Feb.) contains the following entry:—"At night the Governor and Colonel Daniel brought Mr. Peake to me, who made many frivolous excuses for his indiscretion, of which I gave him a severe admonition, and exhorted him to humility, and told him that I believed my counsel was in vain to a man of such pride of spirit, and petulancy as I had found him to be of, and that I would not have thrown it away upon him but at the persuasion of Mr. Thomas Cholmondeley, who requested me to try him

once more, and that if he did amend 'twas beyond my hopes, and that I had withdrawn his licence of preaching but for Mr. Cholmondeley's intercession, but upon his amendment he need not despair of my favour."

The last mention of Peake in the *Diary*, occurs under the date 1st September, 1687. The Bishop writes:—"Mrs. Weston was with me after prayers, and I endeavoured to reconcile her to her daughter Peake and her husband, who I find hath carried himself as ill to his father-in-law as ever he did to his father in God." Mrs. Peake was a daughter of the Rev. Thomas Weston, Rector of Christleton, 1669-85.

Refusing to take the Oath of Supremacy to William and Mary, Mr. Peake was deprived of his vicarage of Bowdon. His successor, John Hyde, was presented by Bishop Stratford, 16th January, 1690, presumably 1690-91. Mr. Peake survived his deprivation many years. He was still living in February, 1711, when he is styled "late Vicar of Bowdon." (*Bridgeman's Wigan*, p. 540.) M.A.

(To be continued.)

ORIGINAL DOCUMENTS.

[64] AN EARLY RENTAL OF SIR PETER DE THORNTON, OF THORNTON-IN-THE-MOORS, DATED 1354.

(Continued from No. 62, June 24.)

HELLESBY.

John le Harper holds one messuage one acre and two butts of land and pays annually.....vijs.
 Richard Gessosone holds one messuage with a curtilage and pays annually.....ijs. jd. ob.
 Henry son of Richard holds one messuage, one acre, four butts, and twopennyworth of land and pays annually viijs. ijd.
 William son of Henry holds one messuage, one bovat and three-quarters of an acre of land and pays annuallyxijs. ix. ob.
 Walter son of Henry holds one messuage and one bovat of land and pays annuallyxjs.
 William de Dunham holds one messuage and one bovat of land and pays annually xs. vjd.
 Thomas son of Robert holds one messuage half a bovat except one-eighth part of one butt [P] of land and pays annuallyvijs. xd. ob.
 Richard le Harper holds one messuage and half a bovat of land except the eighth part of one butt of land [excepta octava parte unius lande] and pays annuallyvijs. vijd. ob.
 William le Carter holds one messuage one acre one butt of land and a little plot of meadow and pays annuallyvs. vijd.
 Robert son of Walter holds twenty-one pennyworth of land and pays annuallyxxjd.

William Gessosone holds one messuage, one bovat and one acre of land and pays annually...xijs. xd.
 Elkoc del Halle holds one messuage and one bovat and two acres of land and pays annuallyxvijs. vjd.

Robert del Halle holds one messuage and one acre of land and pays annuallyiijs. vjd.

Jesse Mortymer holds one messuage with a curtilage and pays annuallyijs.

William son of Richard holds one messuage and two acres and a half of land and pays annually ... vjs. viijd.

Adam le Shepherde holds one messuage and two butts and a quarter of land and pays annuallyiijs. iiijd.

John del Oldefelde holds one messuage and half a bovat and one acre of land and pays annuallyvijs. vjd.

Nicholas de Aston holds one messuage, one bovat and three-quarters of an acre of land and pays annuallyxjs. vjd.

Thomas del Halle holds one messuage three acres and a quarter, two butts, and sevenpennyworth of land and pays annuallyxjs. iijs.

David le Walshe holds one messuage with a curtilage and pays annuallyijs.

John le Wrych holds one messuage with a curtilage and pays annually.....ijs.

Alice le Kayper holds one messuage with a curtilage and pays annually.....ijs.

Alan le Webster holds one messuage with a curtilage and pays annuallyijs.

Emma daughter of Richard holds one messuage and one butt of land and pays annuallyiij.

William del Byrches holds one messuage and one butt and a half of land and pays annually iijs. iiijd.

Agnes who was the wife of Richard Mallestone holds one messuage and one bovat and two acres and three-quarters of land and pays annually ...xvjs.

Richard le Rooder holds one messuage one butt and ten pennyworth of land and pays annually iijs. xd.

Randle son of Alan holds one messuage and a bovat of land except half a butt, and one acre and three pennyworth of land and pays annuallyxijs. iij.

John Dyred holds one messuage one and a half acres, two butts and fourpennyworth of land and pays annuallyvijs. xd.

Lytelhurst medewexs.

[Roger Beator holds one messuage and half a bovat of land and pays annually.....vijs.

Sum total.....xli. vjs. xd.

† Inserted in a different hand.

ARWE.

William son of Thomasxs.

Symon Greote [P].....xiijs. ijd.

Richard son of Simonxiijs. ijd.

John Greote [P].....xiijs. ijd.

Robert de Neston.....xs.

Roger son of Adam	vs. vjd.
Gilbert Hardyng	vs. vjd.
... le W	vs. vjd.
John de ... rrey	vs. vjd.
Allan de Andirton [?]	vs. vjd.
.....	vs.

PYCTON.

William son of Dobyn de Pycton	vli. vjs. viijd.
Sum total	vli. vjs. viijd.
CHESTER from the term of the Nativity of St. John.	

John le Calf	vjs.
Roger le Calf	vs.
John de Haurebyn	vjs. viijd.
For three cellars [tribus cellariis]	vjs. vjd.
John de Deresbury	xviijd.
Adam del Wode	ijs. viijd.
Sum total	xliijs. xd.

CHESTER, from the term of St. Martin.

For three cellars	vjs. vjd. } Sum tot. ...xliijs. vjd.
Adam del Wode	vjs. }

CHESTER

John de Haurebyn	vjs. viijd. } Sum tot. ...vlijs. ijd.
John de Deresbury	xviijd. }

CHESTER, from the Term of the Nativity
of our Lord.

John le Calf	vjs. }
Roger le Calf	vjs. and one pound of } Sum total
pepper	xxiis. ijd.
For three cellars	vjs. vjd. }
Adam del Wode	ijs. viijd. }
Sum total	xliijs. xd.

CHESTER, from the term of the

For three cellars	vjs. vjd. } Sum tot. ...xliijs. vjd.
Adam del Wode	vjs. }
Sum total from Chester for the whole year,	
iiiijl. vjs. viijd.	

PULTON.

Richard Mellyng	xliijs. iiijd.
Hugh son of Richard	xliijs. iiijd.
Sum total	xxvjs. viijd.
(To be continued.)	

JULY 8, 1896.

NOTES.

[65] THE CHESHIRE NONJURING CLERGY.

(See Nos. 61 and 63, June 24 and July 1.)

(c) Thomas Falkner, Vicar of Middlewich.

This gentleman was born in or about 1652. He was the son of John Falkner, of Acton, in Cheshire, who is designated 'pleb' in the University Register. Young Falkner matriculated at Oxford, 11th May, 1669, at the age of 17 years, as a member of Brasenose College. He graduated as B.A. 1673, and then returning to his native county appears as a schoolmaster at Middlewich, to which position he was licensed by Bishop Pearson 16th June, 1674. He was made a deacon by the same

prelate, 24th December, 1676, and ordained priest on 29th June in the following year. He was appointed vicar of Over, 27th March, 1677, according to Ormerod, by the King. Our county historian is, however, mistaken in the date of Mr. Falkner's appointment, which he makes 15th October, 1678. On the 1st of May, 1680, he was presented by the Crown to the vicarage of Middlewich, which he certainly held till the Revolution. He seems to have hesitated whether to take the oaths or not; but as the list of Nonjurors, given in the Life of Kettlewell, says that he eventually complied, I conclude that he retained his benefice. His successor, Wm. Handforth, was presented 25 Aug., 1695.

(d) George Newton, Rector of Cheadle and Vicar of Prestbury.

George Newton was the son of a father of the same name, resident at Prestbury, Cheshire. The family was of good position, and related to the Leghs of Adlington. Newton was born about 1652-3, and matriculated at Oxford from Brasenose College, 2nd April, 1669, aged 17. He took his B.A. degree 12th October, 1672, and his M.A. 10th June, 1675. On 20th August, 1674, he was presented by his father to the Rectory of Cheadle, on the death of Peter Harrison, D.D., the previous incumbent. In the following year, 27th August, 1675, he also became Vicar of Prestbury, on the presentation either of Thomas Legh, of Adlington, or of the King, on the resignation of William Shippen.

Mr. Newton appears to have resided at Prestbury, where his children were born and baptised, and to have provided resident curates to discharge the parochial duties at Cheadle. The Prestbury Registers contain entries of the baptisms of six of his children, two sons and four daughters, as well as of the burial of his wife, Sarah, 3 May, 1689, and of his father, George Newton, senior, 18 July, 1691.

On refusing to take the oaths of allegiance to William and Mary, Mr. Newton was in 1690 deprived of both his livings.

During Newton's incumbency a great robbery occurred at Presbury Church, which led to the appearance of the following advertisement in the *London Gazette* of 29 November, 1680:—

"Stolen out of the vestry of the parish church of Prestbury, in the county of Chester, on Monday the 22nd past, two large silver flaggons without any marks, of about the value of £40 sterling. Two surplices, one of them new, never worn. A purple velvet pulpit cloth, fringed at the bottom. A green Communion carpet fringed about. And a Master of Arts hood lined with scarlet sarranet. Whoever can give notice either of the said plate

or of the things aforesaid to Mr. George Newton, of Prestbury aforesaid, or to Mr. Thomas Hibbert at the sign of the Unicorn at the end of Grays Inn Lane next Holborn, shall be very well rewarded for the same."

One of the flagons was discovered 23 years afterwards in a pit at Cheadle Hulme.

(To be continued.)

ORIGINAL DOCUMENTS.

[66] AN EARLY RENTAL OF SIR PETER DE THORNTON, OF THORNTON-IN-THE-MOORS, DATED 1354.

(Continued from No. 64, July 1.)

ACTON.

Adam de Actonxvs.
The widow of Richard son of Dobbeiijs.
Sum total.....xvijs.

FREE TENANTS OF ACTON.

Thomas de Duttonxijd.
Alan son of Richard de Actonvjd.
The widow of Richard de Actonvjd.
John de Caponhurstxijd.
Thomas de Hulgrevéiiij.
Robert de Netherthorpeiiij.
Sum totaliijs. viij.

TROGHFORD.

Thomas son of Dauwe.....iijs. vjd.
Richard son of Randle.....vijs. viij.
Richard del Halleiijs.
Richard son of Henryvijs.
Roger le Bruyniijs. iiij.
John de Irlondxviij.
Sum totalxviijs.

NORTHWICH.

Richard de Wynnynton from the term of the Nativity of St. John the Baptist iijs and from the term of St. Martin xij boillings of Salt [walme salis]
Sum total.....iijs

MEDIUS WYCH'

From Middlewich from the term of St. Martin ix
Sum totalixs

OLTON.

Randle son of John de Olton from the term of St. Martiniijs.
Sum total.....iijs.

FROM THE LETTING OF THE MILLS ANNUALLY.
The rent of the mill at Onston annually
iiijl. vjs. viij.

The rent of the water mill at Kingslegh annually
xijs.

The rent of the mill at Hellesby annually
liijs. iiij.

The rent of the mill at Stoke annuallyxvjs.
Sum totalviijl. viijs.

The sum total of the sums on this roll within and without.....CXLII. IIJS. VJ.D. ob. qr.

[In a different hand is added at the foot of the Roll on the dorsum]

Memorandum, that Alan le Meleward of Picton took to farm from Sir Peter de Thornton knight on Sunday in the Feast of Pentecost in the 28 year of the reign of Edward III. one bovate of land in the vill of Picton paying annually xxijs. and for the mill vjs. viij. in two yearly terms viz. at the Feast of the Nativity of St. John the Baptist and the Feast of St. Martin in winter in equal portions.

Item. William Broun [?] took to farm two bovates, six acres, two cottages and a selion of land paying annually ls. at the two aforesaid terms.

Item. Hugh de Hole took the same day one quarter of a bovate, and two acres of land and pays annually xs. at the aforesaid terms.

Memorandum.—[A sentence in compend Latin, the meaning of which is not very apparent, mentioning the names of] John le Swon, Roger de Weldmor, and Richard Bate [?]

Memorandum.—Concerning arrears of rent Richard le Spenser for four quarters of the year 28-9 Edward III., viz., xxijs. iiij.

[67] THE BISHOP OF CHESTER'S VISITATION FOR THE YEAR 1684.

The following are a few specimens of presentments selected from the entries in the Bishop's Registry.

CHRISTLETON.

Against Mary Smith, of Cotton, widow, and Eliza Merry of Christleton, widow, for practising midwifry, but its not known whether they be licensed or not.

FARNDON.

Against James Calveley of Farnndon for breaking up the ground within the body of the Church and hath not payd 6s. 8d. according to ancient custome and former orders in that case and burying his daughter Frances Calveley therein. Anno 1682.

HOLT.

Against Urian Weaver, Anna Lancelett and William Whittakers for absenting themselves from ye divine service of the Church and not receiving the Sacrament there.

PLEMONDSTALL.

Against Mary Knowles, widow, Ellinor Peynson, widow, Margaret Sale, widow, and Jonathan Phillips, for not receiving the Holy Sacrament at Christmas last.

ST. JOHN'S, CHESTER.

Against Roger Williams, Eliza Bathoe, widow, Margaret Plimpton, widow, John Minshull, John Hale, Sarah Ashton, widow, Eliza Lem, widow, schismatics for not coming to church.

Against Joseph Pritchard for behaveing himself indecently and irreverently in ye parish church upon Sunday ye 18th day of July, 1684, at the time of Divine service and sermon.

Against Richard Wettenhall, Catherine Hill, and Mr. Francis Massey for not paying their Church Lay.

HOLY TRINITY, CHESTER.

Against Ellen daughter of — Farbrother widow on suspicion of being married clandestinely by Mr. Haughton.

EASTHAM.

Against John Gregson, Eliza Coventry, Francis Wright, Richard Greenhalgh and Sir James Poole Baronet, Popiah Recusants.

Against Hannah Hastings for teaching schools without licence to ye great prejudice of ye master of ye parish schools.

WALLISEY.

Against Elizabeth Rowland for bearing a bastard child and John Royle who lives with ye Ld. of Derby is ye Father of it.

HANMER.

Against Joseph Heyworth et Mary his wife for being married clandestinely.

Against Philip Langford and his wife and Humphrey Powell for not coming to church in two months time.

NAMPTWICH.

Against William Jackson for prophaning the Sabaoth.

Against Mary Waters for cursing and abusing the Church officers upon their duty.

F. S.

(To be continued.)

JULY 15, 1896.

ORIGINAL DOCUMENTS.

[68] EXTRACTS FROM THE ROYALIST COMPOSITION PAPERS.

JOHN HURLESTON, OF PICTON.

(See Nos. 8, 47, 52, and 54.)

JOHN HURLESTON OF PICTON, CO. OF CHESTER, Esq. and JOHN HURLESTON JUNR. son and heir apparent of the said John Hurleston Senior.

The Delinquency of the father for—deserting his own house and living in the King's Garrison—and that in the beginning of the troubles he aided and assisted the Forces raised against the Parliament for which he was imprisoned and sequestered.

That the son was in arms against the Parliament and surrendered himself on the surrender of Chester in March then last.

That the father petitioned in London on the 6th of April, 1646, and had taken the N.C. before M. Gibson, Minister of St. Margaret's Westminster on the 23rd March 1645 (6) and the N.O. before the Committee in London 17 July 1646.

They compounded upon a Particular delivered in under the hand of the father by which he submitted to such fine as should be imposed and by which it appeared

That the Father was seized of a Frank tenement for life Remainder to his son in tail and to the heirs males of his body and so to the 2 3 4 5 6 and 7 sons in tail with divers Remainders over The Remainder to the right heirs of the father. Settled by deed 16 years then ago and in the Manor of Idenshaw, and of divers Demesne lands and tenements to the same belonging lying and being in the co. of Chester worth yearly £120.

That they were seized of a like estate of and in a certain messuage and lands lying in Picton in the said County worth yearly £110.

That they were seized of a like estate lying in Wirvin in the said County worth £100.

That they were seized of a like estate of and in certain lands and tenements lying in Wirvin Newton and Croughton in the said County which were held in Fee Farm to them and their heirs and assigns for ever—of the Deane and Chapter of Chester under the yearly rent of £44 18s. a year paid to the said Dean and Chapter and their successors for ever all which was estated to several tenants for their lives, and which were worth before the troubles over and above the reserve Rents—if they were out of Lease £100 a year at a rack rent.

That they were seized of certain old rents issuing out of several lands and tenements lying in Picton and Hurlestone in the co. of Chester worth yearly £13.

That he craved to be allowed £9 a fee farm rent paid to the Crown for the lands of Idinshaw as appeared by an Affidavit.

He also craved to be allowed £1,600, so much charged upon his lands by deed made 16 years before for raising portions for his four daughters Frances, Dorothee, Grace, and Jane, to commence after his death.

And of two Annuities of £20 each granted to his two sons Peter and Stephen, to commence after his death.

It appeared by a Deed Indented dated 23 October 17, of his Majesty's reign that his lands in Idenshaw stood charged with the payment of £60 a year for four years then to come made in consideration of £300 borrowed upon the security of part of those lands.

That he owed in debts £500 and had suffered by the loss of his goods on both sides £600 more.

15th July, 1646 Fine at a 6th, £1340.

.. 10th, £890.

Petition—

In which he mentioned that his estates Cheshire and Lancashire had been sequestered by the respective Committees for him rendering assistance to his Majesty's forces in Cheshire, that he had

been imprisoned and discharged, after which he conformed himself to the obedience of the Parliament.

He petitioned to be admitted to a moderate composition upon particulars which he annexed.

Petition of John Hurleston the Sen.

Who said that being young and misled by persuasion he took up arms against the Parliament but did not long remain with the King's forces. After leaving them he had lived quietly.

He mentioned he had the Remainder after his father's death, and desired that he might be admitted to a Composition and included in his father's

Particulars of the Estates.

March 23 1645 (6). Certificate of Samuel Gibson Minister of St. Margarets declaring that Mr. John Hurleston Gent. had taken the N.C. before him on the above date.

Similar Certificate dated 22 June 1646 signed by Nathaniel Lancaster.

Similar Certificate dated 22 June 1646 signed by Henry Birkenhead Jo Wettenhall William Davies and James Gartsyde that John Hurleston Gent. on the above date took the N.C. before them.

[There is nothing in these three Certificates to distinguish which of the John Hurlestons is referred to.]

[69] A PUBLIC PENANCE IN 1685.

An Order of Penance enjoined to be performed by Francis Clark, of Hurdsfield, in the Chapelry of Macclesfield, in the Diocese of Chester.

The said Francis Clark shall be present in the Chapell of Macclesfield aforesaid, where, upon some Sunday in the month of June next, he shall, according to the discretion of Mr. Ashworth, make the ensuing acknowledgment and say as followeth :—

"Whereas I, (good people), forgetting my duty unto Almighty God, have committed the detestable sin of fornication with Margret Dawson of Macclesfield, and thereby provoked the heavy wrath of God against me to the great danger of my own soule and the evil example of others, therefore I do earnestly repent and am heartily sorry for ye same, desiring Almighty God to forgive me both that and all other my offences, and also ever hereafter to assist me with his Holy Spirit that I never fall into ye like offence again. And to this desire you here present to pray with me and for me saying,

Our Father &c.

And of the performance hereof he is to certify under the hands of ye Minister and Churchwardens, or upon oath, if required, at the next Dean Rural

Court to be held for the said Deanery of Macclesfield.

GULIEL. WILSON.

Regr. Dep.

Performed according to order the 23rd of Octr.

THO. KENT.

RICHARD JOHNSON.

F. S.

[70] THE BISHOP OF CHESTER'S VISITATION FOR THE YEAR 1684.

(Continued from No. 67, July 8.)

BARTHOMLEY.

Against Thomas Lathom for keeping a schoole in Haslington and hath not licence as its known.

COPPENHALL.

Against Jane Drake als Twiss for committing Fornication with George Sutton.

WISTASTON.

Against Richard Top and Susanna his wife for committing Fornication before marriage.

CHURCH HULME.

Against William Cotton, of Cotton, Armig, and Mr. James Harrison for not repairing the Chancel belonging to this Chappell.

CHURCH LAWTON.

Against—For that the seats are not uniforme, but some high and some low, some broke and some whole, but most full of dust and filth, to the great abuse of the Church, and for yt. ye Chancell was only formly seated about ye wall, it is now soe full of new erected seats, that there is not convenient Roome for ye Celebracon of ye Lord's Supper nor for the railing out of ye Communion Table as it hath formly been.

DAVENHAM.

Against Richard Wrench de Shipbrooke for not paying the Clark his wages.

STOCKPORT.

Against James Hobson for not comeing to Divine Service and for liveing in ye contempt of ye Holy Sacrament.

DISLEY.

Against Edward Thornley and Ralph Wyld both of Ellibank intra Disley for being Dissenters from ye Church of England and absenting themselves from Divine Service and Sermon for many Sundays last past.

Against the same Edward Thornley for practizing physick without licence.

WARRINGTON.

Against Thomas Neild and George Needham both of Sutton for common swearers.

Against Edward Neild de Sutton for entertaining a strange woman who lay inn at his house of a bastard child.

MOBBELEY.

Against Ellen Laurence, James Laurence, her son, and — Laurence, her daughter, John Steward and Ellen his wife, and John Bradbury and his wife,

Quakers, for absenting themselves from the Divine Service of the Church, &c.

NORTHENDEN.

Against William Hollinworth and Elizabeth his wife for suffering a clandestine marriage to be made in their house by Mr. Lomax.

Against Robert Baxter for not taking his oath and doing the Office of Churchwarden being elected thereunto.

PRESBURY.

Against William Findlow de Newton for keeping his child unbaptized longer than the Church allows.

STOCKPORT.

Against Jonathan Broadhead and Margret Swindell als. Broadhead for living together in incest, she being his first wife's sister.

Against Edward Baker and Catherine his wife and Robert Dean de Stockport for turning their swine constantly into ye Churchyard to the great annoyance of the same, by rooting into graves and sometimes running into the body of the Church during Divine service.

Against Ratcliffe Shaw for prophaning ye Lord's Day by selling ale at unfit times.

M. A.

JULY 22, 1896.

NOTES.

[71] BISHOP PEPLON AND CHANCELLOR
GASTRELL.

(Continued from Nos. 16, 19, and 20, Feb. 19 and 26, and March 4.)

To the Table of Fees in the Chester Registry, Gastrell appeals and demands that all the charges made by him should be referred. He asks to be shewn in what particulars he has been guilty of excess, and undertakes to make full restitution, should he be convicted of over-charge. He then proceeds to particularise cases wherein the Bishop had illegally deprived him of his fees. He says: "Your Lordship assigned a Coadjutor to the late Vicar of Bolton in the Moors, in Lancashire, and I had not my Fees. You may have done the same in other Cases. If your Lordship will do such Business without my Knowledge, and will not let it pass the Office, would it not, at least, be just to take Care I shall have my due Fees? If the whole Fees are taken and applied to your own, or your Secretary's Use, or to the Use of any one of your Family, are not the Chancellor and Register defrauded? If no Fees are taken, is not that Wrong? Tho' your Lordship may remit your own, I do not apprehend that you

have any Right to remit the Chancellor's and Register's Fees."

Further on he says, "Respecting Institutions your Lordship hath been a little particular in your Accusation. You have told the Clergy no more than *Thirteen Shillings, Four-pence, is due to me for an Institution*, and ordered them to pay me no more. Is not this an Evasion to hinder them from paying my whole Due? If you meant no more is due to the Chancellor's Office for the Letters of Institution and Induction, it is true; I claim no more. But if you thereby insinuated, that no more is due for all the Acts and Instruments concerning an Institution, was it fair Dealing? You darkly told a Part of the Truth. Should you not have plainly told the whole Truth?"

Speaking of licences to curacies, he says that it has been the wrongful practice of the Bishop's secretary to demand and receive them for years past. He adds, "I must observe that when Persons apply to your Lordship for Licences to Curacies, &c., if, after examining and satisfying yourself, you will let the Business pass the proper Office, the Chancellor and Register, to whom it belongs, will take Care to have the Acts and Instruments despatched according to Law; and so the Rights of Nomination may be secured to Patrons, who otherwise may lose them. Was not this the Case of the Vicar of Prescot, relating to his Nomination to the Chapel of Rainford? More over, will the Stamp Revenue be injured by any such unwarrantable Practice as that of supplying the Place of legal Licences by *Licats* to new Curacies, indorsed upon old Licences, before granted for other Cures."

The Bishop is likewise charged with illegally issuing commissions for erecting pews. "Such Commissions," says the Chancellor, "without my Knowledge, have been issued out under your Lordship's Episcopal Seal, and I deprived of my due Fees; but this is not the worst Consequence; for want of legal Process and judicial Proceedings, which should precede such Commissions, in some places private Property hath been confounded, and such Divisions among the People ensued, that I have not been able, by any lawful Means in my Power, to bring them again into Order."

In order to strengthen his position, Gastrell took the opinions of ten eminent lawyers, both common lawyers and civilians; and they all declared that the right was on his side. Their opinions are printed by him. One of them is as follows:—

"I apprehend, the Chancellor of *Chester* has a Right to his Fees for Collations, Institutions, Licences, &c., whosoever passes them; and that a Bishop's Secretary can be legally intituled to no Fees arising from Business of Jurisdiction, the Register being the Bishop's Secretary and proper Officer for that Purpose: The law knows no such Officer as a Bishop's Secretary. The Register of *London* filed a Bill in Chancery against the Secretary of Bishop *Robinson*, and recovered his Fees, though the Business was dispatched by the Bishop in his Palace. As to the Chancellor's Fees, I apprehend the Case to be the same.

Whether the Subscriptions to the Declaration, &c., are made before the Bishop, or his Chancellor, or before whomsoever they are passed, I think the Chancellor has a Right to his legal Fees; otherwise, notwithstanding the Grant of the Office, it would be in the Power of the Bishop to deprive him wholly of the Benefit of it, by executing it himself, or commissioning others to do it." (To be continued.)

ORIGINAL DOCUMENTS.

[72] EXTRACTS FROM THE ROYALIST COMPOSITION PAPERS FOR CHESHIRE.

ROBERT LEONARD OF TARVIN AND IRBY.

(See Nos. 8, 47, 52, 54 and 68.)

Robert Leonard of Tarvin, co. of Chester, Gentn. His Delinquency.

That he forsook Tarvin and lived in Chester when it was a Garrison for the King.

That he had been desirous to come in and compound before 1 Dec., 1645, but was restrained in Chester, as he deposed he was never a soldier or Officer nor did he ever take any oath of Association in the war against the Parliament.

He took the N.C. before Wm. Barton, at St. John Zacharias, in London, 18 April, 1646, and the N.O. on the 28th of the same month before the Committee in London.

He compounded upon a Particular delivered in under his own hand by which he submitted to any fine as would be imposed, and by which it appeared

That he was seized of an Estate tail in Possession to him and the heirs males of his body of and in certain lands and tenements lying in Erby in the co. of Chester of the yearly value before the troubles of £30. Fine £60.

That he was also seized of a Frank Tenement for the life of his wife in certain other lands and tenements lying in Tarvin of the yearly value of £16. Fine £16.

His whole Fine £76

Out of which he craved to be allowed £10 a year so much paid out of his lands to his mother which

was settled on her for her jointure, and she was then living.

Also £7 so much charged on his lands for eight years then to come, payable to his sister, to raise her a portion.

Also £2 paid yearly to the Dean and Chapter of Chester for the tenement in Erby being the yearly rent reserved.

Also 14s. a Quit Rent paid to the Earl Rivers out of his lands at Tarvin.

His whole allowances £19 8s. which left a Fine of £56 8s.

His personal Estate was worth £40 and he owed his brother for his Portion £100, and to others £100, he had also been plundered of Goods and Chattells and suffered damages to the extent of £500 by reason of the troubles.

May 23, 1646. Upon Review the Fine was set at £70.

Petition in which the Petitioner mentioned that in consequence of the King's forces thereto attempting to garrison Tarvin, where he then lived, he having notice thereof removed himself and family into Chester 'for his and their surety' and had lived there to date of these proceedings but had not acted in anything against the Parliament, yet his estate had been sequestered. He craved to be admitted to compound.

Certificate signed by William Barton Minister of John Zacharias declaring that he had administered the N.C. to petitioner on the 18 April, 1646.

VALENTINE WHITMORE, of THURFASTON, co. CHESTER, Gent.

His Delinquency

That—he was in Arms against the Parliament and surrendered himself on the surrender of Chester—he petitioned in London 1 April, 1646—by so doing, came within the limit of being fined a 6th of his estate.

He had the N.C. before Isaac Reynolds, Minister of Gray's Inn, 23 March, 1645(6), and the N.O. before the Committee at Chester on the 14 February same year.

He compounded upon a Particular under his own hand agreeing to submit to such fine as should be imposed etc. By the Particular it appeared That

He was seized in Fee to him and his heirs in possession of and in the Reputed Manor of Thurfaston, lying in Worrall co. of Chester and other lands and tenements to the same belonging, and of one Windmill lying in Chaldee in the co. of Chester, and of some dry rents reserved for ever payable out of certain houses in Chester, worth yearly before the troubles £92 10s.

Fine at a 6th—£277 10s.

He craved to be allowed £20—an annuity paid to Mrs. Jane Whitmore, his grandmother, for life, and was her Jointure—which being allowed reduced

his fine to £247 10s., but it was set at £250 1 April, 1646.

Petition—in which he mentioned that his place of abode was in Chester, and that when the King's forces made themselves master of that place, he took up arms, and about six months before the city surrendered he became Captain of a Foot Company in the said City, which command he continued until the place was reduced by the Parliamentary forces. He did not subsequently take up arms, but lived privately in the Quarters of the Parliament—he had taken the N.C. and N.O.

He said he was heartily sorry for his error, and prayed to be admitted to a reasonable composition.

Particular of his estate. Certificate of Isaac Reynolds Chaplain of Grays Inn declaring that Compounder had taken the N.O. before him on 23 March 1645-(6)

Deposition of Petitioner as to the payment by him of £20 a year to his grandmother Jane Whitmore for her life and that this was a charge upon his lands. Also that his grandmother was living a fortnight then ago, and was living then for aught he knew. Sworn 2 April 1646.

To all Officers and Souldiers under Command of Kinge and Parliament.

You are desired to permit the bearer hereof Capt. Valentyne Whitmore (whoe hath taken the oath of the fift of April last) to passe yor guards to Thurstaston, in Wirrall and there to reside till further ordr. without anie let or molestacon. Dated at Chester this 14th of February 1645.

Jo. Bruen
Henry Birkened
William Davies
James Garteyde

Certificate of Wm. Barton of St. John Zacharias, showing that petitioner took the N.C. before him 30 June 1646

JULY 29, 1896.

NOTES.

[73] BISHOP PEPLOR AND CHANCELLOR
GASTRELL.

(Continued from Nos. 16, 19, 20, and 71, Feb, 19 and 26, March 4, and July 22).

In the Second Letter, the Chancellor treats on the subject of marriages in the Episcopal Palace. He explains the law relating to banns and licences, and then proceeds. "Your Lordship hath solemnized Matrimony, in your Chapel at your Palace, between several Persons, who could not have the Banns legally asked there, and had not obtained Licences, in the Manner and Form prescribed by the Laws.

If any Persons, desiring to be married in your Lordship's Chapel at your Palace, first obtain your Consent, and then pray, and the Chancellor, or one of his Surrogates, grants a Licence to the Parties to be married there, by some qualified Minister; and afterwards your Lordship will favour them so far as to solemnise the Marriage, no Wrong is done.

But, unless your Lordship can shew the Laws before-mentioned are repealed, or expired; or that, by your private Authority, you can dispense with them; can govern the Diocese alone, and dispose of the Rights of other Men, according to your own Will and Pleasure were not those Marriages manifest and complicated Wrongs?

By such Proceedings doth not a Bishop arbitrarily dispense with the Laws? Doth he not inroach upon the Rights of the Chancellor and Register, and deprive them of a Part of their legal Provision? Doth not the Publick lose a Part of the Stamp Revenue? May not such an Example be a Stumbling-block in the Way of the Clergy, and cause some of them to do the like Wrong?

However, it should not be supposed that any Bishop would solemnize any such Marriage for Gain to himself, or to any one of his Family, or through Hatred or ill Will to any of his Officers; for the first might be deemed a covetous, the other a malicious Injustice.—These Evils every good Bishop will shun and abhor.

But, supposing it to be done as a Favour to some of his Acquaintance or Friends, to save them the Charge of Licences, Is not that Wrong? Should he gratify them at the Expense of his Officers and the Publick? Can it be justified by a Plea that some of his Predecessors did so, or by any Precedent or Example, which cannot be defended, by any right Reason or good Judgment? Shall the unreasonableness of one Act be made Use of as an Argument for another no less unreasonable? Is it the part of a just Judge to judge, or of an honest Man to do, as others have done, or as they and all ought to do?"

The Third letter has for its subject 'Commutation for Penance,' and contains much curious information. In a recent number of the 'Sheaf' (69, July 15), a penance performed at Hurdfield in 1685 was described; and for more than a century after that date penances were by no means uncommon. Gastrell, in this letter, enquires into that part of Church jurisdiction which relates to commutation of penance. He says, 'The Censure of Penance

may not only be moderated, but totally altered by a Commutation; that is, by admitting that an Oblation of a Sum of Money, to be distributed to pious Uses, to publick Highways, the Relief of the Poor, and such like charitable Work, be accepted in Satisfaction of publick Penance. Commutation for Penance . . . hath been the ancient Privilege of the Ecclesiastical Judge . . . and is to be exercised with Knowledge and Discretion, for the Honour of the Church, the Good of Offenders, and the Welfare of the Publick; not prostituted for filthy Lucre.

In the exercise of it the following Rules should be observed:—

1. Penance ought to be enjoyn'd before any Party is admitted to a Commutation, otherwise it is not Commutation for Penance, it is Commutation of Judgment, or nothing.
2. In Cases of contentious Jurisdiction, it ought to be in open Court, with the Consent of the Prosecutor; but in Causes of voluntary Jurisdiction, where the Enquiry is of Office, it may be out of Court.
3. It is not of Necessity that it should be in the presence of a publick Register, if it be in the presence of a publick Notary, it sufficeth.
4. The Act ought to be entered in the Register-book; but the Entry belongeth to the Register or Notary before whom the Act is done, and not to the Judge; the Judge is to take Care that his Sentence or Decree is righteous; and it concerns the Party to see a due Entry made by the proper Officer.

5. Persons relapsed ought not, in general, to be admitted to a Commutation, yet there may be some Circumstances, in particular Cases, which may make it reasonable.

6. The Commutation Money ought to be applied to pious, publick, and charitable Uses; else it is nothing but meer Corruption.

Moreover, the Judge is to use such moderation as not to lay such grievous and excessive corporal Penances on Offenders, as indirectly to force them to redeem them with a large Sum of Money, and to let the Commutations (when they are thought proper to be made) be so modest or moderate, that the Receiver be not thought rapacious, nor the Giver too much aggrieved, (that is) such as may not be an Oppression, but an adequate Punishment, according to the Circumstances of the Offenders, who may be of several Qualities, otherwise the Judge shall not have Respect of Persons in Judgment.

That the Judge may not be imposed upon, he should require of an Offender a Certificate, subscribed by the Minister and Church or Chapel-warden of his Parish or Chapelry, or other credible Persons, setting forth the Circumstances; that they believe he is a true Penitent, a proper Object of the Favour of a Commutation; that the Sum he offers will be an adequate Punishment, not an Oppression, and they should faithfully relate the Case.

Letters Testimonial, setting forth the Sentence or Decree, or the Sentence or Decree in Writing upon vellum, Parchment, or Paper, stamp'd with a double Sixpenny Stamp (as the Law requires for such Sentences and Decrees, and the legal Practice hath been in this Diocese), are to be issued out under the Judge's Seal of Office, and delivered to the Party, thereby to certify the Minister and offended Parishioners that he hath satisfied for his Offence, and is dismissed according to Law.

(To be continued.)

ORIGINAL DOCUMENTS.

[74] THE BISHOP OF CHESTER'S VISITATION FOR THE YEAR 1598.

DEANERY OF CHESTER.

In the Cathedral Church of Chester September viij. 1598.

Before the Venerable Dr. David Yale in the Consistory Court of Chester, etc., in the presence of me John Morgell etc.

PARISH OF ST. PETER'S.

Against the Curate—hath noe licence and doth nott catechize.

SAINT MICHAEL'S.

Against Roger Berrie and Jane his wife—do not frequent the church nor partake of the Holy Communion.

Against Robert Olerhead—non communicant.

Against the Executors of William Ball Alderman—to prove his will.

Against Robert Smithe—for practizing phisicke not licensed.

HOLY TRINITY.

Against the Rector—to knowe what sermons hee hath caused to be preached. On which day he appeared and stated that they have sermons quarterlie and he readeth homelies on the days assigned. In future he is ordered to have xij. sermons yearlie.

Against the Churchwardens—kepe noe Register Booke.

Against the Parish Clerk—teacheth schole not licensed.

Against — Norres widow and — Barton, widow, non-communicants. Referred to the Royal Commission.

Against Thomas Aldersey—for not communicating.

ST. MARY'S PARISH.

Against the Wardens—they wante Mr. Juell's reply and apologie.

Humfrey Philipps taylor and Thos. Whitbie wright—negligent comers to Church. On which day Wright [*sic*] appeared and ytt appeareth by the parson that he cometh to Church dutifulle the Judge dismissed him.

Against Humphrey Philipps	} non-communicants.
William Olerhead	
Elizabeth Glinne	
Ralph Jaynson	
Edward Rawlinson	
Thomas Braynes	
Thomas Kettle	
Margaret his wife	
John Richardson	
John Haslewell	
John Starkie	
Richard Urmoston	
Esquire	

Philip and Olerhead referred to the Royal Commission. Kettle appeared, and ytt appeareth by the Curatt that he communicated att Whitsuntyde last therefore the judge dismissed him and warned him to reseyue thrise yearlie accordinge to Her Majesties lawes.

Against Humfrey Philipps and William Olerhead—Blasphemers of the name of God and said they would give money to pull down the Church butt non to build ytt upp.

Against Thomas Whitbie and his wife and Sara Maudisley wife of Richard Maudisley—for brawlinge and fightinge with the said Sara. On which day they appeared and ytt appeareth they are friends, the Judge dismissed them.

Against Thomas Browne—for sufferinge flesh to bee eaten upon daies prohibited and suspected to harbor lewd persons. On which day he appeared and allegeth that his wiefe beinge great and eager for flesh hee caused some to be eaten and as for lewd companie he denieth ytt utterlie. The Judge therefore because itappears from honest witnesses that Browne is well thought of, dismissed him and warned him as to the future under pain of the law.

ECCELESTON PARISH.

Against the Rector there—doth nott weare the surples. Reserved for the hearing of the Bishop.

ST. BRIGITTE.

Against Jane Powell al's Davis—for nott cominge to church upon Sundaies and holidiaies.

Against Wm. Woodhall, taylor—for nott cominge to church.

(To be continued.)

[75]

QUERY.

Can any of your readers supply information with reference to Thomas Harrison, the architect who built Chester Castle, the North Gate, and one or two other buildings in Chester early in this century?

I am anxious to ascertain any particulars with reference to his history, especially where and when he was born, and when he died.—
Yours,
GENEALOGIST.

AUGUST 5, 1896.

NOTES.

[76] BISHOP PEPLOE AND CHANCELLOR
GASTRELL.

(Continued from Nos. 16, 19, 20, 71, and 78, Feb. 19 and 26, March 4, and July 22 and 29.)

Gastrell goes on to prove that "the Jurisdiction and Power of admitting Commutation for Penance is fixed solely in the Bishop's Court, and in the Chancellor of the Diocese, as Judge of the Consistory.

And the Rules, which should be observed in the Exercise of it, are as plain.

I knew those Rules before I was Chancellor of the Diocese, and ever since, so far as I could, have carefully observed them. . . Besides, I did not receive the Commutation Money, but decreed it to be paid to the Register, or Notary, or other proper Person, and due Entries to be made in the publick Registry.

And though for a while after I first entered upon the Execution of the Chancellor's Office, I seldom did fix a certain Time for the Application of the Money; yet I sought diligently for Opportunities, and when any offered, large Sums of it were applied properly, according to the best of my Judgment, and due Certificates of the Application ordered to be returned, to be kept in the publick Registry.

But, after your Lordship was pleased to prosecute me in the Court of York, I decreed such Money to be immediately paid, sometimes to the Minister, or Churchwardens, or other proper Persons present, when the Commutation was admitted, or, at other Times, to the Deputy Register, by them to be applied without Delay. Ever since I was Chancellor my Manner of exercising this Branch of my Jurisdiction was always open to public View; and whoever may slander me, no Man can honestly say and prove I wilfully deviated from my Duty in the Exercise of it.

As to the Prosecution, Was it not the first Instance of a Bishop acting a Part so inconsistent with his Episcopal Dignity, and so injurious to his own Episcopal Authority, as in any, especially in such a Cause, to be a Promoter of Office in the Court of his Metropolitan, against the Judge of his own Consistory?

What it was that stirred up the Prosecution, I will not presume to say; let the world then believe it was that kind and gentle Spirit which should influence all the Actions of a Bishop, that Aversion, inveterate Prejudice, and Passion were not the ground of the Accusation; that the Prosecution was not carried on with any Heat, without Light, nor designed to depress, calumniate, and make me infamous and odious.

If a Judge acts with Integrity, according to the best of his Ability, Is he answerable either to the King or the Party, or at all to his Bishop, for the Mistakes or Errors of his Judgment, in a Matter in which he has Jurisdiction? Would it not expose the Justice of the Nation? And would any Man execute the Office, upon Peril of being arraigned, by Action or Indictment, for every Judgment he pronounces?

If any Party be aggrieved by a Chancellor's Sentence or Decree, he may take his Appeal to the Archbishop (not the Bishop) within fifteen Days after Judgment or Sentence given, and have the Grievance redressed by the Judge of the Archiepiscopal Consistory, or appeal to the Court of Delegates.

But doth not a Bishop act an unkind, if not a cruel or unjust, Part in prosecuting the Judge of his own Consistory, in the Court of his Metropolitan, for an Account of his Sentences or Decrees given for several Years together, before the Prosecution commenced? Your Lordship knows best with what View it was done; what Interest you had in it, and what Advantage you proposed from it. I know it was a heavy Load upon me.

Learned pens have complained, It is sad when Courts that are to distribute Peace, and are Judges, become Plaintiffs and Defendants, touching the Bounds of their Jurisdiction. And are not such litigious Disputes between a Bishop and his Chancellor a more lamentable Case?

However, though I was well advised, I was not obliged to exhibit any Account of your Lordship's Promotion; yet I was sensible, if I insisted upon it, I might give an Occasion, which sure you did not seek, to clamour against me, that I had embezzled or

misapplied some Part of the Commutation Money: To prevent this, and remove all Jealousy and Suspicion of any such Male-Practice, and to satisfy both your Lordship and the Publick, I consented to do it.

As my advocate informed me, it was the Judge's Opinion that your Exceptions to the Account were frivolous and trifling. He was surprised to find a Bishop of the Christian Church object that one hundred Pounds paid to the Relief of the distressed Widows of poor Clergymen as no Charity. He said the account was as fair as could be made; that it was the first Cause of the Kind he had ever met with; that, if I had disobeyed the Citation, and would not have brought in an Account, he should have been dubious how to have proceeded against me, if at all. Your Motion to have me inhibited was deemed absurd, and rejected. By his righteous Decree, my Integrity in this Branch of my Jurisdiction was cleared, and my Dismission, with Credit, your Lordship may remember, was the Consequence.

After that Prosecution, by which I was heavily oppress'd, though righteously dismiss'd, I might reasonably hope, as I was persuaded to believe, that Honour and Conscience would influence a Bishop, so evinced of the Truth, to make Restitution, and no more disturb, or let others disturb me, in the due Exercise of this Branch of my Jurisdiction. But hath not the Equity of Restitution been hitherto forgotten? And have not the Wrongs, concerning Commutation for Penance, been increased?

(To be continued.)

ORIGINAL DOCUMENTS.

[77] EXTRACTS FROM THE ROYALIST COMPOSITION PAPERS FOR CHESHIRE.

SIR THOMAS SMITH, OF THE CITY OF CHESTER, KNT., AND THOMAS SMITH, HIS SON AND HEIR-APPARENT.

(See Nos. 8, 47, 52, 54, 68, and 72.)

The Delinquency of Sir Thomas Smith the father

That he was a member of the house of Commons in the then Parliament. That he deserted the Parliament and went to Oxford and sat in that Assembly and adhered to that party, and That Thomas his son was in Arms against the Parliament.

They petitioned in London June 11th 1646.

The father had taken the N.C. and the N.O. before the Committee of Chester as they certified —16 March 1645(6) and the son took the N.C. and N.O. before Sir William Brereton Knt. 14 April 1646.

They compounded upon several Particulars returned out of the country and upon another delivered in under their hands—by which they submitted to such fine as might be imposed and by which it appeared

That he was seized of an estate Tail to him and the heirs males of his body (the said Thomas Smith the son being the next heir male to that estate) of and in the several Manors of Hough, Weston in Charlton, Shavington, Greasty, and of the Moiety of the Manors of Hatherton in the co. of Chester together with two mills and certain lands and tenements thereto belonging—most part of which was in lease for lives—worth yearly before the troubles £240—and were granted out for lives and those lives determined were worth yearly £400—to be compounded for £240 in possession and £160 in Reversion.

That they were seized of a like estate of several other messuages Lands and Tenements lying in Worleston, Coppenhall, Acton, Walgherton Tearton, Smallwood, Wybunbury, Heynault, Blackenhall, and certain Mills thereupon standing and Goodwin's ley in the said county which were worth yearly in possession £20 and if out of lease £70.

That he was seized of a like estate of and in the moiety of the manor of Audlem and of certain lands and tenements to the same belonging together with the impropriation of Audlem the Vicarage endowed being £70 a year and all being worth yearly to the compounder in possession £100 and if out of lease would have been worth £50 more.

That he was seized of a like estate of and in several other messuages lands and tenements lying in Nampwich Sallersich (?) Willaston Wigstaston Flutterbrooke Newton juxta Chester Duddon Kelsall Ashton Middlewich Barnton Newton juxta Middlewich and Cholmeston of the yearly value to Compounder in possession £100 the lands were granted out for lives, which if they had been determined would have been worth £100 more over and above the then rentals.

That he was seized of a like estate in certain other messuages lying in the City and County of the said City of Chester Handbridge and Claverton worth yearly before the troubles £100.

That he was seized of a like estate in certain chief and lay rents issuing out of several lands and tenements in the said county of Chester worth £5 a year.

That he was seized of a Frank tenement for life, which he held by lease from the Bishop of Lichfield and Coventry, of the manor of Winbury, and of certain other messuages, &c., to the same belonging of and the moiety of the tithes of the yearly value before the troubles of £80.

That he was seized of a Frank tenement for term of three lives of and in two tenements and certain Glebe lands and tithes, lying and being renewing and increasing in Denwall in the parish of Barton, held by demise from the Master and Wardens of the Hospital of St. John Baptist in Lichfield, worth yearly £126 14s. 0d.

That he was seized of a Frank tenement for one life of and in two closes lying in the County and City of Chester which he held by lease from Mr. Warburton of Ardley at the rent of 26s. 8d. and was worth before the troubles above the reserved rent £8 13s. 4d.

He craved to be allowed £60 a year an annuity granted to Stephen Smith, brother to Compounder, to hold for his life issuing out of all the Compounders lands in Chester as by Deed, dated 2 Nov. 13 Charles appeared.

Also £40 a year which he had upon the marriage of Mary his daughter, with George Cotton, Esq., covenanted to pay for the term of seven years from 14th July, 1643. The said Mr. Cotton was then dead, and his wife left unprovided for.

And £20 a year being a rent reserved out of the Manor of Wybunbury to the Bishop of Lichfield and Coventry for the Impropriation of Wybunbury as by affidavit appeared.

And £18 and 8d. paid to the Bishop of Lichfield and Coventry for the Moiety of the Impropriation of Wybunbury a rent reserved upon the said Lease bearing date the 20th of September, 1636.

And £13-6-8 due to the Master of the Hospital of St. John the Baptist in Lichfield and was yearly paid out of his lands in Denwall which he held for three lives as by the deed thereof made 15 Oct. 1631 appeared.

And £13 for so much chief rent paid to the several Lords of the several Manors of which the premises were held as by the particulars thereof in an affidavit appeared.

And £20 a year which he paid to a Curate to serve the Cure of the Church last mentioned.

And of a Fee Farm rent of £8 towards the maintenance of certain poor people in the Almshouse there for ever.

He craved to be considered in that his houses in Chester for which he had compounded, many of them were either pulled down or burnt, and were yielding no rents nor would they until they were repaired—he considered his rents were lowered by these damages £35 a year.

That he had brick and timber taken from him to the value of £500 and silver plate worth £550 and other goods and apparel to the value of £180.

That he owed £2,500.

1 Sept., 1646. Fine £6,700.

(To be continued.)

AUGUST 12, 1896.

ORIGINAL DOCUMENTS.

[78] EXTRACTS FROM THE ROYALIST COMPOSITION PAPERS FOR CHESHIRE.

SIR THOMAS SMITH, OF THE CITY OF CHESTER, KNT., AND THOMAS SMITH, HIS SON AND HEIR-APPARENT.

(See Nos. 8, 47, 52, 54, 68, 72, and 77.)

Memo. July 15, 1647.

But if hee settle the Impropriacon of Wybunbury viz.) £50 per annum out of the said Impropriacon upon the minister of Wybunbury, and the rest to Nantwich their allowance according to the usuall rate to bee made him for the same.

A Report by D. Watkins, a Master in Chancery.

Who said that according to an Order of the 6 October 1646—to review the Report and former proceedings in the case Sr. Thomas Smith, Knt., and the certificate of Sr. Wm. Brereton, Bart., concerning the time of his surrender and first coming in and tendering himself to come in unto the Parliament.

Upon a Review and examination of the matter he found—

That about Whitsuntide, 1645, Lady Smith his wife with his privity and consent, though secretly for fear of the enemy—by letters to Sir W. Brereton did give intimation of their desire to come into the Parliament's quarters—and that upon Sir William Brereton entering Chester on the 3rd of February 1645-(6) the said Sir Thomas Smith went and freely submitted himself, refusing to go to Oxford as others then did, though, as Sir William believed, he then knew not of any order of grace, and that in February, 1645[6] he took the oath and covenant. Sir William Brereton also upon credible report, such as made him believe it to be true, heard that Compounder during his being in Chester had often had his horses in readiness to return to the Parliament's Quarters, but that the city of Chester being strictly garrisoned, he could not find an opportunity of getting out, and that during his continuance there he neither acted in any Commission of Array or Council of War, nor was ever in Arms, and therefore as he tendered to surrender within the time of grace, and long before Decr. 1st, 1645, and that from that time to February following the city was so straightly besieged that he could not get out to surrender himself according to his desire, but that he availed himself of the first opportunity, and that all this happened long before the Propositions sent then last to the King at Newcastle, and before the Order made by the House of Commons to

pursue the Directions in the Compositions to be made with Delinquents from that time and as until the Surrender of Chester he was altogether ignorant of such Order of Grace.

Whether in this case he should not be accepted to a Fine for his dilenquency in an equitable construction as of a coming in before the first of Decr. then last past, he having done all things that lay in his power in order to the same—and the House of Commons having received others into like mercy upon similar considerations.

His Fine theretofore had been set at two-thirds of his estate in three parts to be divided which amounted to £6700.

But if it pleased them to allow him to compound at a third as others had done then the Fine would be set at £3350.

15 Oct. 1646.

11 April 1650.

Fine—£3350.

[79] A CHURCHWARDEN'S PRESENTMENT IN 1677.

To the Rt. Revd. Father in God, John Ld. Bp. of Chester at his trienniall Visitation of Frodsham Deanry at Chester, July 6, 1677, the Presentmt. of the Churchwardens of Lyme.

JOHN COOKE and ELLIN his wife of Statham withyn Lyme say that they were married by Mr. Ward, minister of Warrington, upon the first market day after Christmas last, and that Mr. Ward married them at the house of one Penny an ale-seller there about noone, and received from them 5s. for himself, and his clarke 1s. 6d., and to his man 4d., and that they sent to Mr. Ward overnight to know whether he could marry them without a lycence, or thrice publishing in the Church, and received answer from him that hee could and would beare them out, if they would be married by him.

JOHN ROWLINSON and CLEMENCE his wife of Lym say they were married by Mr. Ward aforesaid in an alehouse in Warrington about a month before last Michaelmas, and payd him 5s. and 2s. to his clark.

RICHARD COE and HANNAH his wife of Lym say they were married by Mr. Ward aforesaid a little before Christmas last in Mrs. Morton's chamber, but remembers not what he pd Mr. Ward.

WILLIAM HEWITT of Lyme and ELLEN his wife show a certificate of their marriage upon May 22 last, by Richard Sale, curate of Gropenhall.

SAMUEL BOOND and SARAH his wife of Lym say they were married by Mr. Ward aforesaid a little before Whitsuntide last in the house of Mary Leftwich in Warrington, and payd him 6s. 8d. and to his clark 2s.

JOSEPH TOLLET and TABITHA his wife, of Lym, were married at Lyme upon a lycence received from Mr. Boardman, of Gropenhall.

CATHERINE MATLEY, of Lym, sayth that she was married to HAMNET MATLEY, of Warrington parish, upon the 24th day of June now last past in the afternoon in Farnworth Church by the minister there, but she knows not whether with licence or not, nor what her husband payed him.

JOHN HUNT of Lym and ELIZABETH his wife say that they were married in Farnworth Church about noone on the 24th day of June last by the minister there without any licence that hee knows of.

ABRAHAM MOSSE of Lym sayth that hee was married to his wife ELLIN upon the 17 day of May, 1676, by Mr. Ward, of Warrington in an alehouse by Warrington Church without any licence that he knows of, and payed Mr. Ward 7s. for marrying them.

JOHY BOOND of Lym sayth that upon the 16th day of January last or thereabouts Mr. Ward of Warrington married him and his wife MARY in Warrington Church in the forenoon, upon Mr. Ward promissing him before to helpe him to a licence for wh. hee sayth hee gave Mr. Ward content.

HENRY DANIEL and ELIZABETH MOORE were married at Bowden upon thrice publishing the banes of matrimony, and certified to the minister of Bowden by the minister of Lyme.

PETER LEIGH and MARY THOMPSON were before their marriage both of Lyme parish, and were married in Lyme Church in due forme of law after thrice publishing their banes of matrimony in ye sd church.

JOSIAS BILLINGTON lives in Rostherne parish, and, as we heare, was married at Gropenhall.

JOHN MASSIE
WILLIAM x MORE } Churchwardens.

NOTES.

[80] THE CHESHIRE NONJURING CLERGY.

(See Nos. 61, 68, and 65, June 24 and July 1 and 8.)

(c) RALPH LOWNDES, Rector of Eccleston.

Mr Lowndes was son of John Lowndes, of Mobberley, described as 'plebeius' in the Oxford University Records. Ralph matriculated as a member of Brasenose College, 22 March, 1678, aged 19 years. This will fix the date of his birth in or about 1659.

Having taken Holy Orders, the young man soon obtained the Rectory of Eccleston, in the place of Thomas Kent, who resigned the benefice in 1687. But he did not retain this position long. Refusing to take the oaths to William and Mary, he was deprived of his living, which was conferred upon Henry Wigley, 30 July, 1690. So far I have been unable to find any further particulars of Mr. Lowndes,

who probably underwent the privations and sufferings which fell to the lot of so many of the Nonjurors. But in the same year that Mr. Lowndes was deprived, a layman of the same name testified to the same cause. I have not been able to trace any relationship between them, although it is by no means improbable; if such a tie existed, we may hope that the poor cleric derived assistance from his richer kinsman. The case to which I refer is that of 'Ralph Lowndes of Middlewich, gentleman, who made the following *Penitential Declaration*, which will be found in the Appendix to *Kettlewell's Life* (ed. 1718) p. xlix.'

Whereas by the soft Interpretation of the Magistrate Administring the Oath, the general Example of Men of reputed Prudence and Integrity, and my own Weakness, I have been brought to the taking the New Oath of Allegiance, which I am since convinced was sinful for me to take, in any Sense, as being inconsistent with the Oaths by Me formerly taken, and the Duty which those Oaths Unalterably (as I now think) bound upon my Conscience; I do now, after mature Deliberation, freely and of my own accord (being of sound and perfect Understanding, God be thanked for it) make this Declaration in evidence of my sincere Repentance, and to remove that Scandal, as far as in me lies, which this Sin of mine has given to my Christian Brethren. In Witness whereof, I have hereunto set my Hand, this Sixteenth Day of September, Anno Dom. 1690.

RALPH LOWNDES, Senior.

Read before and declared by the above-said Ralph Lowndes to be his Act and Deed, and that this Declaration is according to his own Mind, and signed by him in Presence of

C. Venables.

Hugh Starkey.

J. Henshaw.

Thomas Falkner, Vicar of Middlewich.

W. Lowndes.

J. Henshaw.

Ralph Lowndes, Junior.

Mr. Ralph Lowndes resided at Lea Hall, which had been in possession of his family early in the 17th century. His will was proved at Chester in 1690.

(To be continued.)

REPLY.

[81] THOMAS HARRISON, THE ARCHITECT OF THE NORTHGATE.

(See No. 75).

In reply to 'Genealogist's' query, I would refer him to a short biographical notice of Thomas Harrison, in Hemingway's 'History of

Chester,' vol. II., page 362. It is stated there that Mr. Harrison was born in 1744, at Richmond, in Yorkshire, and died in Chester on the 29th March, 1829. Mr. Harrison's will, made two days before his death, is to be seen at the Probate Registry, White Friars. In this he leaves his property between his wife Margaret, and his two daughters, Eliza and Anne Harrison. He appoints his two daughters and his two friends Dr. William Makepeace Thackeray, of the city of Chester, doctor of physic, and George Harrison of the same, surgeon, his executors.

The will was proved by Dr. Thackeray (power being reserved to the other three executors) on the 19th September, 1829. In his will he describes himself as Thomas Harrison, of St Martin's Lodge, architect. This was the house which he built himself near the Castle, and which I am told his surviving daughter left as a Rectory to St. Bridget's Parish. It is now occupied by Archdeacon Barber.—Yours,

WM. FERGUSON IRVINE.

AUGUST 19, 1896.

NOTES.

[82] THE REV. RICHARD WRIGHT, INCUMBENT OF BIDSTON, 1662-7.

(See No. 39.)

As was stated in the introduction to the suit in the Chancellor's Court which Mr. Wright brought against one of his parishioners (see No. 39), very little is known of this incumbent of Bidston; but his holding of the living of Bidston for the years 1662-1667 so fills in a gap in the life of the well-known Prebendary Wright of Chester who died in 1711, that it seems highly probable that the two men were the same.

According to Foster (*Alumni Oxonienses*) Canon Wright was of Brasenose College, subscribed 15th June, 1657, took his B.A. degree in 1660, and his M.A. in 1663, B.D. in 1672, and is noted as Rector of St. Mary's-on-the-Hill, Chester, 1673, Canon of Chester 1677, and Rector of Malpas, which he held plurality in 1683. The obvious gap in his life is from 1660 to 1673, and if we suppose him to have been presented to Bidston in 1662 and to have officiated there until 1667, when possibly owing to the unpleasantness caused by the suit just mentioned, he left it to the charge of a local curate, the Rev. Hugh Burches of Woodchurch, and that he resigned it in 1673, on receiving the vastly better living of St. Mary's, it would just fit in

with what we know of the Prebendary. This suggestion is further corroborated by the fact that we find the Rev. John Knowles presented to Bidston by the Bishop on the 18th July, 1673.

In Mr. Hall's History of Nantwich is an admirably worked out pedigree of the Wrights of Nantwich, from which it appears that Prebendary Wright was the son and heir of Richard Wright, of Nantwich, gentleman, by his wife Catherine, daughter of Thomas Clive, of Walford, Esquire. He married Mary, daughter of the Rev. John Wainwright, L.L.D., Chancellor of Chester. Prebendary Wright acted as a trustee of the Wright Charity in 1666, being descended from a great uncle of Sir Edmund Wright, founder of this charity, and Lord Mayor in 1641.

I append a short abstract of the will of Mr. Wright:—

In the name of God Amen. I, Richard Wright, Batchelor in Divinity and Rector of the Parish of Saint Mary in Chester, do make this my last will, etc.

My body to be decently interred at ye discretion of my Dear Wife, but with as little charge as may be, either at Nantwich, Malpas, or St. Mary's, but rather if it may be done without much charge and trouble either in ye same grave or near ye place where ye body of my dear daughter, Elizabeth Wright, is interred in ye Chancel of ye Parish Church of St. Mary in Chester.

Property all to "dear wife, not doubting, but" she "will have a particular regard to her and my only daughter, Mary Wright."

"I appoint my said dear wife, Mary Wright, sole Executrix," etc. 12 May 1704.

Witnesses.

Eliz: Evans.

Richd Wright.

Tho: Wettenhall.

Geo: Bowyer.

Proved. May 30, 1711, by sole exix.

Yours,

WM. FERGUSON IRVINE.

Cloughton, Cheshire.

[83] THE BEVERLEY FAMILY.

(See Nos. 5 and 45.)

The following extract from the Marriage Licence Act Books at the Diocesan Registry, may be worthy of note:—

x Julii 1616,

There is a bonde remaining on ye file for George Beverley his marriage.

—Yours, &c.,

HOLLY.

Cloughton.

[84] THE CHESHIRE NONJURING CLERGY.
(See Nos. 61, 63, 65, and 80, June 24, July 1 and 8, and Aug. 12.)

(f) JOHN OKES, Vicar of Whitegate.

Mr. Okes, or Oakes, was the son of Thomas Okes, of Wooton-under-Edge, in Gloucestershire. He was born in or about 1645, and matriculated at Oxford 12 July, 1661, as a member of St. Edmund Hall, being then 16 years of age. He became B.A. 8 January, 1665, and M.A. 1667. In the following year he incorporated at Cambridge.

He was made a deacon by Bishop Nicolson, of Gloucester, 20 September, 1668, and ordained a priest by Bishop Wilkins, of Chester, 6 June, 1669. His connection with Whitegate must have begun soon after this date; for in the Bishop's Visitation Book for 1671 he appears as curate of the parish, though he does not appear to be then licensed. He was probably a chaplain in the Cholmondeley family, as Vale Royal was his home. In the Visitation Book of 1689 he is stated to have exhibited a licence dated 1 April, 1684. In Bishop Cartwright's *Diary*, p. 28 he is described as Vicar of Whitegate. The entry is under the date 24 January, 1687, and is as follows:—

We supped at Mr. Cholmondeley's at the Vale Royal with Sir Thomas Grosvenor et uxor, and Mrs. Rigby, Mr. Oakes, Vicar of Whitegate, Mr. Colly, and Mr. Callis.

On the following day the bishop writes:—

I confirmed at Whitegate church about 300 persons, and returned to Vale Royal, where dined with me Sir Thomas Grosvenor et uxor, and Mrs. Rigby, Sir Philip Egerton, uxor et filius, Mr. Leftwich Oldfield, Mr. Dean (Arderne), Mr. Woods, vicar of Over, Mr. Marbury, rector of Davenham, Mr. Hammore, Mr. Oakes, curate of Astbury, Mr. Oakes, Mr. Colley; and at supper Captain Birch and Captain Mainwaring More.

It is recorded in Bishop Stratford's visitation book in 1696, that the living of Whitegate was vacant by the deprivation of John Oakes, but when such deprivation took place does not appear, and the living appears to continue void by his deprivation in the several visitations in 1701 and 1705.

Like so many of the nonjuring clergy, Mr. Oakes found a shelter with one of the great Jacobite families. The Cholmondeleys, his early friends and patrons, were true to him to the last, and Vale Royal remained his home till 1707, when he was invited to Eaton, the

home of the Grosvenors, where he ended his days on 2nd Nov., 1710, in the 65th year of his age. Mr. Francis Cholmondeley erected to his memory a monument in Eccleston church, which has disappeared, but the inscription on it has been fortunately preserved in Mr. Crane's book on Eccleston. It ran as follows:—

Juxta s.e.

Joannes Okes Wottonia in agro Gloucestr. oriund.
Aulæ Sti Edmundi Oxon. A.M.

ob ampliata ibid. 20 librar. donaria bibliothecam
merito commemoratus:

qui animarum curas in ecclesia de Whitegate
annos circ. 24 fideliter inservivit.

Pauperes (stipe 20 librar. iisd porrecta)
gaudebant benefactore,

neo fidelem parochiani pastorem desiderabant;
donec, jure jurando duriusculo urgente,
vir, in Ecclesiam Anglicanam et Regem
fidei semper immotus

pulsus ab ea recessit ANOMOTOS.

In Aedibus Valle-Regalibus annos 44

Doctus ille ac pius,

vitæ illibetæ, morumque suavissimorum,
sacellani munus exequendo ornavit.

20 libr. in pauperes, et bibliothecam suam
in usum popularium suorum Wottoniæ
erogavit, et ex testamento dicavit.

Etonam tandem Grosvenorum

a Francisco Cholmondeley, ar.

(cui summum semper honorem præstitit)

accesit lubens transivit anno 1707.

Ubi vita forsitan (penates etsi inter uberrimos)

austera magis quam morbo confectus,

interiit 2 die Nov. 1710, ætate 65.

DICTUS FRANCISCUS CHOLMONDELEY,

M. B. M. P.

The Francis Cholmondeley who erected this monument was a younger brother of Thomas Cholmondeley of Vale Royal. He was a member of Parliament in the time of King William and a friend of Addison and other eminent literary characters of the day. He is stated by Oldmixon to have been committed to the Tower as a non-juring member of the House of Commons. During this confinement his studies took a religious turn, and the ardour with which he attended to his theological pursuits is attested by an extensive collection of divinity still remaining in the library at Vale Royal, illustrated by him with laborious MS. notes and interlineations. In Dr. Madan's translation of Grotius de Veritate may be found two interesting letters of Mr. Francis Cholmondeley respecting the attachment of that eminent and pious man to the principles and doctrines of the Church of England.

[85] BISHOP PEPLON AND CHANCELLOR
GASTRELL.

(Continued from Nos. 16, 19, 20, 71, 73, and 76,
Feb. 19 and 26, March 4, July 22 and 29, and
August 5.)

"The Wrong-Doers are your acting Rural
Dean, his Agents, and Actuary.

Under Colour of your Authority, Have they
not illegally arrogated, and as illegally executed,
a Power of admitting Commutation for Penance?

Let the Grounds of their pretended Authority,
and their Manner of exercising it, be impartially
examined with the Laws and legal Practice,
and will it not appear by the Law, that they
have not any Power to judge, whether a corporal
Penance, or a Commutation, will be more proper
or most likely to reform an Offender, nor to
make a Decree for admitting any Commutation
for Penance.

And by their Manner of exercising such
Power, Will it not appear that they have not
discreetly distinguished as to Actions and Cir-
cumstances, nor enjoined Penance according to
the Canonical Sanctions; but have taken what
Money they could get for Abatement of
Penance, or to stop Prosecution, or, as their
common Phrase is, to strike them out of their
Books, and not have them called up in the
Church.

That they have rashly imposed upon Rectors,
Vicars, and other Parish Ministers or Curates,
arbitrary Commands to publish illegal Cita-
tions and Excommunications against their
offending Parishioners; and when by such
Means they got them into their Net, they called
their own unwarrantable Demands legal and
adequate Punishments.

That their Commutations, or rather Bargains,
were most commonly private; sometimes made
by the Rural Dean, without the presence of a
Publick Notary; and often their pretended
Register assumed both Offices of Judge and
Notary.

That as they neither did, nor could, make any
legal Decree for admitting Commutation for
Penance; so no perfect Acts were made,
entered, and kept in the publick Registry.

And as their Bargains were private, no
due entries were made, nor due Certifi-
cates of the Application of such Money
returned to, and kept in the publick Registry,
May it not be concluded that the Money, so
taken, hath been ill applied, or imbezzled?

That, upon their Dismission (as they called it)
of Offenders, they did not give them any Letters

Testimonial, legally stampd and properly
signed and sealed; I suppose, because they knew
it could not be justified, and such Instruments
might be a Means to detect their unlawful
Practice.

That they demanded and received of Offenders
Fees for Acts, which they neither did, nor
could legally do, therefore had no Right to
demand or receive any.

By such Presumption and enormous Practices,
Have not the Chancellor and his proper Officers
been obstructed in the due Exercise of their
Offices, and defrauded?

(To be continued.)

[85A]

QUERY.

Can any of your readers furnish me with
particulars of the Marrow family of co. Chester
and the North of Ireland? Was there not a
famous Colonel Marrow or Morrow who fought
on the King's side in the Civil War? Any
information will be welcome.—Yours,

GENEALOGIST.

AUGUST 26, 1896.

NOTES.

[86]

CHURCH MONUMENTS.

It is generally believed that the inscriptions
of all the old monuments in Cheshire Churches
were printed by Dr. Ormerod in his valuable
History. Such, however, was not the case. I
propose sending to the "Cheshire Sheaf" exact
copies of monumental inscriptions to important
families in the churches around Nantwich, which
have not appeared either in the original, or the
enlarged edition of the great County History;
and if other contributors to the "Sheaf" would
gather similar gleanings in their own localities
where stray inscriptions have been hitherto
disregarded, much genealogical information
may possibly be garnered that may be useful to
those interested in local family history.

Nantwich.

JAMES HALL.

I.—ACTON CHURCH.

1.—Vicar *Eagle's Monument.*

On the north side of the Chancel is a fine mural
marble of oval design, carved with the usual scroll
border according to the fashion of the early part of
the 18th century, and with loops and folds of
mantling depending on each side. Above is
represented an urn, from which hang garlands of
tulip-like flowers.

Arms.—Argent, three trefoils slipped Vert.

Crest.—A cubit arm issuing from a shell Or, the
hand grasping a sword hilted Or.

Dr. Ormerod, while noticing the existence of this monument (vol. iii., p. 351 *new edit.*) passes it by with the remark that it has "an unusually long inscription in memory of *Samuel Edgley*, vicar of Acton, who died 18 Dec. 1721, aged 89, after having been vicar 47 years."

The inscription is cut and painted black on the convex surface of the white marble; which is placed too high on the wall to be read by anyone standing on the floor of the church. It reads as follows:—

SAMUEL EDGELEY, nuper Vicarius de Acton | in Comitatu et Diocesi Cestriensi, Natus | est in Parochiâ de Whitchurch in Salo | piâ 1632 Filius Arthuri Edgley de Poole | in prædictâ Parochiâ de Acton, et Elizabe | thæ ejus Uxoris, Filio Johannis Cartwright | de Aston in Parochiâ de Wrenbury, Fratris Richd. | Cartwright de Ainho Armigeri, in Comitatu North | antoniæ. Literas didicit apud Acton, Namptwich, et Wrenbury, in turbulentis Seditionum Rebelijque temporibus, unde Aulam Clarenjem | in Cantabrigiâ Profectus est, sub Tutela primo Isaaci Fowler, deinde Iohan | nis Tillotson, postea Archiepiscopi Cantuariensis, sub quo Baccalaurei | et Magistri in artibus gradum Cæssierit Sacris Ordinibus initiatus, | Divina iniit Munia Curatus Ecclesiæ sanctæ Mariæ in Oppido Salopiæ | per biennium, Reverendi deinde Samuelis Fisher, Rectoris de Thornton in | agro Cestriensi Vices implevit, Cujus Filiam Elizabetham Uxorem duxit, | Ex qua quaternam suscepit Sobolem, Samuelem, Catherinam, Arthurium, | et Elizabetham. Cum Uxor Mortem præmaturam obierit et Liberi in | curam Cognatorum Traditi, Rogatu Thomæ Wilbraham Baronetti per Sep | tennium ei a Sacris Domesticis fuit, ejusque dono postea Vicariam de Acton | anno 1675 adeptus est; Ubi postquam annos Viginti quinque Matrino | nij expers Vixerat Uxorem duxit Janam Hewit de Brindley Viduam, | quam et iterum Viduam moestissimam reliquit. Per annos quadraginta | septem Vicarius erat hujus Parochiæ, et decimo octavo die Decembris | 1721 mortuus est, annos natus 89. |

Vir erat egregiæ Pietatis, etsingularis industriæ, rebus divinis totus in- | cumbens, In Concionando plurimum Valens et assiduus, quod Munus bis | Singula dominicâ ad extremum fere vitæ Tempus diligenter præstitit | Haud mediocres in Arte Medicâ progressus feceratquo pacto Pau- | perum, cum Animabus, tum Corporibus, utilem operam navavit, | et hæc pro Symbolo habuit Adagium Ora et Labora.

Marmor hoc humile et exiguum, Chari sui Patris memoriæ | Sacrum, erexit filius ejus Natu Maximus, Samuel, Vicarius de Wandsworth in Comitatu Surrice, ex | omni ejus Sobole solus Superstes.

1. The actual burial place of the above-named Vicar is marked by a flat stone, now forming

part of the pavement of a pew immediately underneath where the monument is affixed to the wall. The stone records in capital letters:—

HERE LYETH THE REMAINS
OF SAMUEL EDGELEY
MASTER OF ARTS, VICAR
OF THIS PARISH, 47 YEARS,
WHO DYED DECEMBER
YE 18TH 1721
IN THE 89TH YEAR
OF HIS AGE.

2. Near this, and forming another stone of the pavement of Acton Chancel, is a memorial of the vicar who preceded vicar Edgley, as follows:—

WILLIAM
UPSHAN
VICAR OF AC
TON: INTERRED
HERE, APRIL THE
19TH 1675
IN THE THIRTY
SECOND YEARE
OF HIS AGE.

3 and 4. Near the above, also on the north side of Acton Chancel, two stones on the pavement, and side by side, as follows:—

[Nearly illegible] to "WILLIAM ALLEN, OF BRINDLEY, GENT., WHO DYED 27 MAY, 1671."

"Here lieth Buried | by the consent | of Sir Thomas | Wilbraham Bart | the Body of Anne | Allen the wife | to William Allen | of Brindley Gen | tleman, who | departed this | Life the 24 day | of December | 1673."

5. On the floor of the pew on the south side of Acton Chancel, and near the altar steps, a stone inscribed:—

"The Revd. Joseph | Harwar late Vicar of | Acton was here interred | December 1745 Aged | 62

Also, Mary his Wife was | here interred March . . . | 1770 aged 80 | "

6. Over the south door of Acton Chancel a mural tablet to:—

"Edward Tomlinson of Nantwich, surgeon in Manchester and one of the Assistant-surgeons to the Royal Infirmary in that city; who died at Stoke in this Parish 24 May 1855 aged 36."

7. Another mural tablet on the south wall of Acton Chancel, to:—

"Richard Craven Garnett | 2nd son of John Jasper Garnett | and Elizabeth Garnett of Nantwich— who died 21 Oct. 1819 in the 11th year of his age | " &c.

Two brasses and one mural marble have been affixed in Acton Chancel since the issue of the enlarged edition of Ormerod, namely:—

8. On the south wall, within the altar rail:

"In Memoriam John 1st Baron Tollemache of Helmingham | Born Dec: 7: 1805: Died Dec: 9: 1890 In thee O Lord have I put my trust | Ps. 38: 15."

9. On the North wall, within the altar rail:

"In loving remembrance of | Wilbraham Spencer Tollemache (d. 1890) and of Anne his wife (d. 1871) | of Dorfold Hall | Placed in Acton Church by his brothers Tollemache of Helmingham and William Augustus Tollemache."

10. On the south wall of the Woodhey Chapel (Acton Church) a white marble inscribed to the last-named gentleman, as follows:—

"To the beloved memory of | Wilbraham Spencer Tollemache | of Dorfold, in this Parish | who died Feb: 15: 1890, aged 82. | And of Annie Tollemache, his wife | who died April 20: 1871, Aged 56 | "I dwell among mine own people. 2 Kings iv. 13."

REPLY.

[87] COLONEL JOHN MARROW.

(See No. 85a, August 19.)

In reply to "Genealogist's" enquiry, I would refer him to Ormerod for two short notices of the Colonel Marrow of whom he speaks. On p. 251, Volume II., is the following:—

Utkinton Hall was plundered by the Royalists of plate, jewels, and writings in 1644 under the direction of Colonel Werden and Colonel Marrow, the governor of Chester. The plunder was ordered to be restored by a resolution of the House of Commons Oct. 2, 1648; but it appeared that the principal part had been carried off by Mrs. Marrow and the Colonel's chaplain, and Colonel Werden states that he "entrusted the jewels to the care of a man who was slain at Nantwich fight, having only himself a silver dish, a silver bell, and a rock tankard formerly the Earl of Shrewsbury's.

And on page 243, Vol. I.:—

August 18, 1644. Colonel Marrow, governor of Chester, fell upon a party of Sir William Brereton's forces near Crowton House, where they kept a garrison, and took fourteen of them prisoners; but the governor himself there received a shot, of which he died soon after at Chester.

In Malbon's Memorial of the Civil War, edited by Mr. James Hall for the Record Society (Vol. xix.), is the following more particular account of his death (page 141):—

On Sondaye the xvijth of Auguste 1644 Colonell Marrowe yssued furthe of Chester wth all or most of the horse and foote theire and marched towards Northwoche; by

the waye they plundered some poore men's cattell. But some of them appearing unto the townesmen on Hertford Greene, the forces in Towne yssued furth upon them; which they perceyvinge fiedd before them towards Sandiway. The Townesmen pursuyinge them (unadvisedleye too farr) that the Kinges partie tooke fiftene of them prisioners and carryed them awaye. But Colonell Marrowe was shott in Sandiway by one lyinge under hedge, and was carried alyne into Chester, where hee dyed the next day afterwards.

Mr. Hall in his notes adds that he was buried at the Cathedral, according to the following curious entry in St. Oswald's Register:—

1644: Corranall Marrow buried the 22nd of August.

The following is a short abstract of Colonel Marrow's will, which is still preserved at the Probate Registry, White Friars, and from which it will be seen that Mrs. Marrow, who was a daughter of Robert Ravenscroft of Bretton, married for her second husband, Sir Thomas Powell, of Birkenhead and Horsley, Baronet.

In the Name of God Amen, etc. [19th August, 1644] I, JOHN MARROW, Collonel, having received a shott in his Ma'tie's service and by reason of that not knowing how God will dispose of me for life or death being mindfull to settle thatestate the which God has blessed me withal do dispose of it, etc.

First I commit my soul, etc., rejoicing (since all must die) that I shall ende my days in my Kinges service, and in so good a cause, etc.

To Jane Marrowe my nowe wife all my estate, etc., within the Kingdoms of England and Ireland, and more particularly that estate in Staffordshire left me by my Aunt.

To my good brother George Ravenscroft two of my best horses.

To my true friends Mr. Hall and Will: Baxter £5 each.

To my brother George Marrow two horses after George Ravenscroft has chosen.

Exor: My wife Jane Marrow.

Witnesses.

19 August, 1644.

Edward Morgell.

Geo: Ravenscroft.

[Sgd] John Marrow.

Richard Hall.

Proved.—1661 by D're Jane Powell alias Marrow his relict and now wife of Thomas Powel Baronett.

Yours,

WM. FERGUSON IRVINE.

Claughton, Cheeshire.

SEPTEMBER 2, 1896.

[88]

CHURCH MONUMENTS.

(Continued from No. 86, August 26.)

II. WRENBURY CHURCH.

1. Ormerod's *History of Cheshire* (vol. iii., p. 398, *new edit.*) gives in a foot note an inscription to one of the Starkey family of 17th century date, quoting vol. 2151 of the Harl. MSS. No description of the monument is given; and most readers would infer that the original memorial is not now in existence; but, on the floor of the cross aisle beside the Starkey pew, is still to be seen a plain brass engraved line for line as follows:—

Heer lyes ye Bodies of
GEORGE STARKEY, youngest
sonn of Arthur Starkey
Late of Wrenbury Esqr: and
of ANN his Wife Daughter
of Tho. Burroughes of
Bickley Gent. by whom
hee had 6 sonns & 2
twin daughters. hee
Dyed ye 13 of August
Anno 1666 aged 67
Yeares. His said Wife dyed
ye 11 of Noubr 1670
aged 68 yeares.

This George Starkey is not mentioned in the Starkey pedigree in Ormerod on page 396.

The following memorials do not appear in the enlarged edition of the *History of Cheshire*.

1. A mural tablet on the south side of the chancel to the memory of:—

HENRY CALVELLEY COTTON, 9th son of Sir Lynch Salusbury Cotton, Bart., 42 years Receiver General in this County, died May 15, 1837, Aged 81.

MATILDA, his wife, daughter of John Lockwood, Esq., died Feb. 3, 1848, aged 84.

ROBERT SALUSBURY COTTON of the Royal Artillery, 8th son of the above, died June, 1824.

BOWLAND EDWARD COTTON, 4th son of the above, died in Jamaica 1823.

2. On the chancel arch pier (north side) a tablet in memory of:—

THOMAS HEWITT, of Guilford-street, London, who died suddenly at Llangollen, Oct. 5, 1827, aged 45 years.

MARIA C. E. HEWITT, eight years his wife, died at Wrenbury Hall, the home of her 37 years widowhood, Oct. 3, 1864.

3. On the North wall of the chancel a white marble inscribed as follows:—

In memory of JOHN CROSS STARKEY, Esq., of Wrenbury Hall, died April 4, 1855, aged 75.

Also GRACIA TURNBULL, his second wife, who died at Wrenbury Hall May 13, 1874, aged 81.

This tablet was erected by Major Samuel Cross Starkey.

4. On the north wall above the west gallery is a mural marble to the memory of:—

SAMUEL SPROSTON, of Sproston Wood, Esqre., who died 11th May, 1858, aged 97.

This monument is erected in the place of his own selection, over the *pew* he regularly occupied, and which has always belonged to the owners of Sproston Wood.

Resurgam.

There are six headstones in the churchyard to successive heads of the Sproston family. The earliest stone says, "This ancient family having resided at Sproston Wood since the 22 August, 1594."

5. On the north aisle, a mural marble to:—

MARY, 26 years wife of the Rev. C. M. Aldis, M.A., died Sept. 7, 1867.

6. The east end window on the north aisle is filled with memorial glass to:—

CHARLES MUELING ALDIS, 31 years Vicar of Wrenbury. His friends and congregation erected this window. He died 12 Sept., 1878.

Since the issue of the enlarged edition of Ormerod's *History* there have been added these memorials.

1. In the east window of the south aisle memorial glass to "MATILDA HESTER MARY COTTON, died 20 May, 1868, aged 76."

2. In the north aisle four windows filled with memorial glass "to MARY WOOLLEY, VISCOUNTESS COMBERMERE, a benefactress of this parish, who died 1889."

This window was put in by Admiral Francis Vere Cotton, Esq., of Whitechurch, her brother.

3. The chancel window is also filled with memorial glass (undated) to the late LADY DOWNSHIRE, sister to the second Lord Combermere.

4. In the present year (1896) has been fixed to the pier of the chancel arch (south side) a brass inscribed:—

In piam Memoriam

Wellington Henrici Stapleton Cotton

Vicomitis Combermere II.

Nat: Nov: 24: 1818: Ob: Dec: 1: 1891

CAROLINE PEEL, HESTER PAGET, d.d.

[89] THE DERIVATION OF THE PLACE-NAME
HESWALL.

On the roadside leading into Heswall as one enters it is an announcement put up, evidently at some considerable expense, to the effect that the spot indicated is the site of the old Heasle Well. From this a popular notion has got abroad that the derivation of the place-name

'Heswall' is to be found in this unimportant and (for the inhabitants of Heswall) somewhat inconvenient watering place. It seems hardly worth while going to the trouble of disproving this derivation, as anyone acquainted with the locality who thinks for a moment must realise how unlikely it is to be the correct one.

The Domesday spelling of the word is Eswelle, and in 13th century documents Hasilwall and Haselwell. The last syllable is unquestionably the old Norse word *Velle*, meaning an abode, a house, other examples of which are to be found in the immediate neighbourhood, e.g., Thingwall, Denwall, Crabwall. The other part of the name is probably that of the Norse warrior who first settled as a colonist in this part of our Peninsula.

The following extract from *Memorials of Old Whitby* (page 76), by Canon Atkinson, of Danby, may possibly help us in deciding what was the name of this early Norse settler.

It is worthy of note in this connection that the name is usually pronounced *Hesswall* or *Haswell* (as if it were written with a double s) by the county people, which coincides with Canon Atkinson's experience in the case of *Hazelby*.

In general estimation apparently, and certainly according to much prevailing practice, nothing seems to be thought easier than to derive a place-name. Thus it has been assumed once and again that Aislaby-sounded Hazelby, and in the mouth of the general population Hesselby—must, as a matter of course, have taken its name from the prevalent growth of the hazel—locally called "hessel"—there in days of old, if not now. . . . The real fact is, that no craft is really—not more difficult exactly, but—more a work of labour and real study, and informed, if not learned, investigation and patient research than that of the man who would try to explain our various local names and designations. The instance of Aislaby just mentioned is indeed both very illustrative and instructive. No one could by any possible guess or mere process of assumption light upon its actual formation. There are four places so named—two in Yorkshire, one in the county of Durham, and the fourth in Lincolnshire, not far from Sleaford. They are all called Hazelby, and by the country people Hesselby. Yet, in spite of this seeming identity, they proceed from two different and equally distinct originals. The place near Whitby so named, is first met with as a written name in the form of Asulbvbi or Asolvesbi—that is, the *by* or colonisers' farm-settlement of "Asolf" or "Asulf." But the other three are met with in the same authoritative writing, under the coincident forms of Aslacebi, Aslacsbi, or the *by* of Aslac; Aslac, and

Asulf, being as totally distinct as Smith, Brown, and Robinson.

—Yours, &c., WM. FERGUSON IRVINE.
Claughton, Cheshire.

[90] BISHOP PEPLOR AND CHANCELLOR
GASTRELL.

(Continued from Nos. 16, 19, 20, 71, 73, 76, and 85. Feb. 19 and 26, March 4, July 22 and 29, and August 5 and 19.)

Hath not Ecclesiastical Judicature been confounded and Discipline subverted?

Have not the Clergy been injuriously treated, being imposed upon to do unwarrantable Acts?

Have not Offenders been encouraged, but deceived, and wronged of their Money; since, notwithstanding such Payments, they remain liable to legal Prosecutions for their Offences?

Hath not the Publick been deprived of a Part of the Stamp Revenue?

Hath the Church offended, had that Satisfaction which every open Offender should make, either by Penance legally enjoined, and publicly and duly performed and certified; or by Letters Testimonial, or the Sentence or Decree in Writing legally stamp'd, and under the Seal of Office of the proper Judge, to certify the Minister, Churchwardens, and Parishioners offended, that he had made Satisfaction, and was dismissed according to Law?

Hath not the Publick lost that Money which (if admitted for Commutation for Penance by the proper Judge in the Presence of the Register, or his lawful Deputy, or a proper Notary, according to the legal Rules, before set down) could not be concealed, but would be applied to pious, charitable, and publick Uses; but being surreptitiously taken or paid to the Rural Dean, his Agents, or pretended Register, who knows to what Use (or rather Abuse) the Money is applied; Shall not the Publick know what is done with it?

Hath not the Church and her Jurisdiction suffered great Scandal? Have not Ecclesiastical Authority and Censure grown into Contempt?

May not your Lordship be debased, or lightly regarded, unless proper Steps are taken to restrain such Presumption and enormous Practice?

May not your Lordship gain much Respect and Good-will, by concurring with your Chancellor to put a Stop to it? Does not Duty to God and his Church require such a Conduct?

And as the Person, whom now your Lordship hath appointed Rural Dean, is of good Report, and (I presume) very much under your Influence; Cannot you alone (if you will) with Ease repress a Practice, which is attended with so many evil Consequences?"

M.A.

SEPTEMBER 9, 1896.

NOTES.

[91] THE ANCIENT PARISH OF WALLASEY.

The following note appeared in the *Wallasey Parish Church Magazine* in 1893. It is well worth reproducing in the *Sheaf*, and will serve for a model of a short description of other Cheshire Parishes.

EDITORS.

Before the enclosure of the common lands, early in the present century, the Ancient Parish of Wallasey had but little in common with the present "suburban locality." The Acts for Enclosing the Common Lands in Liscard (over 400 acres), including the Hose, was passed in 1809, and that for enclosing the Leasowes and Pasture Land in Wallasey, two or three years later, and at that time, as is shewn by these Acts, a very large area of open country existed in the Parish.

The only land exit from the parish was over the Leasowes to Moreton, or across a ford through the Pool at Poolton, available only at low water, to Bidston, and so to Neston, the port town and most important place in Wirral.

That the crossing of the ford was at times dangerous is shewn by the following verdict of a coroner's jury, 7th October, 1659:—

Verdict: That the above-named Robert Greene (late Corporal of Major Boulton's Troope) the sixth day of October in the year of or. Lord 1659 about 10 of ye clock in the forenoone of the same day, being on horseback and going towards Chester, at a certaine Place on Cheshire syde of ye River M'raie, called Birkett Poole, in the usuall Place of the same roade, hee entered into the Poole the water being deape by reason of ye tyde, and his horse plunged inn, and haveing lost his footeing, hee turned several times about in the water, and then they both sunck downe, and for some tyme were undr water, then the horse came up and landed on the further syde, but the said Bobt. Greene was then and there by accident, misadventure, and misfortune drowned, and found lying there dead in the bottom, being left by the tyde ebbing near the place where he entered into

ye Poole.—(*L'pool Records*.) One of the Litherland family, of Poulton Manor, was also drowned at this place.

Crossing the Mersey from Seacombe to Liverpool was, in those days, no small undertaking, and several entries in the register books illustrate some of the risks and dangers of the voyage—1673:—

November ye 22, 1673 *were lost in a boat these p'sons viz.*, William the sun of Rich. Clarke of Walizey (in the margin 'Andrew Ball'), Henry the sun of George Pemberton and Charles the sun of George Pemberton and Anne the daughter of George Pemberton cuming wth a boat that belonged to Mr. Bunbary from Leverpoole to Seacomb with coales as was supposed 2 tun or thereabouts; which accident is thus referred to in the Register of Burials:—Andrew Ball, William Clark, Henry Pemberton, Ann Pemberton all lost together in a boat the 22 of November 1673.

In 1672 the Churchwardens made the following entry:—"At Livrpoole being wind bound 2 days, 02: 06." The cost of crossing appears to have varied, generally running from 6d. to 1s. (with a load), a more considerable sum in those days than in the present. In 1684 the Churchwarden spent 10d. in 'goeing to Livrpoole wth the Great Bible.' And in 1687 it cost 1s. 6d. to bring over some timbers for the church tower, while the "boat's freight" for three hundred of slates amounted to 3s. In 1723 the ferriage on the five bells cost the parish 5s.

In connection with the river Mersey, and Wallasey Pool, the following notices of two great frosts are interesting:—

Mem'dum. In the yeare of o'r lord god 1607 theire was a *great frost* that people did goe over the Poole (over against Poolto') oppon the yee (at full sea); and Memorand' that in the year 1683 there was *A great frost* soe that people went over the pooll any where at any time of the tide and (it) was thought by severall that a man at a low water at some time might have gone to Liverpoole: all passage out or these *pts.* to Liverpoole was by Warrington or filders fferry, where they went over on Ise: there was noe getting to the Market till the 9th of feb.

The Pool was then, and even in living memory, a pleasant tidal creek—the port of a small fishing fleet, and of those "Myghells" and "Johns" of Wallasey, which traded between the Mersey and Ireland; the green fields on its banks sloped gently down to the water's edge. Birkenhead only existed as a ruined priory, from which the ancient Monks' Ferry plied to Liverpool, while Seacombe was merely a small collection of

cottages, from near which another ferry boat sailed for the quay at the foot of Water-street. The Moss at the head of the Pool, dividing Wallasey from Bidston, was also a very different place. Robinson mentions "The flatt land called the Moss, on which the Salttide flows," while in a document of the last century mention is made of several lands on the banks of the Pool "Under ye Level of ye Tide." At spring tides the low lands round Leasowe, unprotected by an embankment, were flooded by the sea, and when the winter rains filled the little rivers Birkett and Fender, the Moss became impassable. The habitable parts of the Ancient Parish consisted of (a) *Wallasey "town,"* or *Kirkby-Walley*—with its long straggling street of thatched cottages and stone farm buildings, and its Village Cross at the foot of the hill near the old "Cheshire Cheese." Above the inn stood the Parsonage, a small building compared with the present house, but large after the "old thatched house" with the "brave parlour," which had been the Rectory until 1632. Higher up the hill was the Hall, a plain stone building with mullioned windows, of a type common in this part of the world, built by William Meoles in 1604; the Hall being in its turn capped by the old Church on the top of the hill; (b) *Liscard* village, with the smithy standing under the trees by the horse pond, near to the old stone house of the Urmstons, dated 1729; (c) *Poolton*, with its circular stone pinfold behind the old house built by the Birds in 1627; (d) the few cottages at *Seacombe* Ferry, some scattered farmhouses, and small clusters of fishermen's huts at Rock Point, a bleak sandy waste at the extreme corner of the parish. The outermost rock of this point, the Perch Rock, on which the Fort and Lighthouse now stand, was marked by a perch as a guide to ships entering the Mersey by the Rock Channel, then the only entrance to the Mersey.

Of the common lands already mentioned, the most important were the *Leasowes*, and the *Hose*, the former including all, or nearly all, the flat land lying between the Sandhills and the Moss, and stretching from Wallasey "town" to Leasowe Castle—called "New Hall" in the days of the Wallasey Races, which were held here—"where lie those fair sands, or plains, upon the shore of the sea, which, for the fitness for such a purpose, allure the gentlemen and others oft to appoint great matches, and venture no small sums in trying the swiftness of their horses."—(Webb's Itinerary.)

The *Hose*—that part of the Parish north of a line following, roughly, the course of Magazine

Lane and Mount Pleasant Road to the north end of Wallasey Village—a great stretch of sand-hill and rough country covered with whin and heather, not unlike the hills of Heswall and Thurstaston at the present day, included the high land above New Brighton, the Warren, and Stonebark Hill. The *Hose* was the home of innumerable rabbits, foxes, and other vermin, and in the year 1753 the farmers of Liscard, by an agreement still existing, did "Covenant agree one with another to destroy all the Rabbits on the Common, commonly called or known by the name of Liscard Hoes," and "Whereas Jno. Hough of Liscard Claims a Property to the Rabbits" they did "firmly bind themselves unto each other in the pane of twenty pound of Lawfull money of Great Britain" to stand by their agreement, and further agreed to contribute each "in Proportion to the Legal Towns Assessment" to defray the cost of any action brought against them by John Hough. The following are the names of these "village Hampdens," most of whom have representatives living in the Parish:—Margaret Tyrer, John Dean, John Mullinex, Wm. Strong, Tho. Strong, Joseph Robinson, Tho. Dean, Daniel Robinson, Joseph Kenyon, John Mullinex, Jonathan Dean, John Wilson, John Dean, Thomas Stanley, Wm. Evans, Robt. Richardson. Witnesses: Joseph Platt, Thomas Brown. Against the other denizens of the *Hose* no agreement was necessary, every man's hand was against them, even Squire Meoles, of Wallasey Hall, not disdaining to accept his halfcrown reward for the slaying of a fox, to shoot or trap, which was, in those days, considered a meritorious action. The following are a few of the many rewards paid by the churchwardens:—1658, "Disbursed to Mr. Meoles for the killing of three foxes," 7s. 6d.; 1659, "Mr. Thos. Meoles, for 2 old foxes and 6 young cubs" 11s.; 1664 "Rich: Smith for killing a Kite" 4d.; 1665 "To William Welsh for 2 foolmurtes" 4d.; John Robinson for an Hedghogg "2d." 1688 "Will: Welch for killing 1 old fox and 3 cubs" 5s. 6d. 1694 "To killing a Kite and Hedghogg" 4d.; and 1695 "To more killing of Urchins and other wermine" 1s. 8d. Will: Welsh received rewards at frequent intervals during over thirty years, and was evidently "a mighty hunter." His "foolmurtes" or "fulmarts," and "urchins" are of course pole-cats and hedgehogs. The *Breck*, the rocky hillside running from the Church to Poolton—the *Little Breck*, north of the Church—*Seacombe*

Common—and a considerable portion of common land between Liscard and Wallasey and on the banks of the Pool—were all open and unenclosed.

[92] **BIRKENHEAD FIFTY YEARS AGO.**

The annexed sketch of Birkenhead is taken from the *London Journal* of 1 November, 1845:—

A NEW CITY.

The following animated description of one of the last wonders of our day, the new city now rising at Birkenhead, is from the pen of a noble diplomatist, and will be read with interest:—

I have made a very agreeable trip to Birkenhead, which is a place rising, as if by enchantment, out of the desert, and bidding fair to rival, if not eclipse, the glories of Liverpool. Seven years ago there were not three houses on that side of the Mersey—there are now about 20,000 inhabitants; and on the spot where within that time Sir W. Stanley's hounds killed a fox in the open field, now stands a square larger than Belgrave-square, every house of which is occupied. At Liverpool there are now ten acres of docks, the charges for which are enormous; at Birkenhead, there will be 47 acres, with rates two-thirds lower, which will gradually diminish, until (supposing trade to continue prosperous) they will almost disappear, and the docks become the property of the public at the end of 30 years. It would have been worth the trouble of the journey to make acquaintance with the projector and soul of this gigantic enterprise, a certain Mr. Jackson. With his desire to create a great commercial emporium proceeds, *pari passu*, that of improving and elevating the condition of the labouring classes there, and before his docks are even excavated, he is building houses for 300 families of work-people, each of which is to have three rooms and necessary conveniences, to be free of all taxes, and plentifully supplied with water and gas, for 2s. 6d. a week for each family. These houses adjoin the warehouses and docks, where the people are to be employed, and thence is to run a railroad to the sea, and every man liking to bathe will be conveyed there for a penny. There are to be wash-houses, where a woman will be able to wash the linen of her family for 2d.; and 180 acres have been devoted to a park, which Paxton has laid out, and nothing at Chatsworth can be more beautiful. At least 20,000 people were congregated there last Sunday, all decently dressed, orderly, and enjoying themselves. Chapels and churches and schools for every sect and denomination abound. Jackson says he is sure he shall create as vigorous a public opinion against the public-houses as is to be found in the highest classes. There are now 3,000 workmen on the docks and buildings, and he is about to take on 2,000 more. Turn which way you will, you see only the most judicious application of capital,

skill, and experience—everything good adopted, everything bad eschewed from all other places, and as there is no other country in the world, I am sure, that could exhibit such a sight as this nascent establishment, where the best interests of commerce and philanthropy are so felicitously interwoven, I really felt an additional pride at being an Englishman.

SEPTEMBER 16, 1896.

REPLIES.

[93] **DR. GEORGE SNELL, ARCHDEACON OF CHESTER, 1619-1646.**

(See Nos. 47 and 55.)

Since "Genealogist's" query appeared in June last, I have been endeavouring to discover whether any connection existed between Dr. George Snell and John Snell, of Ufton, the munificent founder of the Snell Exhibitions at Balliol College, Oxford, but so far without success. The following appears to be all that is known of Dr. Snell's history.

From the records at Caius College, Cambridge (*Lanc. and Ches. Antiquarian Soc.*, Vol. VI., p. 91) it appears that George Snell was the son of William Snell, gentleman, and was born at Fremington, co. Devon, that he went to school at Chumleigh, in the same county, under Mr. Henry Hatswell, and at the age of 18 he was admitted scholar at Caius on the 31st January, 1599 [1600]. He graduated B.A. at St. John's in 1603, and M.A. in 1607. The next fact known about him is that in 1618 he was made Archdeacon of Chester by Bishop Morton. In the following year, the Bishopric of Chester being vacant, Dr. Bridgeman was appointed, whose youngest sister, Lydia, Dr. Snell married. (*Wirral Notes and Queries*, Vol. II., p. 62.) Lydia Bridgeman was born in 1593, and the date of her marriage is not known, but the following entry in the Wigan Register may help to fix it approximately:—"Jan. 8, 1620 [1]. Thomas, son of Dr. Snell, Archdeacon of Chester, Baptized."

In 1619 the Archdeacon was presented to the living of Wallasey, and in 1620 went to Scotland and received the degree of D.D. from the University of St. Andrew's. In 1621 he received a Canonry in Chester Cathedral, and in the same year took an *ad eundem* D.D. degree at Oxford. Foster (*Alumni Oxonienses*) states that in 1622 he received the living of Gt. Smeaton.

His father, William Snell, may have moved to Chester, as on the 9th February, 1626 [7] administration of the goods of William Snell, of

the city of Chester, deceased, was granted to Alice Snell, his widow. The inventory, which only totals up to £12 7s. 6d., contains nothing distinctive except a rather large quantity of glass measured by the foot, which might indicate that he had followed the occupation of a glazier, if it were not for the complete absence of tools and appliances from the inventory.

In 1631 Dr. Snell escaped a fine for refusing knighthood (his estate being such as to justify the King in wishing to raise him to that rank) by the plea that he was in holy orders; and in the same year he obtained a dispensation from Archbishop Abbot, that allowed him to hold the Rectory of Waverton as well as that of Wallasey. In 1632 he resigned his canonry in favour of a kinsman of his wife; and it was in this year that he built Wallasey Rectory, his house forming the south-west angle of the present Rectory.

In 1635 Snell was appointed Rural Dean of the Deaneries of Chester, Frodsham, Malpas, Middlewich, and Nantwich, and he also became Rural Dean of the Deanery of Bangor.

He appears to have had numerous children Thomas, mentioned above, who possibly died young; a son, George, who seems to have been a goldsmith in London. This son was living in 1670, and may be the George Snell, of Boughton, administration of whose goods was granted on the 13th June, 1678, to Margaret Snell, his widow and relict. He had several daughters—Elizabeth, who married Thomas Bennett, of Barnston, gentleman, by whom she had one child, Lydia, christened at Woodchurch, 27th December, 1644, who subsequently married Robert Bruen, of Burton, gentleman (*Bennetts, of Saughall-Massey, &c.*, by E. M. Hance, Esq.); Katherine, who married—Harrison; and four others, who married men of the names of Worthington, Parker, Jephson, and Ducas. (See Lydia Snell's will below.)

Dr. Snell appears to have held all his preferences until 1646, when he was ejected, and his estates seized by the Parliament. He lived on in greatly reduced circumstances until 1656, when he was buried (5 February) in St. Mary's, Chester.

His will is not known to exist, but the following is a short abstract of his widow's:—

In the name of God Amen: 10th June 1670.

Lydia Snell, sicke and weake in bodie etc. bodie to be decently buried at the oversight of my son George Snell.

I leave a guilt boul to my dau: Katherine Harrison for her life and after to my grandchild Lydia Parker.

Bible to son George

To son-in-law John Worthington, xxs.

Silke petticoate to dau: Parker.

Rest of wearinge apparell between dau: Jephson dau: Ducas and dau: Worthington.

My two granchildren Katherine Jephson and Lydia Ducas (both under 21) residuary legatees, with remainder in case of death to George and John Jephson (Katherine's brothers) and Ruth Ducas, sister of Lydia Ducas.

Exors: Son-in-law John Worthington and cousin Robert Bruin, gent.

Wit: Nathan Kinsey
George Snell.

Lydia Snell's
mk.

[Seal in red wax, a cross
fleur]y]

Proved 31 Oct. 1670 by

John Worthington, power reserved.

[endorsed] Mother Snell's will.

Inv: of Lydia Snell who deceased June the last, taken and praised by Joseph Rapheson, Oliver Cookson, and Morgan Jones, 22 July 1670.

S. T. 24th 16s. 10d.

Such is a short account of all that is at present known about Dr. Snell, and I append here as much as can be gathered as to John Snell, the founder of the Snell Exhibitions.

It is taken from an interesting paper read before the Glasgow Archaeological Society, in 1893, on "John Snell, of Upton," by Mr. George W. Campbell, of Leamington.

The founder, according to the continuation of Anthony Wood's *Athena Oxonienses*, was born in 1629, in the parish of Colmonell, Ayrshire. In the churchyard of that parish is a flat tombstone, which may be taken to be his father's. It is carved with a shield, bearing a cross, with the motto, *Per ardua virtus*, and this inscription:—

HEIR IS BURIED ANDRO SNELL SMITH
DIED

MARCH 10, 1663 AGED 72 BY MR.
JOHNE SNELL ONLY SON OF THE
FORENAMED IN TESTIMONIE OF HIS
FILIAL RESPECT TO THE MEMORY OF
HIS PARENTS WAS THIS GRAVESTONE
ERECTED OCTE 29, 1664.

The following entries in the *Antiquum Album* of the University gives us another glimpse of him:—

*Postridie idus Martii 1643 solenni dato jure
jurando ascripti sunt qui sequuntur.*

NOVITI IN QUARTA CLASSE.
Johannes Snell.

In another register of the same time he is mentioned as "*Joannes Snell, filius Andree Snell in M'Calanstone.*" . . .

We learn nothing further of him till we find him clerk to Sir Orlando Bridgeman, when that great Royalist lawyer was practising in London as chamber counsel and conveyancer during the Usurpation.

Mr. Campbell adds in a note, "His obtaining Sir Orlando's patronage would be well accounted for, if a relationship could be proved between him and George Snell, Archdeacon of Chester, who married Sir Orlando's aunt, Lydia Bridgeman, youngest sister of John Bridgeman, Bishop of Chester."

When Bridgeman was appointed Lord Chief Baron of Exchequer in 1660, his clerk was made Crier of that court; on the Judge's promotion, the same year, to be Lord Chief Justice of Common Pleas, he took his Crier with him; and when in 1667 he was made Lord Keeper, Snell shared his patron's advancement in having conferred on him the office of Seal Bearer. He probably also shared his patron's fall in 1672, for he appears then to have gone to Scotland on the private business of the Duke of Monmouth; but he was again Seal Bearer in Shaftesbury's chancellorship. He died at Holywell, a suburb of Oxford, on 6th August 1679, in the house of his brother-in-law, Benjamin Cooper, Registrar of the University of Oxford, with whom he had resided for some time previous. He was buried two days after at the upper end of the chancel, under the north wall, in the church of St. Cross, Holywell. There is no monument to him, but the following entry appears in the Register:—

1679

August 8th. John Snell Esq., was buried contrary to the Act aforesaid in "Linnen," whereof notice was given to the churchwardens, within the time "appointed by the Act, who thereupon claimed and received the moiety of the forfeiture, and distributed it to the poor of the parish."

We learn from Wood's *Athenæ* that he was "much esteemed for his great diligence and understanding."

He was survived by his wife, Johanna, and his daughter Dorothy. The latter was born in 1664 and married in 1682 to William Guise of Winterborough or Winterborne, co. Gloucester, Gent., from which marriage is descended Sir William Guise, Bart., of Elmore Court, Gloucestershire. She died on 12th June, 1738. . . .

But his chief title to our gratitude is contained in his will, dated 29th December, 1677. This document is written in his own fair handwriting on the one side of six sheets of gilt-edged paper. Each sheet is subscribed by the testator, and sealed with his seal of arms, a cross flory, timbered with helmet and voluminous mantling, and for a crest a demi-lion rampant. The threads with which the sheets are stitched together at the top are sealed to the first sheet in the same manner. On 6th August, 1679, the day of his death, he republished it by a note, also in his own handwriting now sadly deteriorated. In this will, which was proved in the Prerogative Court of Canterbury on 13th September, 1679, he appoints for his executors his 'deare and loving wife, his honoured and worthy friends, William Bridgeman, of St. Martin-in-the-Fields, in the countie of Middlesex, Esquire; Benjamin Cooper, Register to the University of Oxford; William Hopkins, of Oxford, aforesaid, Gent.; and Thomas Newcomb, Citizen and Stationer of London.' His bequests are—to his wife £100, and an annuity of £100 secured on Ufton, with the enjoyment of his dwelling-house in the Savoy, and the household stuff, plate and jewels therein during her widowhood. To his daughter £2,000, payable when she is eighteen, or married, but to be restricted to £500 if she marries without his executors' consent; also an annuity of £100 secured on Ufton, and payable on her own receipt, with a further annuity of £60 secured on Ufton, payable to her mother for the daughter's maintenance, dyet and apparell, till she attains the age of eighteen or marries. To his nephews, Andrew Stewart, John Stewart, and James Stewart, £20 a piece, besides £20 to James to bind him to a trade. To Edmond Mason and Elizabeth Mason, his wife's nephew and niece, £20 a piece. To his accepting executors, other than his wife, £10 a piece to buy mourning. To his sister, Silvester Cooper, £5 to buy a ring, and to each of her children 20s. for the same purpose. To the poor of the parish of Ufton £10. To the poor of the parishes of St. Clement Dane and St. Mary le Savoy, £5. For repairing the parish church of Ufton £50. The residue of his estate is to be conveyed to five or more persons to be named by the Vice Chancellor of the University of Oxford, the Provost of Queen's College, the Master of Balliol, and the President of St. John's College, Oxford, for the maintenance and education in some college or hall in that University, to be appointed by the said Vice Chancellor,

Provost, Master, and President, of so many scholars as they shall think fit, not more than twelve nor less than five at any other time, unless the revenue may bear an allowance competent to maintain a greater number; which scholars shall have been born and educated in Scotland, and shall have spent three years, or two at the least at the College of Glasgow, or one year there and two at the least in some other college in the kingdom of Scotland.

From the two foregoing accounts it will be seen that there is really nothing to definitely connect the two Snells, except the fact that they were both protégés of the house of Bridgeman, if, indeed George Snell can be called such, and that both used the same coat of arms, viz., a cross fleury. The slight connection of Dr. Snell with Scotland in his taking an Honorary Degree at St. Andrew's can hardly be used as an argument in favour of a relationship.

On the other hand, the name Snell is not a common one in England, except in Devon and Cornwall, and an extremely uncommon one in Scotland. The date of Dr. Snell's birth (*circa* 1582) and that of Andrew Snell, of Colmonell (*circa* 1591) makes it possible that they were brothers, and if we imagine that for some so far unexplained reason, Dr. Snell's younger brother went into Scotland shortly after the Union and settled in Ayrshire, it would be far from unlikely that when John Snell grew up, his uncle Dr. Snell would exert his influence with his powerful relatives and get the young man into the service of Sir Orlando Bridgeman, his nephew by marriage. All that can be said in favour of such a suggestion perhaps is that only such a theory would account for the otherwise rather inexplicable appearance of a smith's son from a remote Scotch village, at Oxford, and his subsequent appointment to positions of trust and importance.—Yours &c.,

WM. FERGUSON IRVINE.

Cloughton, Cheshire.

SEPTEMBER 23, 1896.

ORIGINAL DOCUMENTS.

[94] AN UNPUBLISHED LETTER OF BISHOP STRATFORD.

The annexed very interesting letter of Dr. Nicolas Stratford, Bishop of Chester from 1689 to 1707, was written under the following circumstances:—

Dr. Thomas Cartwright had been appointed to the See of Chester by King James the Second, and had been one of the most active and willing instruments in furthering the measures of that monarch. Having made himself thoroughly obnoxious to all right-thinking men by such conduct, he deemed it prudent to leave England in December, 1688, soon after James's flight. He was with the King at St. Germain's, and subsequently accompanied him in his expedition to Ireland. There he died on the 15th of April, 1689.

The bishopric remained vacant for some months, the Archbishop of York, as Metropolitan, assuming the spiritual oversight until a fresh bishop was appointed. On the 19th of July Dr. Stratford was elected by the Dean and Chapter, the Royal assent was given on the 1st of August, and his consecration took place on the 15th of September.

By his will, which was proved 12th June, 1689, Bishop Cartwright had appointed his eldest son, the Rev. John Cartwright, his sole executor. But on Mr. Cartwright attempting to collect certain sums due to his father, as Procurations and Synodals, he encountered refusal from at least one of the clergy. The Rev. Edward Manwaring, vicar of Wybunbury, probably on political grounds, contested Cartwright's claim, and this led to a letter being sent to Dr. Stratford, who was still in London, awaiting his consecration. This letter evoked the following reply:—

Sr.—To-morrow is the day appointed for my Confirmation and Sunday next for Consecration, so that before this comes to your hands, you will be set free from the Jurisdiction of York, since upon my Confirmation, the Power of the Guardian of the Spiritualities will be at an end. I lay no claim to any Revenues of the Bishoprick which became due before my Predecessor's death; and therefore you have my Consent to collect for Mr. Cartwright the Procurations and Synodals due at Easter last. I intend (by God's help) to be with you, either in the first or second week in October; but must make but a short stay, (I fear) not a fortnight. Though I desired rather to lodge in the Bp's house, yet considering the trouble of setting up Beds, and providing all necessaries for my Table, it may, perhaps, be more advisable to take lodgings for so short a time. Those you mention in the Abby Court lye near the Church; if in these I may be provided with all things needful for the dressing of meat and for the entertainment of my Friends at Dinner, they may be the most convenient. I intend this week to write to Alderman Manwaring, whose advice I desire you to take in this matter.

In the mean time, I pray present my humble service to him and to Mr. Maior.—I am, your unfeigned Friend,

Sept. 10, 1689. N. GUSTEINS, E.

For my honoured Friend Mr. Thomas Waite, at his house near the Bishop's Palace, in Chester.

On the strength of this letter, Mr. Cartwright commenced an action against Mr. Manwaring in the Chancellor's Court, and no doubt won his cause.

Thomas Waite, to whom the letter is addressed, was a relative of Bishop Cartwright's. He is referred to in the Bishop's Diary as "my cousin Waite." He seems to have accompanied his kinsman to Chester, where he was made a public notary. On 27th Dec., 1686, the Bishop writes:—"I gave Mr. Thomas Waite, aged 24 years, his oath of public notary, by a commission sent me from Dr. Henry Paman, master of the faculties, dated 23 instant, and returned the commission rectified under my hand this day." On the 29th of the same month the Bishop "sealed a patent of the Rural Deaneries in Chester to my son John Cartwright and Thomas Waite, at £100 per annum rent." On 20 January, 1687, Waite was made a Proctor, and on 5th February he brought his wife to Chester. Waite appears to have lived on the most intimate terms with the Bishop (who, in his will, left him and his wife each a ring of 20s.); but, having established himself in a comfortable position at Chester, he seems to have made advances to a good understanding with Stratford.

Alderman Manwaring, who is referred to in the letter, was probably the George Manwaring who was Sheriff of Chester in 1672, and Mayor in 1681. He is more than once mentioned in Cartwright's Diary. F. S.

[95] A CLANDESTINE MARRIAGE IN THE PHOENIX TOWER IN 1690.

The Phoenix Tower, on the Walls, so well known to all visitors to Chester, has been the scene of many curious and varying episodes, but it will probably be news to many of our readers to hear of its figuring as the scene of a clandestine marriage.

At the time to which the following extract refers, to make a marriage legal it was only necessary to have a duly ordained clergyman officiating. The place and hour did not affect the legality of the marriage, but merely rendered the person liable to censure and punishment at the hands of the Ecclesiastical Court, should he have acted in such a way as to contravene any of the Church's laws. The

result was that there were often a number of vagrant priests in a diocese unable to obtain any regular charge, or who had been sequestered from their livings owing to their scandalous lives, who were only too ready, for a few shillings, to perform the office of holy matrimony to any couple who wished, for any reason, to form a hasty and clandestine union.

The Phoenix Tower was used for the guild meetings of the Painters' and Stationers' Company, who rented it, the name being derived from their crest, which, no doubt, was painted as a signboard outside the tower.

I have not been able to discover any particulars as to the antecedents of the Rev. Nicholas Cardiffe. The name suggests a Welsh origin.

I, Nicholas Cardiffe, do acknowledge that I married the persons undernamed clandestinely, vid.

John Owen, gentleman, and Elizabeth Thropp, spinster, in a place on ye citty walls, called ye Phoenix Tower.

Alexander Bayley and Martha Ridge, spinster, in a private house in ye Bridge Street, Chester.

For which irregularity I am justly convened and censured by ye Eccle'sall Court. I do confesse and declare that I am heartily sorry for my said crime, and so hereby promise (which I have also sworn) that I will hereafter (by God's help) bee obedient to, and observant of, the establishd Laws and Canons Eccle'sall of this Realme. Witness my hand this 9th day of May, 1690.

NICHOLAS CARDIFFE [sgd.]

[Latin note at foot.]

[Translation.] 15 May, 1690. Before The Lord Bishop and the Chancellor, etc. Mr. Nicholas Cardiff appeared and recited the above public declaration, and on bended knees prayed for absolution, and the Rev. Mr. Fogg, S.T.P., pronounced the same, etc.

Claughton, WM. FERGUSON IRVINE.
Cheshire.

[96] THE WILL OF THE REV. RANDLE SIMCOCK CURATE OF CHRISTLETON, 1542.

The following early will of a curate of Christleton is from the original in the Bishop's inserted Registry, Chester, and is here by the permission of John Gamon, Esq. The Rev. Randle Simcock must have been the curate at Christleton, as Mr. Woodward was the rector at this time. Ormerod's list of the incumbents is incorrect for this period. In a list of clergy officiating in the Archdeaconry of Chester for the year 1541-2, shortly to be published by the Record Society of Lancashire and Cheshire, under Christleton is the following entry:—

Dns Ranulphus Simooke ex stipendio Rect.
Nota pro Dno Robto Calken apud Bunburie.

The will is an interesting example of the English of Henry the Eighth's reign, and some curious old words will be noticed.—Yours,

HOLLY.

In dei nôie Amen. Anno dni Mccccxli secundo
vis. xvti die mensis Augusti I Rondell Symkoc
preest hole the mynde and seke the bode make my
will and testeme't on yis mayn' & forme ffyrst . .
I gyff & bequethe my saule to God almygth and
oure Lade Sanct Mare and all ye sanote of yvin and
my bodie to be burried in ye burrieg of Chrystelton.
Item I bequethe xxijs to my brother in lawe Henry
Tatnall. Item I bequethe my father John Symkoc
xxijs. Item I bequeth xs for Sanct Gregores
trentall to be sayd for my saulle and alle christen
saalles. Item I bequethe ij sonnys of my brother
in lawe iij sheppe. Item I bequethe John
my brother xld. Item I bequethe my sister
my best goone. Item I bequethe John my
brother my worse goone. Item I bequethe my
father my beste Jakett and my blaake goone. Item
I bequethe my brother in law my ij doblettes & my
best hoose. Item I bequethe Ric'us Janyon my
blaake Jakett. Item my wylle ys yt ye wyddes
ye money yt I have bequethett to my father and
my brother in lawe yt they bye togethur yrewith a
younge of oxen and occuyppe yem togethur as they
nede (my fayther dwell yre as he doth or
elles . . [P] and dwell with my brother in lawe. . .
them together. And my father be myndett to
goo into Lancastershyre or other plase as ys on mynd
yen yeforesayd oxen to remaine to my brother-in-law.
And also ye oxen after ye decesse of my fayther to
remaine to my brother-in-lawe Henry Tatnall ys
wyff & ys children. Item. I make my fayther &
syster Ellyn my true and faythfulle to
fulfyll yis my wyll & testament as ye shall answere
me afor God. In wytnes hereof John Fysher,
Thomas Pulsfort [P], John Maydoc with other moo
the yere & day afore veersed.

Haec sunt debita que michi debent'.

Imprimis. Mast' Waddon [P Woodward] for a
quart' [ers salary.]

Item. Mast' John Cunee. 16d.

Item. John Corke of Sy'dway. vs.

Item. Wyllam Vernan senior. xxd.

. . . . ys Holand

SEPTEMBER 30, 1896.

NOTES.

[97] FRODSHAM GRAMMAR SCHOOL.

Frodsham Grammar School, or Free School, was founded in 1660, the year of the Restoration, as an inscription on the second building told us.

But the Registers inform us that a school existed at Frodsham before the foundation of this endowed School. The following entry occurs for the 12th of November, 1588:—"Edwarde Eccleston began to teach scoole at Frodsham Church." And February 2nd, 1589, we read "Edw. Ecclestoni distr officm Cler." Edward Eccleston was appointed Parish Clerk, the same individual thus uniting the office of Schoolmaster with that of Clerk.

We read later on in the Registers, under the year 1601, the following entry:—"Robertus Hatten scholam Frodsham aperuit 13 Janu." "Robert Hatton opened Frodsham School on the 13th of January, 1601." Also the following imposing entry under February 6, 1609:—"Edwardus Hatton fil: Robt. Hatton scholae Frodshamien Gymnasiarchae," "Edward Hatton, son of Robert Hatton, the Gymnasiarch or Schoolmaster of Frodsham, christened." Again, under March 8th, 1619, we find the christening of "Edward Bushell fil: Jo: Ludimagistri, son of John Bushell, Master of the School."

The Endowed School doubtless arose out of this earlier School, the existence of which would be an evidence that such an endowment was wanted. I have not fully sifted the evidences that remain in the Parish Books, and the original deeds have been lost, but there can be no doubt that the School arose out of a number of small bequests left under the Will of various persons to be used for pious ends, if not for the express purpose of founding such a School. There can be also no doubt that the scheme was under serious consideration just before the outbreak of the great Civil War, in the time of the Vicariate of Rowland Heywood. This is proved among other evidences by the following entries in the Parish Books. First, "A note of the names of such as are willing to subscribe for the making of a School House, and of sumes which they are willing to give for the making of the house, and raising a stocke of money for the wages of the Schoolmaster.—March 30th, 1635." There follow the signatures of Gilbert Gerrard (of Crewood) with a subscription of £5. and Richard Janion with a subscription of £3 6s. Under date 25th of April, 1640, a bequest of £20 left by John Pearson "towards the erecting of a free scoole," receives attention at a Parish Meeting. There were many other such bequests amounting in 1646 to nearly £200. It is certain that the Civil War with its innumerable disorders brought to a

stand-still the project of a School, and it was not till the Restoration in 1660 that it was realised.

The School was distinctly a Grammar School, in which Latin and even Greek was taught. The following extracts from the old books bear on this. Under date 9th April, 1694, in the time of Vicar Davis, we find the following order signed by him and eight Feoffees of the School:

Wee the Feoffees for the free School being convened upon the parish occasions and hearing the complaint of Mr. Buckley present School Mr. of the said free School of being overlaid in performing his office by neighbours sending children that cannot speal (*sic*) which takes up his time to the Hinderance of his Teaching of his Latine scholars and those who can read English, it not being the designe of the said School Master to ease himselfe, but onely to make himselfe capable of becoming more instrumental for the Educatinge of those fitt for him to teach, we do hereupon order that no parents from this time shall send any Children that cannot read in the Testament, but provide some School Misiss, or take some other way for the Education untill they can read, and because we believe them Injurious to the rest of the Schollers we hereunto subscribe.

Jo: Davis: Vic.
&c., &c.

Another order, bearing date 14th July, 1678, provides that "those Schollers who begin ye Learning of ye Accidence shall pay two shillings quarterly, and after they begin to learn in Greeke, five shillings quarterly, unless any of yeparents bee really paupers and not able to pay.

The following is the list of the Masters of the Grammar School, from the year of the building of the School up to the middle of last century:—

1. *Robert Wriggan*.....1 Oct. 1660 (and sometime previously)
2. *Thomas Moseley*...8 Oct. 1664 (also Parish Clerk)
3. *Mr. Roger Dale*, Minister of Alvanley...
14 July 1678
(Thomas Moseley to be Second Master.)
4. *Mr. Edward Harpur*, of Chester.....24 Feb. 1679
5. *Mr. Nathaniel Cooper*, schoolmaster
at Prescott in Lancashire.....Midsummer 1688
6. *George Buckley* of Kingsley1 April 1690
Mr. Buckley was ejected for
abusing scholars, and Nathaniel
Cooper, now described as of
Buncorne was elected.....21, Dec. 1697
Some Pariahioners related to Mr.
Buckley opposed this election and
tried to re-elect him.
7. *Robert Wright* of Neston19 Jan. 1698
8. *Thomas Richardson*, ejected1707

9. *Jonathan Emery*, of Hapsford1707
10. *Theophilus Kelhall* of Stableford.
14 June, 1711.

11. *Wriggan Webster*, of Frodsham... 21 May, 1713.
12. *George Buckley*, of Kingsley (2nd time)
24 Sept., 1716.

A long interregnum during which the
Curate, W. Webster perhaps
officiated as Master.

13. *Joseph Harrison*, of Liverpool 7 June 1750

The following is an early list of the Feoffees of the School:—

"April the 16th, 1666.—It is this day ordered by the representatives of the Parish of Frodsham, whose names are underwritten," that the persons herein named shall stand ffeoffees for the overseeing of the stock for the free school of Frodsham and the poor, namely—the Churchwardens for the time being, and such as shall succeed them in that office—

Col. Joseph Witter, of Frodsham.
Robert Pyke, Joseph Hale, Thomas Hall.
Rev. John Davis, Vicar.
Tho. Lithgoe, of Overton.
Tho. Cooke, for Bradley.
Tho. Bailey and Abraham Garratt, of Netherton.
Richard Nangreave and Richard Brownent, of Woodhouses.
John Weane and Wm. Trafford, Thomas Nangreave, of Helsbie.
Alvandley—Sir John Arderne and Jeremiah Leech.
Manley—Mr. John Davies and Richard Widdens.
Norley—Peter Hall and Tho. Walworth.
Kingsley—Mr. Richard Butter, Mr. Henry Arderne, and Richard Weston.
Newton—Richard Janion and Thomas Chadock, John Wilkinson.

In Bishop Gastrell's *Notitia Cestriensis*, vol. i., p. 332, it is stated that there was "a School built here about 60 y[ears] ago, by contrib[ution] Free to all ye Parish. Endowmt. about 24l. p[er] an.[num], viz. [an] Estate of about 12l. or 14l. bought wth sev[er]al sums of money; 5l. p[er] an.[num] left by Mr. Trafford out of an estate in or near Christleton, wch may be wthdrawn if ye Master be not approved by [the] Comp[any] of Apoth[ecaries] in Chester, and given to St. Pet[er's] or St. John's Par[ish]; Int[erest] of 50l. left by Mr. Witter; 3d pt of ye Int[erest] of 100l. left by Mr. Bushell, and 2l. p[er] an.[num] by Mr. Hall, out of an Estate in Norbury. [The] Master to be a Layman, elected by 24 Feoffees. V[ide] Nom[ination] 1703."

The School was built in the South-west corner of the Churchyard, a Churchyard being apparently not an unusual place for such a building. There were Schools in the Churchyards of Tarporley and Thornton-le-Moors.

In *Halsby's Ormerod*, vol. ii., p. 59, we read :—
 'The Free School of Frodsham . . . a neat, fabric of stone, within a yard of the Church, . . . was taken down many years ago [in 1824] and a new school-house erected on a plot of land lying between the Church and the Vicarage. The master is elected by twenty-four feoffees, consisting of the vicar and churchwardens for the time being; four feoffees out of the township and lordship, three out of Kingsley, and two each from Norley, Newton, Alvanley, Manley, and Halsby. The master has a good house in Overton, near the vicarage, and a salary of upwards of £100 per annum, issuing partly from lands in Frodsham and an old rent charged on an estate at Christleton. A salary of £7 per annum is secured to the usher on an estate in Overton.'

The second school was replaced in 1892, by a new edifice, which was opened 30 November by Dr. Jayne, the present Bishop of Chester.

F. D. RINGROSE.

[98] NONCONFORMITY AT BROMBOROUGH IN 1669.

The following extracts from the Presentment Books of the Archdeaconry of Chester for the year 1669 throw some light on the state of ecclesiastical affairs, while the Conventicle Act was in force. The Dr. Harrison referred to was the Thomas Harrison, who exercised his ministry in Chester Cathedral for a short time just before the Restoration. Particulars respecting him may be found in *Urwick's Nonconformity in Cheshire*, pp. 19—21. Bromborough Hall was at this time the property of the Hardwares, a Puritan family, into which John Bruen and Matthew Henry married.

F. SANDERS.

In pursuance of certain orders sent by John, Lord Bishop of Chester, &c., concerning conventicles and unlawful assemblies, &c.

BROMBRO.—It is reported that there is an unlawful assembly and meeting held or kept at Dr. Harrison's house at Brombro Hall, Eastham: That it will be evidently proved by the oaths of several witnesses, that at Brombro a great many people do constantly resort every Lord's Day to hear one Dr. Harrison, a Nonconformist minister preach, its' within a mile of Eastham Parish and many from all Parishes resort thither, viz: William Molyneux, of Poole, and his wife, John Francis, of Thornton, and his wife, John Heys, of Eastham, and his wife, Ric. Yates, and his wife, Ellise Orred, Ellen Heys, Ellen Carrington, Alice Glover, Bandle Bagnall, of Plymyard and his wife, with others from other parishes, and some of these pretend that the Minister has a Toleration.

The Informers are John Smith of Eastham, Ellen Carrington, and Alice Glover with others who say that they can say something as to doctrine, and the persons that resort thither, if they be called by authority.

OCTOBER 7, 1896.

ORIGINAL DOCUMENTS.

[99] SIR THOMAS SMITH, OF THE CITY OF CHESTER, KNT, AND THOMAS SMITH, HIS SON AND HEIR-APPARENT.

(See Nos. 77 and 78, Aug. 3 and 12.)

Letter by Sir Wm. Brereton.

Dated Sept. 8, 1646 (no place mentioned) addressed to the Committee sitting at Goldsmith's Hall—mentioning that he understood Sr Thomas Smith was endeavouring to make his composition before them, and that he (the writer) considered it "his duty in zeal to Justice" to certify on his behalf, and he then recapitulates the narrative as to his lady's proceedings already referred to.

Petition—Reed. 24 Sep 1646—ordered to be heard on Tuesday sennight. "6 Oct. Ordered to be reviewed."

Petition—Reed. 11 June 1646—in which he mentioned that in June, 1642, before any Armies were raised he had had leave from the House of Commons to go down into the Country for the benefit of his health—he being a very infirm man, thereupon repaired to his house in Chester, where he had resided up to date of these proceedings, neither bearing Arms or acting in any thing against the Ordinance of Parliament—our petitioner hearing of the Ordinance of Grace he resolved to petition but as Chester was then beleaguered and as there was considerable risk in moving about the streets there, and he being in infirm health, he kept in his house for two months together, and, being constrained, he remained till the City was surrendered, and then he submitted himself to Sir W. Brereton. He prayed for a favourable composition.

Deposition of Compounder, sworn before John Page in London, 1st September, 1646 :—

In this Deposition he mentions the different sums he paid annually for rents, &c., also his obligation to find a minister for the parish of Burton, mentions his salary—£13 6s. 8d. a year and a house, and further that as he believed his ancestors had paid yearly £8 to St. Ursula's Hospital in Chester, mentioned a Fee Farm rent payable to the Crown issuing out of certain houses in Chester of 21s. 4d.; also out of some other of his houses in Chester a chief rent of 26s. 4d., payable to Mr. Massie;

Another Chief or "Dry rent" went to the City of Chester of 16s. a year, and then to Mr. Starkie of 21s.; another to Earl Rivers 10s., another to the Earl of Shrewsbury 8s. To an hospital called Little St. John's 25s. 4d., to Lady Fitton 5s. a year, to Mr. Huddleston 14s., to the assigns of Mr. (or Mrs.) Ravenscroft 6s. out of his lands in or near Chester.

Also out of his lands near Nantwich a "Dry Bent" of £30s. 4d. payable to Lord Cholmondeley; another of 4s. to Mr. Sneyd, another 30s. to Mr. Wilbraham, another to Mr. Church 4s. 5d., another of 19s. or thereabouts to Mr. Cromwell in right of his lady, and he further deposed that his brother Stephen Smith was then living; mentioned that his damages by fire near Chester amounted to £1,000; mentioned the loss in rent, cost of rebuilding the houses, £550 worth of plate taken to London for the use of the State; also apparel, linen, &c., and that he had paid £100 for the use of the State Pass dated at Litchfield 14th April 1646 signed by Sir W. Brereton for compounder his lady and his son and heir apparent with three or four men and one maid with coach and coach horses and guard, to go from Chester to London.

Letter addressed to the Committee for Compositions sitting at Goldsmiths' Hall, London:

Gentlemen,—Though I have beene verie modest and spareinge in movvinge you on behalfe of anie that are to compound wth. you yet I shall p'sume to be an earnest suitor in the behalfe of Sir Thomas Smith (late one of the members of the Hon'ble House of Commons) concerneinge whome I take bouldnes to certifie—That in the beginninge of this warre, when I was first commanded down to settle the Militia in Cheshire he (beinge then in the House) writt his L're to mee testifyinge his willingnes to conforme thereto, and uppon my late entringe into Chester he came and submitted himselfe assuring mee wth. soe much of serious p'testacion, as I believe it to be true, that hee came to his owne house in Chester, by the leave of the House onely for a short tyme of repose. And that though he had his horses in readines divers times to have returned yet he could never gaine the opportunitie (the City beinge garrisoned ymedyately after his cominge thither) And I often heard and do believe that he never acted in the Commission of Array—neither was in Armes nor joyned with the Enemie in any Counsel of War—The greatest part of his estate hath beene during these warres in the power of the Plm'nt and employed to maintaine 3 forces in Cheshire, and his children are married.

I commend him and his condicon to your grave consideracon and beseechinge all lawfull favor in his behalfe give you the assurance that I am

Yr. most reall friend and servant,

from my Quarters

WILL BRERETON.

in Litchfield

24 Apr 1646.

Communication from Frodsham dated 11th August, 1646, signed by Thos. Pownall, Thos. Robinson, and Richard Wilkoxon.

Referring to an order of the 23rd of June last in the case of Sr. Thomas Smith and Thomas Smith Esq. his son, they certify that Sir Thomas was a Parliament man for the City of Chester, and deserted the same then long since and subsequently lived in the City during the whole of the time it was held for the King. His desertion of the Parliament showed his disaffection to the same and induced them to believe that he was a great furtherer of the enemy's party by his counsell and purse.

For any other charge or Delinquency against father or son they referred the Committee to the certificate from the Committees of Chester and other Hundreds in the county where his estates chiefly lay, as for his estate in the Hundred of Edesbury—of which the writers were the sequestrators—they mention that he had an estate in Fee of £2 4s. 0d. old rents for tenants in lease with accustomed services, all of which lay in the townships of Kelsall, Duddon, and Ashton, in the parish of Tarvin, Hundred of Edesbury; he also had an estate of old rents of £2 17s., and a tenement at Backe rent valued at £6 a year in Teverton, parish of Bunbury.

Similar document, dated at Brereton Green, 22 July, 1646, signed by Rich. Brooke, Phillip Downes, James Bullen, and Raphe Poole, recapitulating Sir Thomas's offences, those of his son, and giving details of his rents in the parishes of Northwich and Middlewich.

Similar document, dated Namptwich, 28 July, 1646, signed by

Thomas Malbone, Robt. Wilkes	} Sequestrators.
Randall Hampton	
Willm. Harrison	

Mentioning that they had received the order of 23rd June, 1646, requiring them to send a certificate concerning the delinquency of compounder and his son, &c., and also an account of his estate in the Hundred of Nantwich.

But in regard to the great troubles which did fall upon us this weeke we cannot now certifie, wee are soe interrupted and three of us lyvinge in the countrey, viz., Thomas Harwar, George Edgely, and Willm. Harryson, are all gone to their owne homes, and darr not come to us and execute theire plaes, for upon Tuesday last the xiiijth of July, as wee were in execution of our office, and in hand with this busyness of Sir Thomas Smythe's, fyve Companies of our Garrison Soldyers of Namptweh, being about five hundred unreasonablen men without either Captyns or Comanders, in a most outrageous manner fell upon us and wth great fury (wherefore wee knowe not) did throwe us into the Comon

pson. amongst psoners, Cavaliers and Horstealers neither sufferinge any to releive us wth. meate drinke or any necessaryes but what the psons. or some weomen did pratlle conveye unto us, where wee (being Annoyent men) did lye upon the boards not sufferinge our friends to bringe us Quysions (cushions) nor any Comforde the cold (they could) hinder us from for the space of 54 howers neither would they bee pawaded. to gyve us better Quarter although the Heughe Sherryff Mr. Brooke and most of the Deputie Liefertants. and Justices a peace of the Countie were then in Towne sitting in Quarter Sessiones did there best and moved for us and the Governor of the Towne and his man they wounded and abused most cruelly Soe that the Shereff Governor and all the Justices went for the Towne not able to suppress that greate multitude beinge all men and armed and lefte us in pson. to the mercy of those wicked and unreasonable men wee gyving them noe occasion att all But very many of them havying Cavaliers and prisoners upon submyssion and taking the negative oath for what condicions wee knowe not were entertayned by our Captyns and in their mallys to the pliant. (as we concayve) revenged themselves upon us. And unlesse the Towne maye bee dismantled and garyson suppressed and wee vindicated they will destroy and plunder the Towne and Countrey (wch. they threaten to doe) neither darr wee vacate our places any longer untill some speedy course bee taken All wch. wee have psumed. to make yor. Ho. acqnynted wch. cravinge pardon for our boldnesse we humblie take our leaves. Resting

Yor. Huhl. Servants to bee Comanded.

Addressed to the
Committee at Goldsmiths' Hall.
(To be continued.)

[100] ANCIENT CHURCH INVENTORIES.

The following are three ancient inventories of the Church goods at Frodsham.

The first made in 1622, when Randle Baily and John Primrose were wardens in the Vicariate of Thomas Bickerton :—

A pticular of the goods of the Church.

Inprimis one silver Cuppe with cover
a pewter standing Cuppe
a pewter bottle
a Coveringe of Redd velvet for the table
two surplices and old linnens
a great bible, two Commu bookes,
Jewels and Hardings Conference in
the largest volume,
a booke of Cannons, a booke of Articles,
two bookes for the kings holy day, and
a booke of homilies
an hour glass
a cushion for the pulpitt
a spade and 2 ladders one of twenty the
other fourteen staves long
three Chestes.

The second made in 1637, Dr. Rowland Heywood being the Vicar.

Imp: The book intitaled, The defence of the
Apologie of the Church of England
The booke of Homilies
Two bookes of forms of prayer for the
25th of March
other 2 for the publique fast
One for the 5th of November
The Register
The orders of penance
A booke of Canons
A booke of Articles viz. the Bishoppes
The parish Rentall
2 Communion bookes
One great Bible
A cope
A table Cloath of greene broad cloath
A cushion and cover or hanging of greene
for the pulpitt
A silver Cupp and Cover
One pewter Cuppe
2 pewter flagons
One new surplus and an ould one
The forme booke in paper and ould
Roles and Map of the Church in parch-
ment

These were delivered by Wm. Widdens and Thos. Lithgoe gard. for the year 1638, the time of their going out of office, to George Smith and John Byrkenhead, new Churchwardens.

The third inventory was taken in the Vicariate of John Davie.

May the 1st. 1671.

Delivered in of the Church of Frodsham parish its plate and other utensages by us Gerrard Potter and Samuel Cowper late Churchwardens for the Parish of Frodsham Anno 1670 as followeth in particulars vizt delivered into the hands and custodie of Mr. William Hide and John Helsbie lately elected and nominated Churchwardens of the said Parish of Frodsham.

1. A silver Chalice with a Cover of silver
2. Two pewter flagons
3. A pewter dish
4. A green carpet for the Communion table
5. A white linen table Cloath for the same table
6. A dalmatique or surplus
7. A tippit for Mr. Vicar—his use
8. The antient Rentall of the parish
9. A bond given to the parish by Mr. Robert Hide in reference to one of the pinnacles of the Church Steeple—vizt the South East pinnacle with sundrie other papers
10. The booke of Wardens accompts
11. The great Bible of the parish, and a booke of Common prayer
12. Two blackes for the decent covering of the Corpces of deceased persons.

13. The cushion and hanging of Green Cloath for the pulpitt
 14. The 4 keys for the parish Church its chest which stands in the Chancel
 15. The Register and forme booke

The Hides or Hydes were the owners of Cattonell, which they had purchased from the Nathalls, who owned this property in the time of Elizabeth and James I. The oldest monument at present existing in the church is that of the Hydes.

The mention of the 'forme book' in this inventory and other entries seems to shew that the church was formerly not pewed, but seated with moveable forms.

F. D. RINGROSE.

OCTOBER 14, 1896.

ORIGINAL DOCUMENTS.

- [101] SIR THOMAS SMITH, OF THE CITY OF CHESTER, KNT., AND THOMAS SMITH, HIS SON AND HEIR-APPARENT.

(See Nos. 77, 78, and 99, Aug. 8 & 12, & Oct. 7.)

Similar communication from the Committee at Brombrough, Hundred of Wirral—dated 24 July 1646—signed by

Thomas Hiccock
 Thomas Crosse
 Thomas Bennett
 Robt. Leene?
 Tho. Bennett

also mentioning the offences committed by Compounder and giving details of the rents of his property lying within their district.

They knew nothing Mr. Thomas Smith the son.

Certificates—1 June 1646 and 16 March 1645 (6)—showing that Compounder had taken the N.O. and the N.C.

A Detailed Particular of Compounder's Estates—names of places where located—rents &c. signed by Compounder and his son Thomas Smith.

Joint petition, no date on it.

Communication dated 23 August from Nantwich

Signed by

Thomas Malbone	} The Sequestrators of Nantwich Hundd.
Robt. Wilkes	
Randall Hampton	
George Edgeley	
William Harrison	
Thomas Harwar	

in which like the other Committees recapitulate Compounders [estates] so far as they knew. They sent particulars of the tenants names, and rents paid by them on the estates belonging to Compounder in the Hundred of Nantwich.

Sr. Thomas Smythes ould rents Wibunbury and Wibunbury parish being of the Bushops land and his one (own) by lease.

John Hampton	0 18 0
Thomas Luskyn	0 18 0
Richard Panmore, Senior	0 8 0
Thomas Hoole	0 16 0
Lawrence Harrison	2 0 0
Thomas Hewett	0 15 0
Frances Lee	0 9 4
Widdow Jepson	0 7 0
John Greene	0 7 8
Widow Stringer	0 8 0
William Wood	0 8 0
Nickolas Garner	0 5 2
Frances Smallwood	0 0 7
John Kent	0 3 4
Widdow Ball	0 4 0
Randall Bloore	0 0 8
Widdow Dale	0 0 6
William Lindop	0 5 0
William Perrin	0 3 10
Richard Ellison	0 0 4
Widdow Perrin	0 2 2
Lawrence Stringer	1 10 0
Robert Greene	0 10 6
Thomas Beckett	0 10 0
Thomas Cartwright	0 3 0
Mr. Lawrence Bressey	0 6 8
Katherine Darlington	1 0 0
Lawrence Fletcher	0 16 0
Richard Fletcher	0 14 4
John Harnett	0 5 0
M. Aggett	1 0 0
Bridgett Wood	3 0 0
John Brodford	1 4 8
James Shaw	0 6 0
Widdowe Tudman	1 14 8
Henry Yeowood	0 2 0
Widdow Cartwright	0 3 0
Richard Hanksen	0 5 0
Laurence Vernon	1 4 0
Widow Panmore	0 14 0
Francis Smallwood	0 4 0

24 16 9

Racke Rents in Wibunbury pish

Thomas Sherwood out of leak
 indged worth 30li p ann in tymes
 of pease now let for 20li p ann ...£30 00 00

Old rents in Wibunbury pish

Mr. Lawrence Bressey	01 8 4
Widow Darlington	1 11 0
Thomas Poole	2 2 4
Thomas Slade	1 0 8
Thomas Pocket	1 12 8
Thomas Barrow	1 10 0
Thos Pocket, Thos Moore	0 15 6
Lawrence Preston	0 13 4
Richard Blackburne	0 18 4
Thomas Twiss	0 16 4

John Allen	0 13 10
William Parrott	1 0 0
Randall Kent	0 5 0
Widdow Elliot	0 3 4
John Steel	0 2 0
William Reese	0 1 0
	<hr/>
	14 13 8
Widow Wellnes	0 1 0
Thomas Allen	0 1 0
Judge Hall	0 1 4
Thomas Sproson	0 1 4
Robert Luskin	0 1 0
William Burnes	0 1 0
	<hr/>
	6 8
House demesne and milles formerly worth 100li. p annu and now let for £18 p annu in wibunbury pish	100 0 0
Sherinton ould rents in wibunbury pish.	
Henry Travis	2 14 8
Widdow Jepsen	2 11 6
Mark Jellico	1 6 8
Henry Wixstead	1 0 8
John Latham	0 4 6
	<hr/>
	7 18 0
Racke Rents	
Thos. Crosby out of Lease	5 10 0 per ann
Greasy ould rents in wibunbury pish	10 0
Thomas Pendleton	3 13 4
John Oulton	2 0 0
John Kirkum	2 6 8
Thomas Huxley	1 6 8
John Hayes	2 0 0
Widdow Wilkinson	2 0 0
Lawrence Yeowood	1 10 0
Robert Poole	1 6 8
John Kent	0 1 0
William Edge	0 1 0
	<hr/>
	16 5 4
Walgherton ould rents in Wibunbury pish.	
Lawrence Taylor	0 1 4
in Acton pish.	
John Brodbery	0 18 0
Thomas Shenton	1 6 8
Robert Weaver	0 8 0
	<hr/>
	2 14 0
Racke. rents [Widdow Serkerson out of lease]	5 0 0
In Blakenhall in wibunbury pish. ...	5 0 0
Lawrence Wilkinson	2 0 0
Weston ould rents wibunbury pish.	
Thomas Ellison	2 4 0
Randall Lightfoot	2 4 0
Robert Poole	0 12 0
Ambrose Pickerin	0 12 0
Thomas Latham	0 7 0
John Colly	0 18 0

Thomas Stringer	0 8 8
Richard Poole	1 16 0
John Knight	0 2 0
	<hr/>
	9 3 8
Rackes—Dee house back formerly let for £20 and upwards p. ann. ...	20 0 0
Hatherton ould rents—wibunbury pish.	
Mr. Lawrence Breesey	0 6 8
John Perrin	1 1 6
John Preston	0 10 6
Robert Burges	0 5 0
William Broomhall	0 10 0
Robert Daues	0 6 0
Alexander Shone	0 6 6
Nicklas Preston	0 1 0
	<hr/>
	3 6 8
Widdow Preston	0 1 0
Thomas Lumes	0 2 0
Widdow Blackhurst	0 2 0
Widdow Greene	0 3 4
Edward Chantler	0 4 0
John Owers [?]	0 0 6
Margery Darlington	0 0 6
Henry Knight	0 1 0
George Meakin	0 1 0
Humphrey Hales	0 9 6
Widdow Morton	0 3 0
Nichlas Bradeley	0 2 2
Richard Pemberton	0 0 2
Thomas Latham	0 0 6
William Addersich	0 5 6
Randall Burges	0 4 0
Peelter Davyes	0 4 0
John Hamson	0 1 2
William Reeve	0 2 0
John Perrin	1 10 0
L. Viscount Kilmorey	0 1 8
Widdow Addawes	0 8 0
Robert Meakin	0 9 0
An Chantler	0 1 0
	<hr/>
	4 8 0

Rackes in Hatherton

Hatherton demesne (sic) let for £72 3s. 4d.
p. ann. one field in the tenure of Robt.
Meakin at £3 p. ann. one field at nawptwich
townes end at £4 p. ann.

£79 3s. 4d.

Audlem ould rents in Aldelem pish

Mr. John Sparrow	3 7 0
Mr. Harwar	0 6 8
Ellnor Colly	1 6 8
Thomas Sutton	2 4 0
Widdow Dennall	1 16 8
Richard Hassall	0 16 0
William Morton	0 17 8
Thomas Woolridg	0 10 0
Thomas Harding	0 1 0
Margery Bake	0 3 4
Widdow Brinley	0 5 4

William Lverages.....	0	1	0
Thomas Higgins	0	1	0
Widdow Parker	0	0	8
John Clarrell	0	0	6
Richard Are	0	1	0
Lawrence Handcooke	0	0	8
John Robinson.....	0	2	0
William Green	0	0	8
Humphrey Hassall.....	0	2	0
Francis Bate	0	10	0
Richard Yardley.....	0	1	0
Hughe Sutton	2	1	0
Lawrence Podmore.....	0	12	4
William Claghe	0	0	4
Thomas Past	4	0	4
Widdow Prince	0	0	4
Widdow Barker	0	1	0
William Kinsee	0	1	0
Richard Greene	0	3	4
John Boughey.....	0	0	6
Edward Mason	0	14	2

16 12 2

Humphrey Geaton	0	1	0
Roger Axson	0	0	6
Hughe Boulton	1	2	0
George Salmon	0	16	0
Thomas Meakin	0	10	0
Mr. John Wettenhall	0	18	0
Jesper Dixe	1	3	8
Thomas Jolly	0	1	0
Thomas Crue	1	0	0
Phillip Grinley	0	12	0
Richard Bathow.....	0	9	0
Richard Hildersahon	1	4	8
Thomas Mullener	0	10	0

8 2 10

Rackes in Audelem pishe

Edwards Morreyes tenant out of
lease and woth in times of peace 15li pr ann
Sutton's tenemnt out of lease at ... 7li pr ann

22 0 0

Sr Thomas Smithes Tyth corn whoh he held of
the bushop of Leichfeild and coventry in
wibunbury pish at £67 18 4d. per annu by lease

And his Tyth corne in Audlem pish worth
formerly p annu 101li p ann.....£168 18 4

In Arthur Edgeleyes reversion (?) of Sr Thos.
Smiths lands.

Acton pishe John Winsey 1 5 0 p ann

Acton pishe Richard floocke ... 0 8 0 p ann

1 13 0

Per me John Ravenshaw, collector.

The sum total is £533 9 2

(To be continued).

OCTOBER 21, 1896.*

ORIGINAL DOCUMENTS.

[102] A CHESTER DEED OF THE YEAR 1346.

The following is a translation of an early Chester Deed now in my possession. It is written in Law Latin, and is dated 1346. It is a conveyance subject to a perpetual rent charge as well as to the original services due to the Chief Lord of the fee of a house in Eastgate-street. We find from this deed that at the back of this house there was a bakery, which evidently belonged to the ancient Hospital of St. Giles. This Hospital for Lepers was founded by Earl Randle Blunderville, and was situate in 'Spital' (Hospital) Boughton. It, together with its Chapel, was completely destroyed during the siege of Chester in 1645. It is said that the statue of the Saint, Physician, and Martyr was saved from the ruins and placed in a niche in the tower of St. John's Church. When that tower recently fell, St. Giles stood his ground in the front of the tower left standing, and now is placed with his dog in the niche over the St. John's Church porch. The site of the Hospital and Chapel is the disused churchyard behind West Mount, and in it are deposited such of the ashes of the martyr George Marsh as could be collected after his execution at the adjacent stake in 1555. From Cowper's Broxton MSS. it would appear that the founder gave to the Abbey of St. Werburgh among his other grants a rent charge of x shillings issuing out of certain lands "de quibus dicti monachi solvent leprosis de Boughton xx denarios et de residuo pascent c pauperes, in die nativitatis patris sui, infra abbatium Cestrie."

The fact that the Hospital had a bakery almost within the precincts of the abbey shews that it was in some way associated with the Monastery, at any rate in the early days of its foundation. The grantor named in the Deed William de Doncaster was a member of a Chester family of great influence in medieval times. He filled the office of Sheriff in 1343. The grantee John Colle was a well-known citizen who occupied the same civic office in 1356-8-63. The name of Henry Gyn is to be found on the Chester Rolls in 1326. The witnesses, it will be noticed, are the Mayor, two Sheriffs, and other leading citizens of the time.

HENRY TAYLOR.

(Latin.)

Know all men present and to come that I William de Donecastr, citizen of Chester, have given granted and by this my present charter confirmed to John Colle, citizen of Chester, one messuage with one oven called the oven of St. Giles, constructed at the back of the said messuage, with the appurtenances, in Eastgatestrete of the City of Chester, lying between the land of Richard son of Richard firodesham in breadth on the one part, and the land of John de Totenham on the other part, and extending in length from the King's street of Estgatestrete aforesaid as far as the land of Henry Gyn.

To have and to hold to the said John Colle his heirs and assigns of the chief lords of that fee by the service therefor due and of right accustomed for ever. Yielding therefor yearly to me and my heirs or assigns 24s. of silver of fee farm at four annual terms viz. :—at the feasts of the Nativity of St. John the Baptist, St. Michael the Archangel, the Nativity of our Lord, and the Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary, by equal portions.

With clause of distraint and re-entry in case of non-payment of the said rent, and clause of warranty.

These being witnesses, Richard de Capenhurst, Mayor of Chester, Madock de Capenhurst and Bartholomew de Northworthyn, Sheriffs of Chester, William de Kelshall, Richard le Bruyn, John de Sudelowe, Hugh de Thalwall, John de Totenham, John de Lyndeseye, and others.

Given at Chester on Tuesday in the feast of St. Ambrose the Bishop (4 April) 20 Edward III (1346.)

[103] SIR THOMAS SMITH, OF THE CITY OF CHESTER, KNT., AND THOMAS SMITH, HIS SON AND HEIR-APPARENT.

(See Nos. 77, 78, 99, and 101, Aug. 8 and 12, and Oct. 7 and 14.)

Thomas Malbone	} Sequestrators of Nampwich hundred
Robt. Wilkes	
George Edgeley	
William Harrison	
Thomas Hardwar Randall Hampton	

True Rentall of the Rents late Sr. Thos. Smith in the allotment of Marc Jolicoeur one of the Collectors for Nampwich Hundredth as followeth: Aug. 1646. £ s. d.

Mr. Roger Wilbrm for a chiefe rent, p. ann.	00 18 00
The Ayers of Mr. Tho. Wilbrm for a rent of a piece of land by lease, p. ann.	02 13 4
The Ayers of Mr. Clutton a chiefe rent, p. ann.	00 06 8
Mr. Raphe Wilbr. a chiefe rent, p. ann.	00 02 00
Mr. Tho. Mainwaringe for a rent, p. ann.	02 17 08
Martha Mayzwaringe, widowe, a rent p. ann.	05 06 08
Mary Minshall for the rent of a house p. ann.	00 12 00

Mr. Claton a rent of a house p. ann.	00 06 08
Elizabeth Darnsord, (f) widow, a chiefe p. ann.	00 06 08
Mary Waed of Willaston p. ann.	00 02 06
Rich. Wright the Stone for the rent of 9 loads wallinge p. ann.	03 04 08
James Bullen for a rent p. ann.	01 06 00
John Winsey, senr. for a rent p. ann.	01 05 00
John Winsey junr. " "	09 00 00
Rich. Robinson " "	07 01 08
Lawrence Wilks " "	04 10 04
John Yardley " "	00 15 06
Elizabeth Arcoll widow " "	01 16 08
Robt. Wilks " "	03 13 04
William Bairns " "	00 08 00
Widow Carles " "	00 07 06
John Wright " "	01 01 00
Capt. Acton " "	00 14 00
Roger Horabin " "	00 08 00
Rich. Dracke " "	00 05 00
Capt. Delves " "	01 01 08
Tho. Wright " "	00 18 04
Lawrence Davis " "	01 01 00

Chiefe rents due and payable at Midsomer and Mart. These are hole years' rents :—

Mr. Tho. Masterson's, p. ann.	00 10 00
Mr. Randle Church, p. ann.	00 02 00
Mr. Rich. Wixted, Senior	00 01 08
Morguerett Massey	[torn off]

This is a true copy of all the Rentall of all the Rents. Late Sr. Thos. Smith in the Allotment of Marc Jolicoeur,

Collector for King and Parliament.

Totall..... 48 7 10

Thomas Malbone	} Sequestrators of Nampwich Hundred.
Robert Wilkes	
George Edge[ley]	
William Harrison	
Thomas Harwar Randall Hampton	

At the Committee of Sequestrators for the Cittie of Chester, August 29, 1646,

May it please yr. Honnors,

According as wee are required and directed by yr. Order of the 23rd of June, 1646, to certifie the Delinquency of Sr. Thomas Smith, Kt., and Thomas Smith, Esquire, his sonne, together with a particular of their Estates reall and personall first as concerning their Delinquencies. We humbly certifie as followeth. Sr. Thomas Smith, Kt., was chosen one of the Burgesses of the Cittie of Chester to sitt in Parliament, but betrayed the trust reposed in him in desertinge the Parliament adhearing to the Kings against the Parliament and Kingdome, and voteinge with the Kings at Oxford against the Parliament. He left the Parliament and came and resided in Chester for the most parte till it was reduced, and there complied with the Enemye in Councils and actions against the Parliament. Mr. Thomas Smith, his Sonne, was a

Cornett of horse under Prince Rupert, and went forth with the Enimie, when the Enimie went to forage the Countie. As concerning the estate real and personall wee certifie as follows :—

Imprim.—Hee hath severall howses within this Citty upon the Raoke Candle Rent to the value of p. ann. 100 6 8
 He hath likewise in lease valued at the halfe raoke to the value of p. ann. 09 04 04
 Hee hath also in Land upon the Raok, formerly set p. ann. at 10 00 00
 Hee hath also in chief Rents issuing out of other men's lands with nine shillings out of lands of his owne, being very long in lease to ye yearly value of 08 00 08

All which according to or. best indeavours wee have laboured to certifie the truth, and submit it to yor. pious wisdom

Subscribing o'rselves
 Your faithfull friends and servants
 RALPH JUDSON
 JOHN WHITTELL.

[104] FRODSHAM CHURCHWARDEN'S BOOKS.

The following are interesting entries from these books :—

1641—pd to the Ringers for ringing uppon the day of publique thanksgiving for the cessation of armes betweene the 2 kingdoms of Eng. and Scot. 00 01 00
 1642—Payd for Ringing on the kinges holyday of Powder Plott 3 4
 Payed to the kinge Treasurer the Quarter Sessions money 13 6
 1651—payd for pitch and resin wherewith to perfume and take away the ill savour in the Church after prisoners lying in the same 00 01 00
 1665—payd the 23rd April to the ringers for ringing the bells uppon ye Anniversarie day of the KINGS Coronation 00 03 00
 payd the 4th day of June to the Ringers for ringing uppon the kinge birthday and of his happie returne into England 00 04 00
 payd at that time for drinke for the ringers 00 01 06
 pd for a booke of public prayer appoynted by his Maties authority to bee read in all Churches during the time of the plague 00 01 06
 1666—Given to certain gentlewomen whose husbands were prisoners unto the Turke they having Lrs. testimoniall 0 3 4

M

1666—spent in collecting money for the distressed Londoners 0 3 10
 Given to one John Horne a Merchant who had been robbed by Dutch Pyrats, and who had a brief 0 3 6
 Payd to the Ringers for ringing the 23 of August being a day of thanksgiving for Victory given to our navy over the Dutch 00 04 00
 Given to a woman who had letters of request with 5 children whose husband had been taken by the Dutch 00 02 00

OCTOBER 28, 1896.

ORIGINAL DOCUMENTS.

[105] EXTRACTS FROM THE ROYALIST COMPOSITION PAPERS.

GEORGE BYROM, DR. IN DIVINITY, AND PARSON OF THORNTON, WITHIN 4 MILES OF CHESTER.

His Delinquency

That living within 4 miles of Chester being then one of the Enemy's Garrisons he was inforced sometimes to contribute to them, for the safety of himself and his estate, and was afterwards forced to fly for safety of his life which happened to be a place under the enemies power.

He took the N.C. and N.O. before the Governor and Committee of Chester as they certified under their hands, dated 12 March, 1645 (6)

He compounded on a Particular delivered in under his own hand consenting to submit to such fine as should be imposed and by the particular it appeared

That he was seized in Fee to him and his heirs in possession of certain messuages lands and tenements lying in the city of Chester and Townes and Fields of Boughton, Quicke, and Chrialeton in the Cos. of York and Chester worth before the trouble £46—Fine for which is £210

That he was seized of a Frank Tenement for life, the fee thereof being on Sir George Booth of certain lands and tenements lying in Ashton-under-Line co Lancaster worth yearly £12 5s. Od. The fine for which is £18 7s. 6d.

That he was seized of a like estate for life, the Remainder to his first son and the heirs males of his body and so to a 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, and 7th sons in like manner, Remainder in Fee to him and his heirs of a certain house and tenement in Manchester co of Lancaster worth before the troubles £10 a year his fine for this is £30.

That he was also possessed of the Remainder of Term of *100 years or thereabouts then to come of certain lands and tenements lying in Quoike aforesaid, worth yearly before the troubles £18. Fine £40.

His whole Fine £282 7s. 6d.

He craved for and obtained an allowance of £3 7s. yearly paid out of his said lands, to the Lords of the Fees, which reduced his fine to £273 6s. 9d.

All his Goods Cattells and books Manuscripts and whatsoever portable estate he had were seized and taken by the Soldiers of both sides, sometimes one sometimes another, his parsonage being between both.

There was about £140 owing to him which appears to have been received by the Sequestrators of the County of Chester, and he alleged that he owed nearly as much as was owing to him.

1st April 1646 Fine £100 at 1-10th
Jerome Framley 4 May 1647 (?)
Sam. Moyer

At foot of this paper.
9 Junii 1649.

In respect of ye Testimoniall of the Ministers and yt. ye debts now offered to be compounded for are desperate debts the Comtee. do admitt of ye said debts to be added to his P'ticular and included in ye former fine.

John Ashe agreed and ordered by
the Committee.

Particular in which compounder sets out in detail his estates and other matters connected with his composition as regarded the Frank tenement, which he held for his wife, remainder to his first and other sons, he mentioned that he had never made any profit of it, *and that had no child.*

He also mentions the names of the persons who owed him sums of money, but gives no addresses.

A petition, apparently the first, as it was read in London on the 24th March, 1645(6). In this petition he mentions that he held a lease for years of lands in Yorkshire worth £8 a year.

Pass.

Chester, 12th Marcij, 1645(6).

Theis are to desire you to p'mitt and suffer ye bearer hereof, George Byrom, Doctor of Divinity, quietly and without molestacon, to pass all yor guards, scouts, and sentinells from this Citty to Ashton-under-Lyme, in Lancashire, from thence to Saddleworth, in Yorkshire, and see to London, w'th his horse for his journey; hee having taken

*This may be 10. There is a hole in the paper exactly where the second cipher would stand, and there leaves room for it.

the Nationall Coven't and the Oath appointed by Ordinance of Parliam't of the 5th Aprill last.

To all Comandrs., Officers, } Mic. Jones
and soldie'rs in service of } Jo. Bruen
King and Parliam't and } Henry Birkened
all other p'sons whom it } Ric. Leicester
may concerne } Richard Bradshaw, jr.

Wee Mynisters of the Gospell of Jesus Christ whose names are heereunto subscribed, do Certifie whome it may concerne. That George Byrom, Doctor in Divinitie and Rector of Thorneton in the County of Chester, hath bene for many yeares last past knowne unto us to be a godly industrious, constant orthodoxall Preacher of God's Word.— Upheld Fasts and other holie exercises in his owne and neighbog. Churches, defended the strict observation of the Sabbath, Christian liberty of God's people. To his great pill (peril) opposed Episcopall Usurpation refused to take the Oath in the Sixth Canon for support of them; and desired and stood for a holy Discipline and Reformacon.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF wee have hereunto sett our hands the Seaven and Twentith day of Aprill Anno dno 1646.

Geo. Snell John Ley
Charles Herle
Nat: Lancaster
Wm Shenton
Rich: Hunte
Tho: Porter

I doe also subscribe this testimony, as concerning the time I knew him in the country

Willm Dune
Rich: Hopwood
Tho: Bridges
Hen: Bridgman
Rich Onseley

Ralph Robinson

Edw: Gee Joseph Boden

Reasons wherefore Dr. George Byrom should be protected by Parliament:—

1 *firstly*—he hath catechised his parishioners in the best catechisme now extant and hath beine neare 40 years a constant Preacher twice a Saboath in his Cure constantly upheld ffasts, mainteyned exercises in his own and neighbours churches, defended the strict observacon of the Sabbath maintained the Christian Liberty of God's people, and protected them to his power from the Enemy and though artiled against for it in the High Comission, yet still p'sepered therein.

2 *Secondly*—He hath ever opposed dumbe dogges, Non-residents, Pluralists, Papistes, Arminians, and ever desired a holy Disciptyne and Reformacon, and also opposed and refused that unreasonable Oath for Episcopacy and he hath taken the Negative Oath and the holy Covenant.

3 *Thirdly*—he gave 100li in or about August was 2 yeares to the cause of King and Parliament, quartered their Souldiers, paid them Contribucon,

gave them a horse and a Beefe, and moved his neighbors to take up defensive Armes agst the Cavaliers.

4 *fourthly*—he prayed for King and Parliament and did forbear to pay Contribucons or mainteyne [nance] [paper torn here] for the Cavaleirs, or to administer their Oaths or publish their Warrants.

5 *fifthly*—notwithstanding the premisses the Parliamt Souldiers hath plundered him very often and broken his house to take him prisoner, and did take from him his horses, Beastes, household stuff two yeares profitt of his Parsonage, his corne which did growe upon his free land 40li. more money, his apparell. Library, Sermons, Manuscripts and Note Books being the fruite of almost 40 yeares study. All wch. amounted to 1200li. or thereabouts wch. was the cause that hys wife and he through the vyolence of the Souldiers coming into her bed chamber wth. drawn swords and pulling her out of her sick bedd aged above 80 yeares two severall dayes in one month to goe from his Parsonage to Bawton for 3 monthes or thereabouts, untill the Parliamt. Army did garrison at Tarvin about 4 myles from his Parsonage. At wch. tyme they sent their household stuff back to his Parsonage and labored earnestly and often to obteyne a passe protection to returne to his Parsonage, but never yet could procure it, though he hath to the p'sent been a suitor for it, being for the space of about a yeare and an halfe.

6 *Sixthly*—the Cavaliers often plundered him, his Parsonage being within 4 myles of their Garrison at Chester they burned 6 of his houses, authorized the Souldiers to pull down his chiefe house and to sell the materalls thereof to their own use, and to take away all the furniture therein, they did carry away his hay and grasse, of his land about Chester they also indeavoured the last Great Sessione held at Chester to indiot him for the foresaid contribucon and the 100li. he had formerly given to the Parliamt. the second day of february last some of their Souldiers offered to pistoll him for refusing to contribute to them.

7 *Seventhly*—he sawe the printed letters that passed between the King and Queene and hath heard of the letters sent from the Lord Glamorgan to the Popiah Archbishopp of Tuam and hath been an care witness of the profession of some greates Papists of their intended bloody Designe wch hath satisfied him of the lawfullnes of offensive as well as defensive armes against them.

Lastly—to expresse the reality of his affection to the Cause of King and Parliamt he hath sett out lands for Divers yeares to mainteyne the said Cause in case he Dye before the Settlement of Peace.

The said Doctor George Byrom maketh oath that all the abovementioned Reasons are in Substance true.

G. Byrom
Jur xxviiiij Die Martij 1646
John Page

Report from the Committee of Sequestration
—Hundred of Edisbury.

At the Committee for Sequestrations of Delinquents and Papists Estates in the hundred of Edisbury in the Co of Chester 16 Junij 1646
Gentl

Wee have read yours of the 7th of May last in the case of Doctor Geo: Byrom Parson of Thornton in the sayd hundred hee beeinge a man well knowne unto us for many yeares last past which makes us much admyre to see the handes of some of those Ministers suborybed to the Certificate deliuered by him to you, his lyffe and conuersations *re et facto* being very unworthy of such heigh commendation as will appeare unto you upon the readings of the Examinations herewith sent you his learninge nor behaiour before these tymes meritynge any such respect from seuerall of the persons who have certified in his behaulfe it beinge made a woonder with us and in our cuntrye that any that have soe well approved themselves for learninge and love to truth and peace should ever have offered their handes to manifest the goodnes and innoceny of a p'son soe guilty of soe many foule crymes and deepe hipocrisies soe fully manifested and made knowne to these partes.

And for groundes of his sequestn and continuance of the same wee averre to bee most just and referre you to the sayd examinations. And for his advance of 100 li to the service of the Parliament in August last was two years it was occasioned by beinge taken prisoner by the Parliament's forces and brought to the garrison at Nampwich and only payd for his Ransome and not by way of proposicion. And upon his enlargement left his parsonage and secured himself and all or most part of his goods under the power of the Enemy in Chester where hee continued (and under the power of the Enemy in Wales) until the reducinge of the same—Preachinge many invective sermons against the Parliamt's proceedings and friends, ventinge his spleen and malice, and also much encouraginge in his sermons the Enemys p'tie.

Gentl. it would bee too tedious and troublesome to you to mention all the Particulars of his ill demeanure in the County his preimtorie uncivill and Imodest behaiour before these tymes towards severall honest christians well known to some of us and for which great Complaints have been often made against him, wee submit his further and later carriages to your mature deliberations professinge ourselves to bee Enemys to his person but
Your respective friendes and

Servants to the Commonwealth

Tho Warburton
Tho Pownall
Tho Robinson
Rich Wilcoxon
Raphe Batcliffe

Read. 17 Junii. 1645

Note only one day going from Cheshire to London.
The "examinations" referred to are missing.

[A COPY.]

Wee ministers of the gospel of Jesus Christe whose names are hereunto subscribed doe certifie whom it may concerne yt. George Byrom doctor of Divinity and rector of Thorneton in ye county of Chester hath beene for many yeares laste paste knowne unto us to be a godly industrious constant Orthodox, &c., same as on folio 440 of my abstract.

Dated 27th April, 1646, and to it appended the following list of names:—

Thomas Porter	Mat. Lancaster	John Ley
Rich. Oulseley	Sam. Torsell	Charles Herle
Tho. Bridges	Edward Gee	George Snell
Ralph Robinson	Sam. Clarke	Wm. Shenton
Rich. Hopwood	John Cowdell	Wm. Dunne
Wm. Mostin	Rich. Hunt	Joseph Bowden
	Hene Bridgeman	

Wm. Mostin is the only name on this that is not on the other, but on the same document as the above list, &c., appears the following:—

Wee, whose names are hereunto subscribed, doe certifie yt. Doctor Byrom hath preached in our Churches at his now being in London upon thanksgiving dayes, publique fastes, and Sabbaths, and hath declared in his Sermons and prayers his good affection unto ye Parliament and to ye present Church government now established, and yt. wee humbly conceine his ministry is and will be (through God's blessing) powerful and profitable to ye Church of Christ. July ye last, 1646.

	Edw. Calamy
	Job Strickland
	Sam Delaplace
I have had such knowledg of	Dela Marche
ye foresaid Doctor Byrom as I	James Cranforde
conceave him every [way] fitt	Charles Offspringe
to exercise his ministeriale	Sam: Clarke
function in any place	Joh. Tocksey
whereunto he shall be called	Rich. Lee
August ye 5th	Mat: Barker
1646	John Cardell
Dr. John Wilkinson	Tho. Clandon
Dr. Wm. Gouge	Dan Cawdrey
Dr. Cor. Burgess	Mat. Newoomen
Dr. Peter Smith	
George Walker	John Greene?
Sam. Gibson	Henry Wilkinson
Rich. Herrick	Rich. Ouseley
Tho. Porter	John Crosse
Wm. Taylor	Rich. Hopwood
Ithiell Smarte	
Eldad Blackwell	
Oliver Love	

A portion of the bottom of the paper torn off, but all the names on it are the above.

Petition in apparently Dr. Byrom's hand writing at foot, a list of debts owing to Petitioner, names given.

Certificate from Gen. Will Brereton stating that to the best of his remembrance Dr. Byrom did by his letter, written about the month of October, 1644, desire to return to his Pastoral Charge at Thorneton, and to come out of the Enemy's Quarters—dated January 16, 1646 (7).

George Byrom, Dr. in Divinity. His Delinquency.—That he was resident for some time in the Enemy's Quarters. He Rendered before December 1645. His Estate in fee per annum £46—for life £22 5s. for ten years £8. out of wch. issues £9 1s. 9d. which leaves the fine at a tenth £100—and it is ordered that the Certificates of Sr. William Brereton and sundry ministers of the Assembly be presented to the House together with the Report.

At foot in another handwriting:—

fined 4th May 1647

pd. 50li. 6th May 1647 in part of 100li.

there rests unpaid 50li.

NOVEMBER 4, 1896.

NOTES.

[106] THE ANTIQUITIES OF STORETON.

The township of Storeton, comprehending the villages of Great and Little Storeton, lies somewhat remote from the mainroads of Wirral. Consisting almost entirely of arable, pasture and wood land, it is but thinly populated, and has preserved more of its primitive aspect than is usual with districts situate so near such busy centres of commerce as Birkenhead and Liverpool. The peninsula of Wirral is traversed in the length of its northern half by three main hill-ridges, the outer lines coming closely towards the shores of the Mersey and the Dee, the inner one having an irregularly central position flanked by fertile and sheltered valleys. The once small and quiet villages and hamlets of the Hundred are for the most part set on the rising grounds, few that can boast a remote antiquity having any other position. There is ground for supposing that even Wallasey, which now lies on the marsh, was formerly situated on the hill. The choice of these elevated sites indicates the influence of British, rather than of Anglian or Norse custom. The Anglian hams were usually set low in the valleys, and the Danish and Norse bys

near the sea-shore, not far from some inlet where men could draw up their ships and make their numerous descents on Chester. The history of Wirral renders it natural that British sites and usages should in some measure predominate even when the settlements received Anglian names. The Angles did not occupy Cheshire till the seventh century, and its coasts are still the ancient British borderland, the Dee forming the boundary of Wales, which has retained its Cymric occupants to the present day.

Storeton stands on the narrow and long crest of the central ridge of hill, and the township crosses the valley towards the east to the summit of the more easterly ridge which slopes to the estuary of the Mersey. A great geological convulsion has formed this chain of hills, and has forced up the lower beds of white sandstone by great faultings of the lower strata till they rise above the upper, and in this fine protruded mass of freestone rock are excavated the large and ancient quarries of Storeton. Tradition attributes the opening of these quarries to the Romans; but we have better evidence than that of tradition. The stone differs from that of almost all the other quarries in Wirral, which belong to the upper beds of the New Red Sandstone formation; and it is distinguishable by an expert. When the numerous sculptured tombs were taken out of the walls of Chester during late repairs, some of the finest blocks, taken from the best Storeton beds, were found to be from this quarry. Some of them still retain the tool marks of the Roman workmen, quite fresh and unworn, and these give us their witness to the Roman working of Storeton, and at the same time a lesson in their methods of workmanship in our district. This lesson is well worth careful study as it affords a curious evidence of the survival and continuity of local modes of work from very distant times.

A few years since a noted London antiquary paid a visit to our neighbourhood, and in discussing in a lecture on Chester antiquities, the means of detecting and distinguishing Roman from Medieval work, he instructed us to note carefully the difference between the crossed lines of the Roman tooling, the diagonal chiseling of the Norman, and the upright cutting of more recent work. But, strange to say, nearly all the indications that were alleged as distinguishing one period from another were to be found in the work undoubtedly Roman; and, on the other hand

numberless examples were shewn to exist in the district in all periods, down to the eighteenth century, in which work indicated as "essentially Roman" continually occurs. Nay more, this fashion became more pronounced after the Reformation, shewing that although it had been overlaid in the Middle Ages by the more artistic modes of the operative freemasons, the ancient style of dressing stone had never gone out of use, though that of the abbey and church and castle builders had declined. It was found possible to match exactly every example put forward by the London antiquary as distinctively Roman by corresponding ones from late medieval and comparatively recent times. How far this may apply to other districts than Cheshire and Lancashire I am unable to say; but it may afford its lesson as to the value of studying local as well as general custom, and it bears silent witness that may add an interest to the unwritten history of Storeton quarries, which are still being worked.

The ancient buildings in the vicinity tell us further of the continuity of this use of the quarries, notably Bebington Church, where there appear to be pre-Norman foundations, a Norman arcade, a thirteenth century aisle, a fourteenth century tower, and a late sixteenth century chancel, all being built of stone from this quarry. Moreover Storeton Hall and numerous seventeenth century houses continue the record for us, both of the quarry and those who used its stone.

A still remoter antiquity attaches to the narrow bed in this quarry, which bears the footprints of extinct animals of the huge lizard or Batrachian type. These, which resemble the print of a human hand, are perhaps outside the province of an antiquary, but they have a special interest to the writer, who on the occasion of their discovery, more than 60 years ago, accompanied two noted geologists to collect examples of these wonders.

The crest of the quarry-hill seems to be the limit beyond which habitations are few, most of the quarrymen living in the picturesque village of Higher Bebington, to the east of the quarry. The extent of this village, and the number of cottages shewing traces of antiquity, seem to indicate that this condition of things has been long established.

Tradition says that during the Middle Ages Cheshire possessed some of the men who built Edward I.'s Welsh castles. That some of these were from Wirral is shewn by the names given

in the Fabric Rolls. Moreover the ancient Wirral Churches have certain local peculiarities in their construction, which cannot be detailed here, but are noticed as possibly giving collateral sanction to the tradition.

It may be well to describe the site and surroundings of Storeton, because they contain the reasons for the establishment of the small and now secluded position of the dozen or so of old world houses which make up the hamlet. Five roads converge upon and cross the quarry hill from the side next the Mersey, and as we advance from each of them upon the rising ground to the ridge, beyond the intervening woods and fields, nearly the whole estuary of the Mersey comes into our view, like an inland lake. Far to the South are the blue hills of Beeston, Peckforton, Delamere Forest, Frodsham, and Helsby, and still further in the distance those of Broxton. To the North are seen, in clear weather, the summits of Rivington Pike and the Billinge Beacon. From the Western slope of the quarry hill come the nearer hills of Grange, Calday, Heswall, and Burton. Beyond these and their intervening valley the first rank of the Welsh hills of the Alyn Valley on the far side of the Dee; then the higher undulating mountains of the Vale of Clwyd and Hope Mountain, and the far-away, hazy summits of the Forests of Snowdon. Stretching from beneath our feet lies the wide view of nearly the whole Hundred of Wirral, and on the next ridge, a mile to the west, is the hamlet of Storeton, commanding, like the quarry hill, the whole western, southern, and northern view. We are looking from the confines of the great Anglian Kingdom of Mercia on its extreme north-western limit, where it touched the sea, with its one or two small ports, and commanded, when the Norse invaders permitted, the estuaries of the two great rivers, the Mersey and the Dee. As we gaze upon the long, undulating lines of the Welsh hills that mark the varying boundary of the great, but short-lived British Kingdom of Strathclyde, which embraced the north-west counties of England and the south-west ones of Scotland, we learn to understand how it was that on that line the English invasion broke its successive waves, and was stayed. Those distant hills, that dip here and there into *Bwlchs* or *Passes*, are separated by deep valleys like vast natural trenches, that run inland from the coast, and the mountain summits that command the passes are seamed

and furrowed with great camps and defensive earthworks, that have in turn resisted Roman, Englishman, and Norman. To the left is *Bwlch Agrik*, where the Roman forced his way into Wales, and whence the soldier-priest Germanus drove back the Picts and Scots from the field of Maes Garmon, winning the bloodless battle called the *Alleluia Victory*. Over the Pass of *Bwlch Arthur* to the right marched the English forces of King Offa to the battle of *Morfa Rhuddlan*, so disastrous to the Britons, to be expelled afterwards by the Britons returning from the lost northern districts of *Strathclyde*. We are standing on the border of that debateable land, claimed by both Celt and Teuton, which afterwards became recognised as the line between Wales and England. Our view, moreover, takes in the near grounds to be defended from the descents of the Norse pirates.

Let us cross the short mile of valley to the village itself, standing on its hill, open, among wide pastures, and the same scene still stretches before us. Now one may understand why this high and exposed site was chosen to sentinel Wirral, the reason why it stands in the centre of a net-work of ancient roads and trackways, radiating from it in all directions, for from the village they extend west, north, and south, besides those which cross the quarry hill. Many of these have become mere footways, some are closed, though yet traceable, and are thickets of briar, willow, and wild rose; but the seclusion of the spot has saved them from obliteration by modern improvements.

E. W. Cox.

(To be continued.)

NOVEMBER 11, 1896.

NOTES.

[107] BISHOP THOMAS WILSON AND
FRODSHAM SCHOOL.

The list of the masters of Frodsham Grammar School, contributed to the *Sheaf* by the Rev. F. D. Ringrose (see No. 97), seems to throw some light on the earlier days of Thomas Wilson, the saintly Bishop of Sodor and Man, one of the most notable of Cheshire worthies. Wilson was born at Burton in Wirral in 1663, and received a portion of his youthful training in the house and under the eye of his mother's brother, the Rev. Richard Sherlock, the well-known Rector of Winwick, and author of "The Practical

Christian." But he did not spend the whole of his boyhood at Winwick. "At a proper age," says Mr. Crutwell, Wilson's first biographer, "he was placed under the tuition of Mr. Harper, a very eminent schoolmaster in the city of Chester, with whom he continued till he was sufficiently qualified for the University." Wilson left Mr. Harper at the age of eighteen, and became a member of Trinity College, Dublin. His name appears in the books of the University as having entered it on 29 May, 1682, and he is described as 'educatus sub ferula Mri Harper.'

In the standard life of Wilson, written by John Keble, the author states that he has been unable to find any mention of Mr. Harper in addition to those given above. It is here that the list of the masters of Frodsham School comes to our assistance. Fourth in the list stands the name of Mr. Edward Harpur, of Chester, who was appointed to the mastership 24th February, 1679, and retained it till Midsummer, 1688. This will quite fit in with what we require. At the time of Mr. Harpur's coming to Frodsham, Wilson was a little over fifteen years of age. Frodsham is within an easy distance of Winwick, and Sherlock would be glad to place his nephew under the care of a good man, capable of preparing him for the University. It is of course possible that Wilson may have been under Mr. Harpur's care when the latter resided at Chester, and afterwards accompanied him to Frodsham. But, anyhow, we think that we have proved a connection between the good Bishop and the school, and we beg to tender our sincere congratulations to the latter for numbering among its alumni one so eminent as Thomas Wilson.

EDITORS.

[108] THE CHOLMONDELEY ARCHIVES.

The following communication, which appeared in the columns of the *Chester Courant*, seems worthy of preservation in *The Sheaf* :—

I am permitted to inform you that upon an examination and re-arrangement by an expert some short time ago of the many thousands old deeds, documents, and various writings belonging to the Cholmondeley family, a large number were found to be of great local interest. I send you a translation of two which relate to the ancient private chapel of the Lords of Cholmondeley, one of which shews what a very disturbed and anarchic state this part of the country was in towards the end of the thirteenth and beginning of the fourteenth centuries.

"To all the faithful of Christ to whom the present writing shall come, William de

Audelym and Leodegarinus de Nottingham, rectors of the church of Malpas, greeting in the Lord. Know ye that we have granted to Hugh de Chelmondeley that he can have a fit chaplain celebrating divine services in his chapel of Chelmondeley, saving the indemnity of our mother church of Malpas, so that the chaplain, if there shall be any, celebrating divine services shall not intrude himself on any things belonging to our mother church. In testimony whereof we have set our seals to this present writing. Farewell. Dated at Malpas, on Monday, the morrow of St. Martin [12th Nov.], in the year of grace one thousand, two hundred, and eighty-five" (1285).

The second is undated, but from its seals and the style of writing is believed to have been written about A.D. 1300.

"Because there is a certain chapel situate from olden time in a certain vill which is called Cholmondelegh, in the bishopric of Chester, in the parish of Malpas, and that chapel is four miles distant from the church of Malpas, on account of the distance of which place many harms have happened, that is to say, that infants as well on account of their tenderness as the distance of the place die without baptism. And in like manner old men cannot go to the said church on account of their weakness wherefore at no time do they hear divine celebration when they enter upon old age. Besides men and women frequently die without confession, communication and extreme unction. And that the dead in the time of war are buried in the fields, because that church of Malpas is so near Wales that part of that parish belongs to the Welsh and part to the English. Wherefore the English dare not go with their dead to the said church of Malpas in the time of war. And likewise at one time it happened that no Englishman dared to come to the said parish church of Malpas on Easter Day, to receive the body of Christ, for fear of the Welsh, but received the body aforesaid at the aforesaid chapel of Cholmondelegh. Wherefore, the lord of the aforesaid vill of Cholmondelegh, considering such harms, prays, for the love of charity, that a place of burial, baptism, and other necessary things may be established in the said chapel of Cholmondelegh; and that the tithes, oblations, and other appurtenances of the said chapel of Cholmondelegh may be granted for the sustentation of a chaplain serving in the said chapel of Cholmondelegh." This petition does not appear to have ever been granted, or, if granted, never acted upon, for until the present Marquis of Cholmondeley built Bickley Church four years ago, there was no place of burial in this district, though the services of the church have always been, and still are, carried on in the Cholmondeley Chapel by the private chaplain.

ORIGINAL DOCUMENTS.

[109] THE KINGSLEY CHAPEL IN FRODSHAM CHURCH.

The following is an interesting document having reference to the Kingsley or Rutter chapel in Frodsham Church:—

xii die Augusti Ano. Regni Regnae Elizabethae xli, 1599.

Wh that ye daye and yeare abovesaid it was comanded and agreed by and between George Rutter of Kyngsley in ye pish of Frodsham and Coun Cester gent. and Sr John Savage of Rook-savage knight Rychard Birkenhead of Mandley Esqr. Thomas Dutton cler. vic. of Frodsham, John Nuthall of Cattrall Esqr. Ryc. Gerrard of Crewod gen. Ryc. Witter and John Eccleston gardini of the same church Raulph Witter and John Waynwright for Frodsham Wm. Johnson and Thos. Sumner for Netherton Edward Nangreave Bic. Brownent for Woodhouses, Jo. Wall Willm. Hatton for Helsbie, James Fletcher Robt. Johnson for Alvanley, Tho. Grimesdith, Hammet Johnson for Mandley, Wm. Widdens Peter Hawle for Norley, Tho. Hatton Thomas Dodd for Kyngsley, Ryc. Kar Ryc. Williamson for Newton, Robt. Oweton Lawrence Cowper for Bradley, Randle Dutton Thomas Baker for Owton and by and wth the full consent and assent of the rest of ye pishons there inhabitinge. . . . That the said George Rutter shall possess clayme and enjoy all that uppermost end of ye South Ile of the same Church as it is now . . . and out from the yttle Church and lyttle Chancell dore upwards being in breadth six yerds, length foure yerds and iii quarters. To have and to houlde to him the said George his heires and successors for ever as a place most fytt for him the said George Ruttr his heires and successors to sitt and heire divyne prayers and to bury the dead as occasion shall happen. And in regard that the said George Rutter hath repayed the same place beinge greatly ruyned, the said pishions of them are contented, yt. he ye said George Rutter, his heires and successors, shall be utterly and meerly exempted and freed from all such taxacons, leas . . . and other paymts., as other of ye pishions shal be charged wthall from tyme to tyme hereafter for ye repaireinge and amendinge of the said Church, except the said upp end of ye said Ile, which he is to maintaine for evr. And the said George is to be wth. the rest of the pishions in all other charges belonginge to the said Church except before excepted . . . In witness whereof wee, whose names are above named, have hereunto subscribed the daie and yeare above wrytten, 1599.

F. D. RINGROSE.

[110] THE BISHOP OF CHESTER'S VISITATION 1677.

The following are a few specimens of the Presentments in the Deanery of Malpas.

ALDFORD.

Against Mary Barnston for refusing to pay the Church dues for the burial of her mother.

CODDINGTON.

Against Thomas Palin and Thomas Thomason, churchwardens, for want of a Bible of the last translation, and that they have is torn.

MALPAS.

Against Edward Ankers for laying violent hands upon John Stockton in the Church in time of divine service upon Sunday the first of April, pullying, hailing, and endeavouring to pull him out of his forme and giving such disturbance in the Church that caused the minister to cease reading two or three times, and also swearing two oaths.

Against Thomas France who came with the said Ankers, and endeavoured to go into the said Stockton's form, and, as is said, laid violent hands upon the said Stockton's form. And (as is said) laid violent hands upon the said Stockton.

Against John Stockton for endeavouring to keep Edward Ankers out of his form.

NOTES.

[111] SOULING SONGS.

At this time of the year we are accustomed in many parts of the county to have companies of children going their rounds and singing souling songs. In *The Two Gentlemen of Verona*, Shakespeare speaks of 'puling like a beggar at Hallowmas.' This refers to the custom of poor people going from parish to parish *souling*, or begging and puling for Soul-cakes. The following song, taken from the autograph of a 'Souler,' is given by Ormerod, vol. I., p. lxxx. :—

I.

You gentlemen of England, I would have you to draw near

To these few lines which we have wrote, and you soon shall hear

Sweet melody of music all on this ev'ning clear.

For we are come a-souling for apples and strong beer.

II.

Step down into your cellar, and see what you can find,

If your barrels are not empty, I hope you will prove kind;

I hope you will prove kind with your apples and strong beer,

We'll come no more a-souling until another year.

III.

Cold winter it is coming on, dark, dirty, wet and cold;
To try your good nature, this night we do make bold;
This night we do make bold with your apples and strong beer,
We will come no more a-souling until another year.

IV.

All the houses that we've been at we have had both meat and drink,
So now we're dry with travelling, I hope you'll on us think;
I hope you'll on us think, with your apples and strong beer,
And we'll come no more a-souling until another year.

V.

God bless the master of this house, and the mistress also,
And all the little children that round the table go;
Likewise your men and maidens, your cattle, and your store,
And all that lies within your gates, I wish you ten times more:
I wish you ten times more, with your apples and strong beer.
For we'll come no more a souling until another year.

A correspondent of the *Sheaf* (1st series, vol. 2, p. 185), writing from Malpas, says:—

The custom [of souling] prevails in this town extensively. The children go round to the houses, early and late on All Saints' (not All Souls') Day, and chant monotonously a doggerel. The most complete version I can give is as follows:—

Soul! soul! a soul-cake!
Good mistress, gi' us a soul-cake!
One for Peter; one for Paul;
And one for Them [sic] as made us all.
An apple or a cherry
Or anything good to make us merry!
Go! good mistress! to the cellar;
And fetch us a pail o' water.
It is a good fame
To get a name
Soul! soul! &c., &c.

In North Wirral the Soulers' song runs thus:—

Soule, soule, sole o' my shoe—
What shall I soule for? apple or pear, plum or a cherry,
Or any good thing that will make us all merry;
One for Peter, two for Paul,
Three for Him that made us all;
He is one and we are many,
Put your hand in your pocket, and give us a penny.
If you've got no money give us good cheer,
Go down in the cellar and draw us some beer.

NOVEMBER 18, 1896.

[112] THE ANTIQUITIES OF STORETON.

(Continued from No. 106, Nov. 4.)

These old track-ways bear many indications of their ancient use and structure. Some of them doubtless had their origin as roads for drawing stone from the quarry, but by far the larger number radiate from the village itself. Each of the eight surrounding villages and hamlets has had, or still has, its separate trackway or road. The eastern roads of Well-lane, the Town-lane, and two roads, which cross the hill, are deeply worn in the rock with immemorial usage. While the narrow road towards Prenton retains the central causeway of blocks of stone, forming a continuous rib of stone for the passage of pack-horses, other roads leading to Brimstage and Bebington have remnants of the same ancient construction. They have been called Roman; but though they follow Roman precedent in this construction, they are probably Medieval. The road that most perfectly retains this ancient type runs from Little Storeton towards Prenton Hall. For a mile or so it is nearly perfect, and then it dies away in a field-path; but a branch of it is still traceable to the site of the old mill in the glen, which, together with three square miles of woodland, is spoken of in Domesday Book. The mill-dam, which retained the pool, is to be seen in the valley, still wooded, and containing many ancient oak trees. Roads of similar construction are found leading to Brimstage; one called Kirkup Lane from Bebington towards Storeton; another below Bidston Hill; while yet another from Frankby to Meols has been lately modernised. It was not till the seventeenth century that cobble-stone pavements four feet wide were re-introduced into Cheshire and Lancashire.

This village, it would seem, was one of the centres through which passed the pack-horse and other traffic of Wirral between the Mersey and the Dee. It commanded the inland series of roads; it was sufficiently distant from the coast to avoid the direct incursion of the pirate, whether from the east or west, while it formed a route of communication between the little havens of Tranmere and Bromborough Pools and Birkenhead Priory on the Mersey side, and the ports of Hoylake and Meols on the Dee Side. Some indication of the extent of this traffic is found in the large number of public-houses which existed in this village

in the seventeenth century. *Three* are spoken of, in addition to *two* at Lower Bebington, and *one* at Tramere. These can only have served to supply those who passed through the village. Beneath the garden of one cottage near the Hall, a capacious arched cellar marks the probable site of one of these ancient hostleries.

In the year 1120 Wirral was afforested by Randle de Meschines, Earl of Chester, and at Storeton, Alan Sylvester, the Forester, took up his abode. Its site was eminently fitted for the purpose of ordering the wide waste of country, from its commanding position, and its control over the network of roads. We have no record whether or not the Hall had any previous existence, but here, on the narrow ridge of the Western hill, the Sylvesters (who probably took their name from their office), were established in 1120, and were esteemed a wealthy and powerful family. A great grand-daughter of Alan Sylvester married Sir Thomas de Bamville; and the manor of Storeton, and the Forestership of Wirral was thus carried into the family of Bamville. An heiress of this family, Joan Bamville, wedded, in 1282, one William Stanley, a Staffordshire gentleman, and their eldest son, John Stanley, became chief Forester of the Hundred. The Stanleys, who thus won an entrance into the county, settled at Storeton, and adopted as their armorial bearings those of the Foresters, viz.:—*Argent on a bend azure, three bucks' heads cabossed, or*, in place of those previously borne by them. The tenure of this office was held by the well-known Wirral Horn, and, by this title, without any other deeds, a part of the great possessions of the Stanleys was held. On the marriage of Sir William Stanley, in the reign of Richard II., to Margaret, the heiress of Sir William de Hooton, Hooton became the principal residence of the family, but Storeton was their original location.

In the latter part of the fourteenth century, Wirral was disafforested. The present hall at Storeton, once a stately pile, but now partly destroyed, and converted into farm buildings, which still show remnants of their antiquity, was probably built shortly after this took place. The ancient mansion stands on the highest point of the hill. The crooked village road runs here on the rock, which shews its strata through its surface. The hall, too, is built on the rock, which rises through the shallow soil. On approaching it, we enter first

a large farmyard, piled with straw and manure, Upon the floor of rock, to our right and rear, the buildings of the court are modern sheds, in which the present occupant houses a splendid breed of prize oxen. Before us, on the eastern side, stretches a long, old barn, with traces of more ancient work in its walls; and to our left, a buttressed wing with a western gable, in the centre of which a tall pointed window, now blocked up, once lighted the upper floor. The house has undergone strange transmutations, and it requires a good deal of thought and experience to decipher its original plan. On the rocky floor of the eastern side of the farmyard, we are really standing within what was once the great hall, 40 feet in length by 20 in breadth, the fine arched door in the south end of the old wall being the entrance from the eastern court. If we enter the stable, which was probably built beyond the wall, with the materials of part of the wall, some 200 years ago, we may discern that the door has its drip mould and other mouldings, which were originally *external* features, *within* the stable. Moreover, the little fragments of the two lofty square-headed windows, now mostly built up, tell the same tale. The building has been as it were turned inside out by the enlargement of the farmyard; and its old plinths and stones have been used again to rebuild the stable towards the east, the ancient eastern wall, reversed, being now the western one of the stable. This rebuilding is very liable to mislead and puzzle the amateur archaeologist.

On the northern wing may be discovered the trace where the western wall of the hall has been sheared off level with the face of the wing. The one stone, where the set-off of the plinth was returned, gives us something of its character, while that part of the wall without any plinth defines the interior breadth of the hall. The windows that looked eastward from the hall were lofty, mullioned, and transomed; their glass was not fixed into grooves or rabbets in the stone, but was inserted in wooden movable frames, in the same way as was customary in mediæval castles. All the remaining windows have the same character, the modern glass, framed in the old windows of the north wing, exactly repeating the old arrangements. The windows, large and small, have all been strongly barred. At the north-east end of the hall, an arched doorway led to the staircase, now destroyed and absorbed in the stable. Another, once similar, now sadly

mutilated, led to the lesser hall, or withdrawing room, in the north wing, now divided into shippens and coach-houses. The timber ceiling is modern, but many of the great corbels, that carried the old upper floor, are still left in the walls, and shew, from their size, how massive the beams of the original house have been. This fine room had a stone fireplace, of which only faint traces remain, as a coach-house has been cut through it. E. W. Cox.

(To be continued.)

ORIGINAL DOCUMENTS.

[113] JOHN SNELL OF UFTON AND DR. GEO. SNELL, ARCHDEACON OF CHESTER.

(See No. 47, May 6.)

I enclose an extract containing some further information about John Snell which I have lately discovered. It will be seen that we have now at least connected him with Cheshire.

In reference to the eldest son of the Archdeacon being called Thomas, it may be worth noting that a Thomas Snell is one of the witnesses to the publication of John Snell's will. John Snell's only child Dorothy, who married William Guise, is buried in Elmore Church, Gloucestershire. Her epitaph is given in Bigland's History of that county.—Yours,

Leamington.

GEO. WM. CAMPBELL.

Extract from the Preface to the Second Volume of Sir Orlando Bridgman's "Conveyances," London, 1702.

"After all, I think none can reasonably distrust the genuineness of the present volume, when they know the whole was copied by Mr. Snell (a person always near to the Honourable Author while he lived) who intending this collection for his private use only could have no design to impose a spurious one upon the public.

This Mr. John Snell was of Scotch extraction, and educated at the University at Glascoo; but the War breaking out between the King and Parliament he forsook his studies to follow the fortunes of the Royal Party, and was present in several engagements till the defeat at Worcester. From whence narrowly escaping, he sheltered himself in the family of a person of quality in Cheshire, when he had the opportunity of being known to Sir Orlando Bridgeman, who was a native of that county, and son of Dr. John Bridgman, Lord Bishop of Chester.

Sir Orlando had been Solicitor to King Charles, while he was Prince, and upon the Restoration, His Majesty, in consideration of his signal merit and sufferings advanced him first to be Lord Chief

Baron of the exchequer the first of June 1660: and the twenty second of October following Lord Chief Justice of the Court of Common Pleas, in both which places Mr. Snell held a considerable post under him.

And afterwards on the thirtieth of August 1667 upon his promotion to the dignity of Lord Keeper, he made Mr. Snell his Purse Bearer, an office of great trust and profit. At length when it was His Majesty's pleasure he should resign the seal, he recommended Mr. Snell to his successor, the Earl of Shaftesbury, as a person of known fidelity and diligence. The Earl was soon removed, who took care to help him into the service of the Duke of Monmouth; whose Secretary he was and commissioner for the management of his Grace's estate in Scotland. In this post he died about the year 1678 and leaving no male issue behind him, the Oxford Antiquary informs us he gave his estate and manor of Ufton in Warwickshire, valued at £450 per annum, to Baliol College in Oxford for the maintenance of poor scholars. By which means his Books &c coming to be sold, this Manuscript (among others) fell into my hands, and being persuaded it would be an acceptable present to the publick, I was prevailed upon to undergo the trouble of fitting it for the Press."

[Then follows a paragraph in praise of Sir Orlando Bridgeman, and a congratulatory letter in Latin addressed to him by the University of Cambridge, dated 19th Sept., 1667 "found by the writer, transcribed by Mr. Snell among his papers."]

[The preface is signed N. E.]

If it could be proved that the "person of quality in Cheshire" were Dr. George Snell, the chain of evidence would be nearly complete; but unfortunately the writer of the preface does not vouchsafe us this information.

EDITORS.

[114]

SOULING SONGS.

(See No. 111. November 11.)

On March 20th, 1893, Dr. J. C. Bridge, the Organist of Chester Cathedral, gave a lecture "On some old Cheshire and Shropshire Tunes, with musical illustrations." Among these were two which were used to accompany souling songs. Dr. Bridge tells me that he hopes to induce the Editor of the Journal of the "Chester Archaeological and Historic Society" to include these tunes in his next volume. One of them is very old, the other more modern. Both of them will be looked forward to with great interest by many readers of the *Sheaf*.

M. A.

NOVEMBER 25, 1896.

NOTE.

[115] THE ANTIQUITIES OF STORETON.

(Continued from Nos. 106 and 112, November 4 and 18.)

At the eastern end is a small door with a shouldered, or Edwardian, arch, leading into a smaller apartment, once probably the chapel. It has been lighted by a small arched east window, now nearly destroyed by an external flight of steps, and by a little, narrow, oblong window, on each side, of which one is blocked up, the other nearly destroyed. The room was heavily timbered, and over the site of the altar, a cross is cut upon a corbel.

The upper floor of this wing contains the great chamber over the lesser hall, with its fine-pointed western window, which anciently had two lights and tracery, but is now blocked up; there are also two small oblong lights on each side. These are all of the same size and form in this wing. The roof, now of rude, undressed timber, was once high pitched, and probably of the type called waggon-headed. When the roof was lowered, the apex of the gable was truncated. Through what was once a fireplace, with a fine, moulded hood, a window has been broken, but there are just sufficient fragments to shew how fine a feature it has been. At the east end of this room is the small room over the chapel, probably once allotted to the domestic chaplain; it is entered by a small door resembling that of the chapel. These rooms are now reached by an external flight of steps, which was added when the hall was converted into farm buildings.

At the southern end of the hall, the only evidence left of the south wing is a door jamb and the spring of an arch, which led from the kitchens and buttress to the screens of the lower end of the hall. South of the site of the kitchen is the well dug in the rock.

The buildings formed three sides of a court to the east of the hall. Whether a fourth side with a gate-house ever existed cannot now be ascertained. The great stackyard, always well stored with hay and corn stacks, stands in its possible place. The house has no trace of a moat or orrellation; nevertheless its walls three feet nine inches in thickness, of fine solid stone, still sound and unworn, could well resist an assault. The only large windows of hall and chamber were closely barred: the other windows, scarcely more than loopholes, were so

set as to command the entrances and approaches. For miles towards the north, south, and west, the bands of Welsh raiders, who once troubled Cheshire, might be discerned. Against their inroads, the halls of Hooton, Brimstage, and Irby were fortified or entrenched.

It is not known when Storeton Hall was deserted and fell into decay; but it may be reasonably surmised that when the Stanleys made Hooton their principal residence, their former dwelling began to be disused, and that the remaining remnants of it only owe their preservation to their solid construction. In the interior are many mason marks, for the most part strongly and deeply cut, scarcely any of which correspond with those of other Wirral structures.

The style of the house has been dignified by its fine proportions and truthful work, but it is singularly devoid of ornament. Even its mouldings are few and simple, though most well and carefully wrought. They indicate its date as about 1360, a date when the Third Pointed or Perpendicular style was new.

The ancient Manor Mill stood on the quarry hill towards the south; it was a wooden-post mill, of which all traces have disappeared, and all memories have well-nigh been forgotten. Bebington Mill stands yet more to the south-east.

While we have been searching the dark and half-ruinous chambers of the Hall, the sun has fallen low in the west, and turns the walls of silver-grey to frosted gold. It may seem strange to claim for Storeton sunsets of its own, yet such a claim would be valid. To the shores of this corner of Wirral came the great artists Turner and David Cox, of whom the latter brought his drawing classes with him to study the clouds and sunsets. To the peculiar formation and site of the land, a peninsula between two great estuaries, this feature is due. But what have sunsets to do with antiquities? Something they disclose to us at Storeton. As we turn our backs upon the after-glow, we have before us, across the intervening valley, the western slope of the long ridge of the quarry hill. The summit, and ancient mounds, and grey crags of the quarry are mantled with fir-wood and purple heather, and are rough with wildernesses of golden gorse. Glowing in the sunset as the sun falls, we may trace, by the shadowed lines below the woods and rough ground, long, terrace-like undulations in the well-tilled fields,

thrown up by the level rays in clear relief. Here and there, where the old roads have run, and cottage gardens have hindered the levelling action of the plough, we may see that these lines are really terraces. They may be traced from Prenton Hill, which has a series of its own, to the southern decline of Storeton Hill. There are three such lines discernible towards the north, and four or five curve round the southern fall of the hill. These seem to indicate the terrace lines of the communal cultivation dating back to the remotest antiquity. They shew the ancient lynches or banks, ploughed down, through many ages, into terraces, with intervening banks, too steep for cultivation. Such communal cultivation was in use as far as agriculture extends backwards, and these narrow strips of plough-land were every year divided by lot, the strips being cut up into acres and half-acres. A full share of such strips, scattered over the town-lands, for each burgher was thirty acres; but these were often divided and sub-divided among the village cultivators, the communal officers each having also special allotments. The pasture was upon the open common-land, and the hay was grown in wide communal meadows, and measured out, when ready for the scythe, by the hayward, each villager cutting his portion in the common field. For the full details of such communities, those who are interested should refer to the admirable works of Seeböhm, Gomme, and Fustel de Coulanges on this subject.

(To be continued.)

ORIGINAL DOCUMENTS.

[116] FRODSHAM CHURCHWARDENS' ACCOUNTS, ANNO 1633.

(See No. 104—October 21.)

The accompts of Thomas Hall and William Widdens Churchwardens for the parish of Frodsham:—

Imprimis given to an Irish gentleman who had a brief March 5th	0 2 0
paid to the Head Constable at a quarter sessions held May xth	0 8 8
pd. to ye Clarke for writing in parchment ye Coppy of ye Register	0 1 6
pd. to Richard Smith which hee paid downe to Richard Williamson	0 2 0
Given to one Robert Beewicke with Lrs. of Requeste	0 1 0
pd. for nailes	0 0 4

pd. for oyle and liquor for the Clocke and Bells	0 1 0
pd. to Wm. Wilson who had a briefe June the 3rd	0 2 0
Given to one Gilbert Underhill who had a briefe	0 2 0
pd. for bread and wine for a Communion June the 9th.....	0 4 8
pd. to Thomas Caton of Davenham who had Lrs. of Request	0 1 0
pd. to William Gorste for worke about the bells	0 1 0
pd. to Robert Rabone for clensing ye church of dust and rushes	0 1 0
pd. to John Elams for glasing windows and other work about ye Church	0 9 10
pd. to Richard Simcock for 2 dozen of rods for ye Church windows	0 1 0
pd. for bread and wine for a Com. ye first Sabbath of July.....	0 3 6
Given to Robert Carden with Lrs. of Requeste	0 1 0
pd. to Richard Dober for the keeping of his sister-in-law	0 12 0
pd. to Robert Pyke for leading stones and clay for ye Belhouse staires	0 4 6
pd. to Thomas Rydeing for building the sd. stayres	0 17 6
pd. to Robert Rabone and his wife for 3 dayes worke and a measure of Reere (?)	0 2 2
pd. to Nickelas Edwards for his horse to fetch 2 loades of lime	0 0 4
pd. for lime for ye said staires	0 2 0
Spent on the workmen when they had finished ye worke	0 2 0
paid to John Dunkorne for yron worke ...	0 1 0
paid for nailes for that worke	0 0 x
paid for bread and wine for a Com. the 4th day of August	0 3 8
pd when we took our oaths	0 0 8
spent the same day on ourselves and swornmen	0 1 0
spent at a visitation at Wigan upon ourselves and swornmen and paid for an Article Booke	0 12 1
given to an Irish gentlewoman who had letters of request.....	0 1 0
pd. to ye Clarke for writing all ye Billets for ye Churchley.....	0 2 0
pd. to ye Ringers fer ringing when ye visitors passed by	0 2 0
given to an Irishma who had losse by fire	0 1 0
pd. to Will Trueman and Robert Rabone for brushing and whiting ye Church	0 15 0
spent in seeking for and hyring ye writer of the Church	0 0 x
pd. to Wm. Peecocke for a can to carry water and mortar in	0 0 4
pd to John fromwell for writing ye Church	1 5 0
pd to Robert Rabone for reading to him portions of Scripture	0 1 0

spent upon ye gentleman who by ye visitors apPOINTment came to survey or Church	0	1	0
given to a gentleman who came out of the low Countrys	0	1	0
given to two souldiers	0	0	6
paid to John Fromwell for bordering the writings in the Church	0	17	0
given to a poore scoller	0	1	0
given to a poore Minister who was robbed and wounded by thieves	0	2	0
given to 2 soldiers March 8th	0	1	0
pd to Robert Babone for washing ye Church linnens, liquor for ye bells and scouring ye Church gutters	0	2	2
pd to Richard Heath who by ye consent of ye parish went to Oxford	0	8	0
paid to Jane Modaley as were injoynd by ye warrant of Sr. John Savage Mr. Doctor Byrom	0	4	6
pd to an Irish gentlewoman the daughter of one Mr Devereux who was robd and slaine by rebels	0	1	0

DECEMBER 2, 1896.

NOTE.

[117] THE ANTIQUITIES OF STORETON.

(Continued from Nos. 106, 112, and 115, Nov. 4,
18, and 25.)

Towards the southern end of the hill, within the wood, is a large mound of sand, said by the villagers to be placed there as a fox-earth. Be this as it may, it has yielded several ancient flint instruments, and it adjoins some of the most strongly marked ridges of ancient cultivation. Moreover, it lies within fields which go by the name of Umlisons, which may possibly be derived from two Celtic words, signifying the 'circuit of the sacred grove.' A similar name occurs in Herefordshire in connection with the names of earthworks of British origin.

Close by this site, in a thatched cottage, lives a very old man, whose grandfather remembered it being built in the last century, on what was then common land and pasture, which reached to the limit of the ancient ploughlands, thus defining them on that side. None of the lines or limits of the present fields correspond with those of the ancient cultivated terraces; but this old man can point out the sites and give the names of some of those old communal strips. Among others, a significant name occurred, confirming the former existence of this communal cultivation, viz., the

Thirty Acre, which would be the sum of the yearly allotment of one household. "But," says the old man, "though it was called the 'thirty acre,' the narrow strip had barely one"—a still further confirmation that this formed one of the bundle of single acre strips of which thirty were given by lot yearly.

The few cottages in the village have, within the last few years, been modernised; and tiled and slated roofs have replaced the thatch. Some of the older houses remain, built on 'crooks' (as the split trees set together like an arch are called), upon which walls and roof were formed. One of the oldest of these timbered structures was taken down about two years ago. One noticeable feature of these old houses is that they are windowless towards the weather side, with the exception of one small opening, about nine inches square, set in the wall beside the hearth. In some of them there is also a similar opening from the side of the fireplace into the porch; the master, sitting by the fire, could thus see the approaching visitor from either side, an arrangement possibly dictated by the fact that not all the many wayfarers who passed through the village were welcome.

In a district so closely adjoining the Celtic border, so frequently exposed to the incursions of Norsemen, and so long traversed by wayfarers to and from the ports of the Mersey and the Dee, one might naturally expect the ethnology of the township and neighbourhood to be thoroughly mixed. My own very limited observations of this study have led me to think that the contrary is the case. On the borderlands of the differing races, the distinction is sharpest and most marked. Wirral, under the long reign of the Stanleys, saw but little change of old ways and occupations, and only half a century ago had scarcely emerged from the ways and ideas of the Middle Ages. We fail, in these days of easy transit and constant communication, to realise how strongly the old race feuds survived to quite recent times; nay, how they are still maintained by the games of football or wrestling of one village against another—peaceful contests that of old were fights with the invader. The opposition of race to race is to be found still strong. One district will not marry into another, and, in feature and build, the characteristics of race are still dominant and distinguishable in the Celtic, the English, and the Scandinavian settlements. To the west and south may be seen from Storeton and the nearer Welsh Hills, the place where that long, neutral

line begins, that was the boundary of Englishman and Celt, or, it may be, between Roman and Briton, the district between Offa's Dyke and Watt's Dyke, stretching from the Dee to the Wye. Though this old boundary no longer marks the boundary of Wales, we may still find villages on its former line, within a mile of each other, Welsh being spoken in the one, English in the other. Along the banks of the Dee, Norse settlements are found, from which race are sprung the seamen and fishermen, who will not mix with the farmer folk.

So our Storeton township is, in the main, English. The men, broadly built and square-faced, light-haired, and fair-complexioned, taciturn and slow, are content with the work on the soil or in the quarries. There may be a degree of poverty, but there is no squalor. The long, spacious, one-storied cottages are clean and cheery and oftentimes, with gardens and orchards that 'villadom' might envy. They are the types of the English yeoman, hale, simple, and rude, but with an air of home, that modern structures, hired out by the hundred, never attain. The children, sturdy, with flaxen hair, and cheeks tinted like pink wild roses, when they are called home in the fading light, gambol in a leisurely way; there is no shouting nor screeching, like that of the street arabs of the town. Even their play seems as deliberate as their speech; the lads may be boorish and uncouth, the girls shy, and seemingly bashful and dull; and as they jog along they will croon some ancient ditties, or the scarcely understood rhymes and roundelays of some singing game that enshrine a world of old folk-lore. Some of the folk-lore customs kept up by the children still plainly tell of a pagan origin; for here many such traditions still linger, unobliterated by the sordid dead level of School Board education. As we pass homewards through the gathering twilight, the soft Saxon speech greets us with a kindly "goot nooit." We pass again by the glooming pine woods, moaning in the night wind, that is seldom still on the hill-top, through the close grown lanes, half choked with briar-rose, and willow, and odorous honeysuckle, over which the gray noiseless-winged owls from the gables pass like spectres, and our footsteps are noiseless on the grass-grown path. Here, in the dip of the lane, is our parting experience of antiquity. We become conscious, by that strange magnetism that so often comes over us in solitary places, of the proximity of human kind. A whiff of wood smoke greets the nostrils, and the embers of a fire glimmer at our feet, among

the moundlike tents of a tribe of gipsies, who lounge round the low embers, silent as the brawny-limbed children asleep in the tent; for they have heard footsteps, and, with the same instinct as wild animals in their lairs, they are still and immovable while we pass. The thickets of these grassy lanes are the favourite haunt of these wandering tribes, driven away from the many districts where local boards have improved away every beauty of wild nature. Here they find, in the willows and alders, material for their primitive manufactures of wickerwork, skewers, and clothes pegs. Whence they come, and whither they go we know not, but a year seldom passes without their visits; and when they vanish quietly as they come, a few chips and straws, and the round brand of their fires on the turf, which the next spring will cover with new growths, is the only trace of their wanderings. So we trudge on, thinking, under the gnarled oaks, through whose branches the stars are watching; the long grass is silver grey with dew, and the walls of bramble sprinkle us as we pass with warm drops, like those "idle tears" that

Well from the heart, and gather in the eyes,
In thinking of the days that are no more.

But here sounds the nervous tinkling of a bicycle bell; there shines a gas lamp; between us and the river rushes a railway train whistling, the steam sirens on the river are howling, as the craft drop down the night tide, their horrors softened by distance; and on the far horizon the further bank of the Mersey dimly scintillates the vast constellation that denotes the city of Liverpool with its lights. Our feet are again on the hard-trodden ways of modern life, and the glamour of the past has fled like a dream of the night. We have had a country walk to an old village, and seen a fine view,—and how much more! E. W. Cox.

DECEMBER 9, 1896.

NOTE.

[118] SNELL AND VYNER FAMILIES.

(See Nos. 47, 55, 98, and 113.)

In the recently published volume of 'Notes to the Visitation of England and Wales,' edited by Dr. Howard and Mr. Crisp, there are some interesting wills printed, which indirectly, and to some extent directly, refer to Cheshire, and as the book is an extremely rare one, only 80

copies having been printed at Mr. Crisp's private press, I do not think it would be out of place to reprint in our column several of these. In the first place the will of George Snell, citizen and goldsmith of London, who died in 1663, is interesting, as it is highly probable that he was the son of Archdeacon Snell (*see No. 93*), about whom there has been some correspondence lately. Certainly, Dr. Snell had a son George, who was living in 1654, and was a goldsmith in London at that time, and, so far as the books of the Goldsmiths' Company are complete for that period, it appears that there was only one George Snell a member of the Company at this period, and as a further proof it may be noted that the seal used by George Snell, whose will is printed below, is adorned with the arms of 'a Cross Flory,' which are the same arms as are used by Lydia Snell, the widow of the archdeacon.

On the other hand, Lydia Snell in her will dated 1670, speaks of "my son George" as if he were then living: this may, however, have been merely a colloquialism for grandson.

I am making further researches into this matter, and hope before this year closes to be able to communicate something further of importance in this matter to 'The Sheaf.'

The Vyner wills are interesting owing to the connection of this family with Cheshire by their ownership of the Manor of Bidston, and considerable property in Wallasey and Thingwall. Sir Robert Vyner, whose will is printed below, was the famous London banker, who financed and was so shamelessly thrown over by Charles II. He became interested in the Manor of Bidston and other Cheshire land through an advance which he made to the impecunious owner, Lord Kingston, and, by a foreclosure of this mortgage, the property eventually became vested in the hands of his relatives, and has since descended to the present owner, Robert Charles de Grey Vyner, of Fairfield, Yorkshire.

Should it be possible to prove the identity of of the two George Snells, we at once have an interesting descent from our Royalist archdeacon right down to the present day, when many who can claim George Snell, the goldsmith as their ancestor, hold important office in the State, or possess a distinguished place among our county families.

Claughton.

WM. FERGUSON IRVINE.

WILL OF GEORGE SNELL 1661.

George Snell Citizen and Goldsmith of London. Reciting that whereas before intermarriage with (1) Susan his then wife by Indenture Tripartite dated 9 January 1638 and collateral Indentures since made and executed by him to Frances Snow, Daniel Stallworthy Jeremy Snow or some of them did alien and set over the lease of his then dwelling house and of another tenement on the back or north side thereof in the parish of Allhallows Lombard Street upon trust for said wife during her life. Children named, William, Robert, John, Elizabeth. Sister Thomasin Horne. Cousin Thomas Rowe. To the Goldsmiths' Company ten pounds for a piece of plate. To the poor of St. Bartholomew's Hospital ten pounds. To the poor of the parish of St. Allhallows (*sic*) of Lombard St. fifty shillings. To the poor of "Lowton alias Lucton" Essex, fifty shillings. To the poor of St. Sepulchre five pounds. Friend Mr Matthew Turner. Son-in-law Mr John Hayward. Grandchildren, the children of daughter Heyward (but no names given). Customary copyhold lands in "Lowghton alias Lucton" Essex, to eldest son George Snell (by Susan his said wife) whom he also appoints sole executor and residuary legatee. Overseers, son-in-law Mr. John Heyward and brother (in law) Mr. (afterwards Sir) Jeremy Snow. Witnesses Peter Whiting and Henry West.

Will dated 15th December 1661 proved at London 1 February 1663

GEORGE SNELL [sgd]

WILL OF THOMAS VINER, D.D., 1673.

(2) Thomas Viner D.D., Dean of the Cathedral Church of Gloucester. Life interest in Real estate to Wife (3) Elizabeth Viner, with power to sell ground called Francklins, also all plate, jewels,

- (1) Susan or Susannah testator's second wife (sister of Sir Jeremiah Snow Bart.) the Jeremy Snow named in the will (of Shenley Hall otherwise Salisbury Hall, Herts) married after 9 January 1638. Testator's first wife was Mary Viner otherwise Vyner to whom he was married at St. Mary's Woolnoth 25 August 1631 and by whom he had a son William Snell who made his will 20 August 1705, and it would seem also a daughter, Mary, buried at Allhallows, Lombard Street, 30th January, 1654. She was buried in Allhallows Church, Lombard Street where her husband was buried 23 January 1663.
- (2) Dr. Vyner also held the rectory at Bradwell, juxta Hare, till his death. His monumental inscription is in Gloucester Cathedral. Arms: Vyner impaling Isod.
- (3) Elizabeth, daughter and co-heir of the Rev. Henry Isod, Rector of Staunton, co. Gloucester, of which parish the said Thomas Vyner was also at one time rector. Dr. Vyner's children by the said Elizabeth were an only son,

etc. Son Thomas (4) to have land and tithes at Issington, in Northleach, co. Gloucester after said wife's death. Brother Sir Robert Viner, overseer, Daughters named Honour, (5) and Cicell, Wife, sole executrix. Witnesses: John Guise, Luke Garnon, and John Campion.

Will dated 9 April 1673, proved at London 23 May 1673.

WILL OF SIR ROBERT VYNER, 1688.

Sir Robert Vyner of London, Knight and Baronet. To be buried in his vault in the Church of St. Mary Woolnoth. Property in the City of London, Manors of Swakeleys and Colum, Middlesex, and Manors of Keggworth and Frollsworth in the County of Leicestershire etc., to be sold for the benefit of creditors; and to make up their full debt whatsoever more was due to them to be assigned by executors to them on His Majesty's Patent for perpetual interest at £6 per cent. charged upon the hereditary part of the excise granted to testator and his assigns. The overplus of the estate to be thus divided to the executors hereinafter named, one-fourth part; to two nephews, Thomas and Robert Vyner, sons of brother Samuel Vyner, £100 apiece; the remainder of the three-fourth parts to be divided, by equal shares, unto four nieces, Mrs. Millington, and her sisters Frances Vyner, Mrs. Elizabeth Snell, and Mrs. Honnor Leigh, and to nephews (by marriage) Mr. Thomas Leigh and Mr. John Snell. Legacies to Christ's Hospital, St. Bartholomew's, St. Thomas's and Bethlehem Hospitals. Executors: Kinsman Francis Millington of London, Esq., and Thomas Vyner, Esq., son of Dr. Thomas Vyner, late Dean of Gloucester, deceased. Witnesses: Thomas Leeke, Martha Leeke, and Thomas Muddiman.

Will dated 29th August 1688, proved at London 4th October 1688, by Thomas Vyner the nephew. Francis Millington renounces 2nd November 1688.

Thomas Vyner, 'the younger,' his will dated 4 February 1706, and four daughters, Elizabeth the eldest (M.I. at Shenley), married John Snell, of Salisbury Hall, alias Shenley Hall, Herts; Honor, born at Staunton aforesaid 28 September, bapt. there 16 October 1653, died unmarried 20th, buried at St. Mary Woolnoth 22 April 1664; Honor born 1665 named in her father's will, married Thomas Leigh of St. Antholin's (brother of Sir Francis Leigh of Bexley, Kent knighted 1 December 1671).

(4) Ancestor of the present Robert Charles De Grey Vyner, the Marchioness of Ripon, the late Marchioness of Northampton, and three other brothers who died unmarried.

(5) Married Thomas Leigh merchant (see note 2) 1683 Apr 18 Honor dau. of Thomas and Honor Lee bapt. Buried 5 May.

1684 June 5 Elizabeth dau. of Thos. and Honnor Lee bapt.

Registers of St. Antholin, London.

WILL OF THOMAS VYNER, THE YOUNGER, 1706.

Thomas Vyner, the Younger, only son of Dr. Thomas Vyner, late Dean of Gloucester. Nephew Robert Snell, of the Inner Temple, Esq., sole executor. Testator died at Rome in 1707. Will dated 4th February, 1706, proved at London, 16th July, 1708; a codicil, dated "Frankford, 14th day of September, 17**," admitted to probate 20th December, 1711.

ORIGINAL DOCUMENTS.

[119] THE BISHOP OF CHESTER'S VISITATION FOR 1677.

The following presentments for the Deanery of Wirral are especially interesting, as they contain the names of some of the leading inhabitants. The Stanleys of Hooton, the Masseys of Puddington, and the Pooles of Poole, were all Roman Catholics, against whom at that time the feeling was very strong from the fact of the Duke of York, the heir presumptive to the throne, having joined them:—

BACKFORD.

Against Robert Southerne and Elizabeth Hayes for standing excommunicate these ten years.

BIDSTON.

Against William Lea, Thomas Lea, of Saughall Massey, Thomas Lea, of Moreton, Ellen Lea, Henry Newport, and Hester his wife, Thomas Newport and Ellen his wife, for not coming to church.

BURTON.

Against Richard Massye, gentleman, Agnes Massye, William Palliser, and Alice his wife, John Gregson, Agnes Barrowe, William Kellye, and Bridget his wife, Richard Jones and John Dale, for not coming to church.

EASTHAM.

Against Sir Rowland Stanley, Baronet, and Lady his wife, Michael Fitzwilliams, James Poole, Esq. and his wife, William Morgan, John Napper and his wife, Richard Greenhalgh, Thomas More, Charles Butler, John Poole, Ellen Bostocke, Elizabeth Chester, Ellen Sherlocke, widow, John Shawe and his wife, Alex. Grimshawe and John Peever, Popish Recusants. And the said Sir Rowland Stanley, Mr. Poole, and John Napper for not bringing their children to be christened, and their wives for not returning thanks, &c.

HESWALL.

Against Thomas Smith and John Ainsworth, churchwardens, for want of a Book of Homilies.

NESTON.

Against John Worrall, Sexton, for neglecting the King's Martyrdom Day: at the time of Sermon keeping great disorders in his house.

Against William Chantrell, and Jane his wife, and David Roughstitch his servant, Robert Knowles, and Anne his wife, Popish Recusants.

Against William Hickson, Anthony Pickering, and James Wolstenholme for profaning the Lord's Day, by hiring of horses.

Against John Birches for a Saboth breaker.

Against John Betson, Thomas Lightfoot, John Blacon, John Crose, Thomas Hancock, senr., Thomas Hancock, jun., Robert Towers, Richard Bennett, Edward Rogers, and John Pickavance for refusing to receive the Sacrament.

Against Thomas Crosse, John Walls, Thomas Bennett of Willaston, Ralph Green, Henry Higgins, Thomas Perrie, Richard Bellin of Thornton, John Fells and Richard Worrall for the same.

Against John Jones, Edward Pemberton of Raby, Richard Golborne of Hargrave, George Rawlin of Raby, Henry Ball of Great Neston, James Wolstenholme, Richard Styles, Roger Gorse, John Morgan, Priest, Daniel Burscoe, Robert Lake, John Ball, James Limrick, Richard Waring, Henry Waring, Daniel Hill, John Vernon and Thomas Fletcher for the same.

SHOTWICK.

Against Thomas Turner and Ann his wife, and William Latham Papists.

Against Francis Wood, Clerk, Minister, and Ralph Heath, Clerk, Curate and Schoolmaster, for not producing their licences.

STOAKE.

Against George Wodger and Elizabeth his wife, Hugh Brownett and William Howard for Schismatics, and Quakers, and Standing Excommunicate.

THURSTASTON.

Against Ellen Whitmore for not coming to Church. Against Thomas Gong and John Johnson, Churchwardens, for defrauding the parish of the old surplice.

WALLASEY.

Against Richard Robinson and Henry Tyerer, Churchwardens, for want of a carpent for the Communion Table, a booke of Homilies, and table of degrees, and their Church Chest hath but one Locke.

WEST KIRBY.

The Churchwardens are to bring in a Note of the Noncommunicants.

certified by the Committee of the County, who further certified that compounder was not only aged, but otherwise weak, also that his house, where he lived was within 5 miles of Chester, and under the command of that Garrison.

He compounded upon a Particular delivered in under his own hand consenting to such fine as might be imposed—and by the Particular it appeared

That he was seized intail of the Manor of Puddington aforesaid and certain dameene lands and tenements within the same worth before the troubles £210 yearly, also of a like estate in the manor of Ledsham in the said county worth yearly £80, also of a like estate in certain Rack Rents in Larton-cum-Newton in the said co. worth yearly £25 10s. 0d., and of the like estate of certain Ancient rents in Puddington, in Ness, Ledsham and Beabington, worth yearly £22, also of other ancient rents in Warford in the said county worth yearly £16—also of certain other ancient rents in the Hundred of Norwich in the said County worth £14 a year and other ancient rents in Harding, in the co. of Flint, worth yearly £1.

He was seized of a Frank Tenement for three lives in the Manor of Burton Co. Chester together with a Mill and other appurtenances to the same belonging held by lease of the Bishop of Lichfield and Coventry at a rent of £20 a year worth over and above the reserved rent £3 yearly.

He was also seized for two lives of the Moiety of the Rectory of Wallasey in the said County held by lease of the B'p. of Chester at the rent of £16 a year worth over and above the said rent yearly £34.

He was possessed for 8 years then to come of the Hundred of Worrall [?] and certain casual profits within the same held by lease of Sir John Walter and others at a rent of £1 11s. 8d. and worth *Communibus Annis* £4 a year more than the rent.

Compounder claimed an allowance of £80 a year for which two tenements in Ledsham stood mortgaged for 6 years then to come. And of £1080, which he had been damaged, in the burning of 40 bays of buildings by the Parliaments party when the said house was made a garrison by them. Whereby the city of Chester was much straitened and more easily reduced.

Also of £1000 which he had been damnified in his woods being cut down and sold by Sequestrators

D. Watkins

6 April 1647

Will Thomson

R. Gurdon 1647

May 13—fine at 1-6th—is £1414.

Petition—

He mentioned that in the beginning of the wars by reason of his house being subject to three several garrisons, held against the Parliament, he for his own quiet did resort to Chester, and there resided for some time, and for this his estate was sequestered.

DECEMBER 16, 1896.

[120] COMPOSITION PAPERS OF SIR WILLIAM MASSEY, OF PUDDINGTON, KNIGHT.

SIR WILLIAM MASSEY OF PUDDINGTON, CO. OF CHESTER, KNIGHT.

His Delinquency

That he deserted his habitation and resorted to the city of Chester, then held as a Garrison, against the Parliament.

He petitioned 17 Nov. 1646, took the N.C. and N.O. immediately after Chester was reduced,

Mentions that he had long previously taken the N.C. and N.O., he expressed a wish to compound.

17 Nov., 1646.

Referred to the County and then to the London Sub-committee.

A particular of his Estate.

Certificate—signed by H. Brook vic.
dated 5 March 1646-7 G. Booth

John Legh.

described as Deputy Lieutenants and others, addressed to the Committee of the Lords and Commons.

Mentioning that Compounder was aged and weak that his house was within 5 miles of Chester and so under the command of the Garrison there, that he went to Chester remained there till it was reduced and then voluntarily took the Oath of 5th April with the N.C. and that when his health permitted he went to church all which they certified.

Affidavit of Thomas Glaseour of Lea co. Chester Esq. deposing that certain lands in the Manor of Ledsham had been about 8 years then ago conveyed to him and others by the Compounder to secure payment of £400 out of which £80 only had been repaid to Mr. (or Mrs.) Sorocold and to Mr. (or Mrs.) Whitfield and that the said lands then stood chargeable for the remainder.

Sworn 2 April 1647.

We whose names are subscribed in discharge of that duty wherein we stand engaged for the preservation of Religion and the lawes and liberties of the Kingdom and Subjects, Doe hereby Certifie under o'r hands that Sir Wm. Massey of Puddington in the county of Chester Knt. is a known Papist who voluntarily contributed to the Forces raised against the King and Parliament, and that his sonnes were in arms and deeply engaged for these Forces, and that Sir Wm. Massey himselfe continued in Chester untill it was taken by the Parliament's Forces.

Dated this xth of June, 1647.

Will Brereton H. Brooke
Will Edwardes
Thos Prenton
John Bevan

Knoweth him to be a convicted Papist.

Endorsed.

R'd that noe order issue forth for suspending the Sequestration of his estate although his money bee payd forasmuch as he was a Papist in Armes.

Petition, dated 30th Oct., 1649.

Praying for an order directing the Committee for the Hundred of Macolesfield to remove the Sequestration of his lands in that Hundred amounting to £25 19s. 8d. yearly, the Committee refusing to take the Sequestration off more than for the yearly sum £16. This complication arose through an error in stating compounder's rents in the several places, but not in the aggregate. His prayer was granted.

[121] SOME LOCAL NAMES.

The Rev. Isaac Taylor has just written a valuable book on the subject of which he is one of the greatest living authorities. It is entitled *Names and their Histories; alphabetically arranged as a Handbook of Historical Geography and Topographical Nomenclature*. A few extracts referring to some local names will illustrate the useful character of the book.

CHESTER, the county town of CHESHIRE (Chestershire), was the *Deva* of the Romans, so called from standing on the Dee, the 'divine river' of the Britons. Being the station of a Roman legion, it acquired the name of *Civitas Legionum*, the city of the legions. This became the British *Caerleon*, from the Welsh *Caer*, 'a city,' and *leon*, a corruption of *legione*, an indeclinable substantive, formed, as in other cases, from the ablative of *legio*. While CAERLEON on the Usk, which was the Roman *Isca Silurum*, has retained its British name, Caerleon on the Dee, the 'city called legione,' became in Anglo-Saxon *Lega-Ceaster*, or *Lege-Ceaster*, the 'Legion Chester,' and finally Chester, the prefix being dropped.

DEE, the chief river in North Wales, was called by the Welsh *Dubr-Duiu*, or *Dufrdwy*, the 'water of the goddess,' in Latin form *Deva*, equivalent to the 'divine' river. The same meaning probably attaches to the name of other rivers called the Dee.

MERSEY: The river Mersey has been explained as *Meres-æa*, the 'sea-water,' or river. It seems to be the *Maerse* mentioned in a charter of 1004 granting lands between 'Maerse and Ribbel.' This form, if correct, would imply a prehistoric *Marusia*, a Celtic name meaning 'dead,' i.e., 'quiet water,' as contrasted with the open sea.

WIRRAL, a hundred in Cheshire, comprises the tongue of land between the Dee and the Mersey. It was the territory of the Cornavii, a Celtic tribe, who like the *Cornwealas* (see CORNWALL), probably took their name from this projecting corner or 'horn' of land, to which the Teutonic name Wirral, spelt *Wirhal* in 1004, may also refer. The people were called *Wirhealas*, Chester being described in the Chronicle as 'a waste chester on *Wirhealum*,' where *Wirhealum* is the dative plural of the name of the inhabitants. In Anglo-Saxon *heal* or *healh* signifies a corner, angle, or slope, and *wir* means myrtle, probably bog-myrtle, a plant with which this boggy flat was doubtless overgrown.

FLINTSHIRE takes its name from the town of FLINT, on the estuary of the Dee. In old documents we have *Castellum apud Fluntum*, which somewhat later becomes *apud le Flynt*, 'on the flow' or tideway. The name of Flint affords a good example of the old guesswork style of etymology, since we are gravely informed that it is so called because it abounds in flints!

DENBIGH means in Welsh the 'cliff.' It is the same name as TENBY, which is a Flemish corruption of *Dynbych-y-Pyscod*, 'fish cliff.'

CARNARVON or CAERNARVON, was the town which gathered round Edward's Castle, and became the capital of the land of Arfon. The Welsh name is *Caer-yn-arfon*, 'the City of Arfon' (with the regular letter change of *m* to *f*), meaning the land over against Mon, Mon being the island of Mona, now called Anglesey. Gray's line, 'On Arvon's dreary shore they lie,' preserves the memory of the land of Arfon, now a Parliamentary district, as well as the true meaning of Carn-arvon.

ANGLESEY, often called, with needless tautology, the Isle of Anglesey, is not, as is often said, 'the isle of the Angles,' but the old Norse *Enguls eg*, 'the isle of the strait.'

RUNCORN, a corruption of *Rumcofan*; the dative of the Anglo-Saxon *Rumcofa*, the broad or roomy cove. In Anglo-Saxon, *Cofa* meant a 'chamber' or 'cave,' and afterwards a 'cove' or 'bay.'

EATON or ETON is the *tun* by the water (ed). The Anglo-Saxon form is *Eatun*.

DECEMBER 23, 1896.

ORIGINAL DOCUMENTS.

[122] THE COMPOSITION PAPERS OF JOHN WILSON, OF THE CITY OF CHESTER, GENTLEMAN.

His Delinquences.

That he lived in Chester whilst it was a Garrison held by the enemy against the Parliament—that he adhered to them and contributed towards the maintenance of those forces, and was a Commissioner of Array. He petitioned in London 22 April, 1646; took the N.C. before William Barton same day, also the N.O. before the Committee in London.

He compounded upon a Particular sent up out of the country and upon another delivered in under his own hand, by which he submitted to any fine, &c., and by the Particular it appeared

That he was seized in Fee to him and his heirs in possession of and in certain lands and tenements lying and being in "the Frith," in the said county, of the yearly value of £24.

That he was seized of a like estate in old rents worth 21s. 4d. a year.

That he was possessed of an interest charged upon certain other lands lying and being in the said town and county aforesaid, by virtue of a Statute Merchant which was in Suit in the Court of Wards, the owners of the land pretending that the debt had been satisfied. This before the troubles was worth £15 a year.

That he was possessed of a like interest in old rent paid of the premises 5s.

That he possessed other old rents worth 35s. a year before the troubles, the same issuing out of lands in Frith and Wrenbury.

That he was seized of a like estate of and in a smith's shop in Wrenbury aforesaid, and of a Cottage and garden to the same belonging, worth £1 a year.

That he was in possession of the Remainder of a lease having five years then to run, in a tenement lying in Malpas held of Lord Breerton, worth above the reserved rent. £1 a year.

That he was seized of a Frank Tenement for three lives of two Burgage houses in Chester, held by demise from the Earl of Shrewsbury at a rental of £3 a year, worth before the troubles over and above the reserved rent. £9 a year.

That he was also in possession of the Remainder of a term of 80 years, determinable upon three lives held by demise and lease from Colonel Moore at the yearly rent of £2, and was worth before the troubles above the reserved rent £8.

The latter had been defaced and spoiled, pulled down by the soldiers at Chester.

Compounder was possessed of goods to the value of £3 and there were debts owing to him £60.

A personal estate of his worth £500 had been seized and sold to the use of the State.

7 Aug't, 1646.

Fine £285.

John Wilson of the Cittie of Chester, gen humbly prayes this hoble Committee that his Composition may be reviewed and his fyne regulated accordinge to his former pticular., there being theise gen'all mistakes followings, that were made by the then Sub-Committee, viz.—

That he hath but an estate for life in the lands in the frith and is sett in fee

The some of 60li. charged upon the Land in the frith to be paid unto Christian Willson and omitted, and £20 unto Richard Wilson

The £1 7 4 mentioned to be an ould Rent is a rent of Assize whereby taxes and leavies are pportioned And noe pftt that accorneth to the Compounder

The Woodlands reported to be held in Fee, the Compounder hath butt onely an Estate upon a Statute mchaut

The 5s. mentioned to be an ould rent is onely a pportion and noe pftt as before

That the grounds neere Malpas he hath butt only an Estate for one yeare yett to come and that yt is but xxs. better than the Lords rent, yett the same is reported to be a tenement and att a greater value

He humbly prayeth farther that he may have allowance for theise further charges wch were omitted and not putt into his pticular

The two tenements in Chester w'ch he houldeth by lease for 3 lyves from the Earll of Shrewsbury att 3li Rent p. ann. were Mortgaged for 4li upon the 4 of June 8 Caroli and that the same is a Reall debt and both stocks and use yet unpaid.

That the other Tenement in Chester held from Colonel More was the 10th day of M'ch in the 14th yeare of the late Kings Raigne assigned upon Marie Wilson to hould and enjoy the same from her accomplishmt of xliij yeares of age, duringe the remoynder of the term in the original lease specified.

His Brother claymeth 20£ charged upon the Lands accordinge to the Deed before mentioned.

He oweth to the Lady Smith 4li, to his mother and brother 1li and the Earle of Shrewsbury 20£ to Richd Burroughs 5li to Richd Whickstead 2li to George Ravenscroft 20li And to John Wilson £20 and dyv'rse other smale debts to the valew of 10li.

JOHN WILSON.

Petition—in which he mentioned that about two yeares then ago his fine was set at £285—whereupon he repaired to the Country to raise money to pay the same but he was imprisoned by the Committee of Chester and had up to date of petition remained in custody.

He mentioned that there were divers mistakes in the casting up of his fine, and that these were real charges upon his land. That at the time he was making his Report before the Sub-Committee he did not have his evidences with him. That he had been charged as if he held his lands in Fee simple, whereas he had but an estate for life therein.

He mentioned that he had paid a Moiety of his Fine and secured the remainder, and he prayed for a Review of his former Composition.

Read. 3 July 1649 and referred to the sub-committee to examine and report.

Affidavit sworn 10 July 1649 by Compounder—deposing to the facts stated in his Petition above.

Original Petition dated 22 April 1646.

Report—dated 16 July 1649—a review of the whole case by D. Watkins a Master in Chancery.

In it he states that Compounder "saith that at the tyme of his compositt it was alledged that he was an Attourney at Lawe and accordingly his

fine was set at 5 yeares' value whereas he offereth to despoise that he was never an Attorney of any of Courts in Westminster. But that his unokle Sr. Thomas Ireland comeing to be vice Chancellor of Chester he swore him to be an Attorney of the Excheq in Chester, wch. practice he also left above ten yeares since wch. he prayes may be considered [wch. is also confirmed by the affidavit of Thomas Harrison gent].

16 July 1649.

D. Watkins.

To Readinge.

"13 August 1649 the fine unpaid is remitted."

Chester 19 Marcij 1645

You are desired to p'mitt and suffer the bearer hereof Mr. John Wilson with his horse to passe all your guards scouts and sentinells from this City to Namptwich and Wrenbury and to return without lett or molestacon (hee having before this Comittee taken the Oath appointed by Ordinance of Parliament of the 5th of April last.)

Jo: Bruen

To all Com'and Officers
and soldieres in service for
King and Parliament.

Ro: Grigge

Edw. Bradshawe
William Davies

at Namptwich

Letter dated 23 June 1646 from the Sequestrations of Nantwich Hundred—signed by

Thomas Malbone, Robert Wilkes, Randall Hampton, Thomas Harwor, George Edgeley, William Harrison, acknowledging receipt of a letter from the Committee sitting at Goldsmith Hall dated the 25 of April then preceding "which came not into our hands until the 20th of June next after"—accompanying this letter they sent a True Particular (Fo. 630) of the estate of Compounder.

(To be continued.)

NOTE.

[123] THE DERIVATION OF THE PLACE-NAME WIRRAL.

(See No. 121.)

Canon Isaac Taylor, in his 'Words and Places,' lays it down as a principle to be observed in hazarding a conjecture as to the derivation of any place-name, that "if the name be topographic or descriptive, we must ascertain if it conforms to the physical features of the spot."

In his derivation of the name Wirral, however, printed in *The Sheaf* last week, quoted from "Names and their Histories," Canon Taylor appears to have ignored his own rule. "Wir," he writes, "means myrtle, probably bog-myrtle, a plant with which this boggy flat was doubtless overgrown." Canon Taylor can certainly never have taken the trouble to ascertain if this description conformed to the

physical features of the spot, or he would never have described our peninsula as a "boggy flat." One's soul revolts at the imputation. The Hundred of Wirral is singularly free from any marsh land or bogland, with the exception of the country lying between West Kirby and Bidston, and fully nine-tenths of the whole area of the Peninsula is undulating land at an altitude varying from fifty to three hundred and sixty feet above the sea level.

True there is a peat bed on the shore at Leasowe, but this is usually believed to have grown at a time long anterior to the English occupation, and its re-appearance is only due to the erosion by the tides. The writer is no botanist, but so far as his observation goes he has never seen any bog-myrtle growing in Wirral, and his wanderings have led him over most of its surface.—Yours,
HOLLY.

DECEMBER 30, 1896.

ORIGINAL DOCUMENTS.

[124] THE COMPOSITION PAPERS OF JOHN WILSON, OF THE CITY OF CHESTER, GENTLEMAN.

[Continued from No. 122, December 23.]

Heads of the charge against Mr. John Wilson one of the Attorneys before the Judges att Chester and one of the Coroners of the same countie, viz. :—

1. That when the Lord Grandison entred Namptwich hee beinge then under Sheryff to Sr. Hughe Kalveley then highe Sherryff of the Countie of Chester and a Com'issioner of arraye (as wee are informed) did Ryde before the said Lord and gyde him into the said towne wth. his sword by his syde.

2. That when the sayd Lord Grandison was in Cheeshire he did conducte and bringe a greate company of the Enemyes horse to a worthe minister's house (one whose was very firme for the Parliamt.) and plundered him of all or most of his goods to the value of C^{li}. att least (as the sayd mynester informed us) and p'ven by oathe that he had pte. thereof himselfe.

3. That when the Comissione's of Arraye came from Ranmore and entered Namptwich hee havinge byn wth. them at Ranmore where hee had read the Com'ission of Arraye unto the people did Ryde bareheaded before them into the said Towne in a Reioycing man'er being in assotiasoon wth. them.

4. That hee caused Sr. Willi'm Brereton to be p'claymed Traytor and alsoe the Earle of Essex and his adherents openlie in the heighe markett

place at the Cage in Namptwich causing John Patricke (then one of his Bayliffs and a great Cavalier) to do the same standinge a greate heighte upon the flyshboard and rebuked many w'ch were then p'sente for not standinge bare at the same p'clamacon.

5. That he did afterwards (wth. assistance of others by his command) vyolentie breake open the house doore of John Tomdre being an officer and faythful for the Parliament in the said Towne and did carry awaye all or most of his goods hee found in the said howse—And that hee did alsoe cause the howse doore of Thomas Steele (then one of the Constables of the said Towne of Namptwiche) vyolentie to bee broken open wth a Smythes greate hammer, and there entered into his said howse and also into his shopp (being a Staeyoner) wth many in his Company where the said Steele lost many of his Bookes and they also carried awaye some bodie arms and other of his goodes wth them.—And that afterwards, hee did apprehend the same Steele (beinge firme for the Parliamt) and kept him in p'son.

6. That hee went to Chester when the Com'is sion's of Arraye went thether that he lived there in Associa'ion with the Enemy until Chester was delivered upp and beinge an Attorney there when the Enemy held an assize att Chester he was very active (as we are informed) in presenting up the names of hundreds of the Parlmts side which were then indioted of Treason and afterwards was willinge and forward (being Coroner) to gyve judgm't upon the exigents of the Indictm'ts (as he hath confessed) whereas the p'ties indioted durst not appear unto them.

7. That hee was in company and associa'ion wth the Enemy when the Seige laye agaynat Namptwich in Armes And did utter speeches to a tenant of a gent lyving in the said Towne that his land-lord was a Trator and Rebell and was indioted att th' assizes and he sho'd pay him noe more rente for nowe the lands were his.

8. That hee caused an honest firme man for Kinge and Parliamt. to be ymprisoned for executing the Sequestrato's warrant whose was enforced before hee cold bee delivere'd to paye iijli to the said Wilson's wyfe and S'vants.

Thomas Malbon
Randall Hampton
Robert Wilkes

Thomas Harwar
William Harrison
George Edgeley

Sequestrato's.

FO. 633-5 A True Particular of petitioner's property &c. under his own hand.

On the Endorsement— Aug. 1646

Paid nothing
Rept. 20 Dec. '49
Ffyne £142 10 0

[125] FRODSHAM CHURCHWARDEN ACCOUNTS.

Extracts from the Disbursements of Thomas Dutton and William Littlemore, Churchwardens of Frodsham, in the year of our Lord 1651, in the period of the Commonwealth under the Parliament and Oliver Cromwell:—

Payd to Mr. Hillton Deputy Treasurer			
Quarter Sessions Money.....	00	03	04
Given to a North country man who had letters of requiste	00	01	00
Paid to the Sextine p'te of his wages...	00	06	08
Given to an Irishman who had L's of requiste	00	02	02
Given to 12 p'sons who came out of the County of Suffolk, and had letters of requiste	00	01	03
Given to a company of Irish people who had letters of request.....	00	01	06
Given to an ould man of Boulton who had letters of requiste.....	06	00	06
Given to another Irish gentlewoman who had letters of request.....	00	00	04
Given to a Lancashire woman who had letters of request.....	00	00	06
Given to a Yorkshireman who had letters testimoniall	00	00	04
Paid to Elizabeth Wimpenny for keeping the child found in the forest and imposed upon our p'ish, with other p'ishes their charge.....	00	07	00
Pd. to 12 Irish people who had a passe from the Parliamt.	00	01	00
Pd. to the ringers for ringing the bells uppo the 5th of November being the day of our deliverance fro. the Papists' Conspiracie	00	03	04
Payd to Laurence Cokaine for repaying the Clocke and for a look and other yron worke done by him for ye parish use	00	06	00

F. D. RINGROSE.

NOTES.

[126] THE DIOCESE OF CHESTER.

Whatever may be the merits of Mr. Fenwick's new book on Chester in other respects, it is certainly no trustworthy guide in ecclesiastical matters. It states that the diocese of Chester was constituted in 1544, and that it was taken out of the diocese of Lichfield and Coventry. Now the merest tyro in church history knows that the diocese was erected in 1541, and that it was formed from the ancient archdeaconries of Chester and Richmond, the former, indeed, having been part of the diocese of Lichfield, but the latter of the diocese of York. It was on account of so large a portion of the new

diocese being taken from York that it was placed in the northern province.

Mr. Fenwick does not seem to know the difference between a *Prebendary* and a *Prebend*. On turning to a dictionary, I find that a *Prebend* is the share of the estate of a cathedral allowed to a *Prebendary*; while a *Prebendary* is an ecclesiastic who enjoys a *Prebend*. To call a man a *Prebend* is as absurd as calling him a *Rectory* or a *Vicarage*!

CLERICUS.

[127] THE CHESHIRE NONJURING CLERGY.

(See Nos. 61, 63, 65, 80, and 84, June 24, July 1 and 8, and Aug. 12 and 19).

In addition to the names already given, the names of the following Cheshire Nonjurors have been preserved:—

Mr. Thomas Boardman, *Rector* of the Leigh moiety of Grappenhall.

Mr. Humphrey Only, *Rector* of Little Budworth.

Mr. Matthew Wright, *Curate* of Warmingham.

Mr. Jehn Farringdon, *Curate* of Churchminshal.

Mr. Theophilus Richardson, *Curate* of Peover.

Mr. Philip Egerton, son of Sir Philip Egerton, *Bart.* *He afterwards complied.*

Mr. Richard Cumberland, *Curate* of Tabley.

Mr. John Yeates (*Curate* of Lymme).

Mr. John Puckering, *Schoolmaster* of Middlewich.

Mr. John Davis, *Vicar* of Frodsham. *He afterwards conformed.*

[128] COMPOSITION PAPERS OF MASSEY OF PUDDINGTON, AS ILLUSTRATED BY THOSE OF THE BUTTERS AND SAVAGES. (See No. 120).

The Parliamentary grantees (?) or lessees of the Hundred of 'Worral,' (the phonetic spelling), Walter and others, seem to have made a lease, or assigned (?) one to Massey of only 'casual profits' arising out of the Hundred; but it is not at all clear why the whole Hundred was leased with them for so trifling a rent, unless some peculiarity in the character of this portion of the 'profits' rendered a lease of it necessary to give an effective legal title to the real 'premises,' because it is certain that the whole ordinary issues and profits of the entire Hundred would have amounted to a very large sum.

In the case of the Bailiwick of the Hundred of Bucklow, granted by the Black Prince, as Palatine Count of Chester, to Adam de Acton of the Actons of Acton in Delamere Forest, for 'the great place he held at the battle of Poitiers,' the profits would be about equal to £40 *per annum*, or equivalent to the profits of Lyme manor granted to Sir Thomas Danyers for

similar services, and which passed to the Leghs.

The Glasiers of Lea, in Backford, the Manx successors (?) of the 'de la Leas' or Lees, were a family of old traders, which, like the Smiths and Wrights of Nantwich, rose in the days of Henry VIII. and Elizabeth, when trades were freed from the hampering rules of the Medieval Guilds, which, as with professions, were a restraint upon the respectable lower classes.

The composition, or fine, of £1,414 was large, because of the outrageous conduct of the Papists generally, and the desperate fears of the nation, produced by the encouragement given to them by Charles I. But it was quite an ordinary fine as compared with that of Butter of Kingsley, who, like Massey and many others, fled to Chester, during the siege. I forget the exact amount—about £1,200 (some £10,000 modern on average prices).

The Butter name and fine does not occur in any of the printed lists, which are all more or less defective; but the Butter Composition Papers are among the most interesting. This

fine was only a few pounds lower than that of John Savaga, Earl Rivers, whose estate being so very much larger at that period of their family fortunes, points to an excessive levy against the heir male of the old barons of Malpas. The chief cause was most probably the tongue of the mother of the youthful heir. She was, if I remember Ormerod aright, of a cadet line of the Littlers of Wallerscote—a little old family of great origin. She seems to have been an out-and-out shrew, weak to a degree in the control of her temper, yet a regular virago. In one of several 17th century love-letters of Mary Hatton, of Hatton, Daresbury (*pene me*), is comically illustrated the domestic activity of the lady-flagellants of the age. Mrs. Butter is referred to in a manner quite confirmatory of wholly distinct evidence, as to her outrageous loyalty in the midst of a parish such as Frodsham, of eleven or twelve townships, whose whole length and breadth was filled with thorough-going Parliamentarians and Puritans. She defied the lot, and paid for it handsomely, in the ruin of the family within three generations afterwards. T. HALSEY.

INDEX.

A.

Abbot, Archbishop, 84
 Acton, Captain, 96; Edward, 34;
 Family 119; *see* De Acton
 Adam, 58, 61; son of John, 55; son
 of Randle, 55; son of Richard,
 55, 58
 Addawes, Widdow, 94
 Addersich, William, 94
 Addison, 75
 Aggett, M., 93
 Agnes, wife of Bradelegh, 53; wife
 of Roger, 53
 Aigburth, *see* De Aigburth
 Ainsworth, John, 113
 Alan, 60; son of Laurence, 55
 Albon, *see* St. Albon
 Alcock, Richard, 34
 Aldersey, Marye, 45; William, 45
 Aldersey, Margaret, 44; Thomas,
 24, 69; William, 2
 Alderson, John, 50
 Aldis, Rev. Charles Meeling, 79;
 Mary, 79
 Alexandro fl' Picot, 41
 Alice, wife of Roger, 55; wife of
 William, 53
 Alkoc, 58; William, 59
 Allen, 39; Anne, 77; John, 37,
 94; Thomas, 94; William, 77
 Amc', son of William, 59
 Anderton, Hugh, 50; James 36
 Andirton, *see* De Andirton
 Ankers, Edward, 104
 Anot, 54
 Anyon, John, 24
 Archbishop of Tuam, 99
 Arcoll, Elizabeth, 96
 Arderne, Dean, 75; Henry, 89;
 James, Dean of Chester, 57; Sir
 John, 89
 Ardren, Johannes, 11
 Are, Richard, 95
 Arrowmyth, John, 41
 Ashe, John, 98
 Ashton, 45; John, 8; Sarah, 62
 Asaheton, George, 34; Ralph, 30
 Ashworth, —, 64
 Aspeden, Rev. John, 34
 Aston, Bridget, 44; John, 44;
 Thomas, 11; Sir Thomas, 43,
 44; *see* De Aston
 Atkinson, Canon, 80
 Atterbury, 16
 Audelym, *see* De Audelym
 Axon, Roger, 95; Thomas, 28;
 William, 29
 Aykebe', *see* De Aykebe'
 A M., 81

B.

Bagnall, 4; Randle, 90
 Bagshaw, Rev. Edward, 34
 Baguley, Rev. Richard, 3
 Bagwell, —, 4, 5
 Bailey, Thomas 89

Baily, Randle, 92
 Bairns, William, 96
 Bake, Margery 94
 Baker, Catherine, 65; Edward, 66;
 Thomas, 104
 Ball, 4; Andrew, 81; Henry, 114;
 John, 114; Mayster (Mr.), 24;
 Widdow, 93; William, 68
 Balle, Richard, 59; William, 5, 59
 Bamville, Joan, 106; *see* De Bamville
 Bancroft, Richard, 56
 Barber, Archdeacon, 30; Arch-
 deacon of Chester, 74
 Barker, Matthew, 100; Rev. Randle,
 34; Rev. Robert, 34; Robert, 50;
 Widdow, 95
 Barlow, Rev. John, 34; Robert, 48
 Barylbred, William, 53
 Barnes, Nicholas, 32
 Barnis, Dns. Randle, 34
 Barnston, Mary, 104
 Barrow, Thomas, 93
 Barrowe, Agnes, 113; Hugh, 12;
 Thomas, 24
 Barton, Rev. John, 35; William, 49,
 51, 116
 Barton, Rev. William, 66, 67;
 Widdow, 69
 Barwe, *see* De Barwe
 Bate, Francis, 95; Richard, 62
 Bathoe, Eliza, 62
 Bathow, Richard, 95
 Baxter, Robert, 65; William, 78
 Bayley, Alexander, 87; Martha, 87
 Bayly, William, 6
 Beator, Roger, 60
 Beckett, Thomas, 93
 Beddow, William, 35
 Beeston, Georgius, 11; Hugo, 11
 Bellet, Rev. John, 34
 Bellin, Richard, 114
 Bennet, Grace, 28; Rev. Roger, 34
 Bennett, An, 36; Elizabeth, 84;
 George, 36; George, 13, 14;
 Henry, 36, 37; Lydia, 84; Peter,
 12; Richard, 114; Robert, 36;
 Thomas, 36, 84, 93, 114; William,
 50
 Berd, James, 36
 Berkenhead, Henricus, 11
 Berris, Jane, 68; Roger, 68
 Berron, Sir Nicholas, 15
 Beswicke, Robert, 109
 Betson, John, 114; Thomas, 45;
 Rev. Thomas, 34; —, 28
 Bevan, John, 115
 Beverley, Ann, 41; George, 74; Sir
 George, 41; Samuel, 5
 Beynion, Rev. Rycharte, 35
 Bickerton, Rev. Thomas, 92
 Bigland, —, 107
 Bignley, Rev. Richard, 3
 Billing, Rev. Robert, 12, 13; Rev.
 Thomas, 13
 Billings, John, 12, 13; Rev. Thomas,
 12, 13, 14

Billington, Josias, 73
 Birch, Captain —, 75
 Birchenahawe, —, Abbot of Chester,
 7
 Birches, John, 114
 Bird, John, Biahop of Chester, 2;
 Family, 82
 Birkened, Henry, 8, 52, 67
 Birkenhead, Henry 45, 50, 64;
 Rychard, 104
 Birkenheade, Henrey 23
 Birkenhed, Henry, 98
 Birron, Rev. Humfrie, 34
 Bishop, Henry, 37; —, 37
 Bispham, Prebend —, 44
 Black Prince, Palatine Count of
 Chester, the, 119
 Blackbourne, Richard, 93
 Blackhurst, Widdow, 94
 Blackwell, Eldad, 100
 Blacon, John, 114
 Blake, Rev. Peter, 34
 Blakey, Roger, 34
 Blakyn, Rev. John, 34
 Blamyes, Mathew, 35
 Blease, Christopher, 50
 Blinston, Rev. Peter, 13
 Bloore, Randall, 93
 Blunderville, Earl Randle, 95
 Boardman, Thomas, 119; Rev. —,
 14; —, 72
 Boddington, Henry, 10
 Boden, Joseph, 98
 Bold, Rev. Edward, 31; Henerie,
 45
 Bolland, Thomas, 30
 Bonk, *see* Del Bonk
 Boond, Johy, 73; Mary, 73; Samuel,
 72; Sarah, 72
 Booth, G, 115; Sir George, 97;
 Lawrence, 14
 Boothe, Sir George, 23; Georgius,
 11
 Bostock, Ralph, 37
 Bostocks, Ellen, 113
 Boughey, John, 95
 Boulton, Hugh, 95; Major —, 81
 Bourdman, Rev. Gabriel, 15, 16
 Bowden, Joseph, 100
 Bowres, Robert, 16
 Bowyer, Geo., 74
 Boydell, John, 50
 Boyle, —, Earl of Cork, 4
 Bradbury, John, 64; —, 64
 Bradelegh, 53
 Bradeley, Nicholas, 94
 Bradford, Thomas, 27
 Bradshaw, Edward, 8, 44; Richard,
 98
 Bradshawe, Edw., 117; Richard, 52
 Bragerdell, Will, 50
 Brassey, Lord, 7
 Brassie, John, 7
 Braynes, Thomas, 69
 Bremfld, William, 50
 Brentfield, William, 50

- Brereton, Lord, 116; Baundplphus, 11; Rich., 23; Sir Thomas, 23; William, 23, 91, 115; Gen. Will., 100; Sir William, 9, 23, 51, 52, 70, 72, 78, 90, 91, 100, 118; Willms, 11
 Brerewood, Ryod, 24
 Bresse, Lawrence, 93, 94
 Bretherton, Henry, 35
 Bridge, Rev. Harre, 34; Dr. J. C., Organist of Chester Cathedral, 107; Thomas, Prior of St. John's Hospital, Chester, 1
 Bridgeman, Hene, 100; John, Bishop of Chester, 30, 31, 85; Lydia, 83, 85; Sir Orlando, 85, 86; William, 85; Dr. —, Bishop of Chester, 83; —, 60; —, 86
 Bridges, Tho., 98, 100; —, 28
 Bridgett, Rev. T. E., 4
 Bridgewater, John, Earl of, 23
 Bridgman, Hen., 98; Dr. John, Lord Bishop of Chester, 107; Lydia, 52; Sir Orlando, 52; Sir Orlando, Lord Chief Baron, Lord Chief Justice, and Lord Keeper, 107; Bishop —, 52
 Brinley, Widdow, 94
 Brittany, Randle, Earl of Chester, and Duke of, 1
 Broadhead, Jonathan, 65; Margret, 65
 Brodbery, John, 94
 Brodere, Thomas, 55
 Brodford, John, 93
 Brodie, —, 31
 Broke, *see* Del Broke
 Bromley, Rev. George, 34
 Bronn, Thomas, 53
 Bronneshanke, —, 24
 Brook, H., 115
 Brooke, H. 115; Rich., 91; Sir Richard, 23; Thomas, 11, 23; —, Dean of Chester, 25; —, 92
 Broomhall, William, 94
 Broster, Richard, Sheriff of Chester, 49; Richard, Alderman of Chester, 49, 50
 Brown, William, 62
 Brown, Thomas, 37—40, 82
 Browne, Thomas, 69; Rev. William, 35; —, Archbishop, 4
 Brownent, Richard, 89, 104
 Brownett, Hugh, 114
 Bruen, Jo., 44, 67, 98, 117; John, 90; Joseph, 8; Lydia, 84; Robert, 84; —, 43
 Bruerton, Sir Wm., 15
 Bruin, Robert, 84
 Bourton, Sir Wm., 15
 Bruyn, *see* Le Bruyn
 Bruyne, *see* De Bruyne
 Bryches, Ryo's, 34; *see* Del Bryches
 Buchard, Hug, 41
 Buck, Sam., 9, 42, 43, 50, 52
 Buckley, George, 89; Raffe, 13
 Buceee, George, 32
 Buceie, Rev. Nicholas, 34
 Bucee, George, 2
 Bulkeley, Ricardus, 11; Sir Richard, 23
 Bullen, James, 91, 96
 Bunbury, — 81
 Bunburie, Ann, 45; Bridget, 45; Henry, 45; Jeffrey, 45; John, 45; Riold., 45; Thomas 45
 Bunbury, Bridget, 44; Sir Henrey, 23; Margaret, 44; Riold., 45; Thomas, 11, 44
 Burchee, Rev. Hugh, 35, 74
 Burges, Alice, 56; Gulielmas, 58; Maria, 58; Randull, 94; Robert, 50, 94
 Burgess, Dr. Cor., 100
 Burnes, William, 94
 Burroughes, Ann, 79; Thomas, 79
 Burroughs, Richard, 117
 Burscoe, Daniel, 114
 Burscough, John, 52
 Burton, Hon. Francis, 37, 38
 Bushell, Edward, 88; John, 88, 89
 Butler, Charles, 113
 Byrd, Richard, 50
 Byrkenhead, John, 92
 Byrom, Rev. George, 23; Rev. Dr. George, 97—100, 110
 Byron, Lord, 51
 Byrre, Matilda, 58
 Byrum, Rev. Wyllyum, 34
- C.
- Cady, John, 55
 Calamy, Edw., 100
 Caldey, John, 9; Ryod, 24
 Calf, *see* Le Calf
 Calken, Rev. Robertus, 88
 Calkyn, Peter, 32
 Calldey, Rev. Richard, 34
 Callis, — 75
 Calueley, Edward, 29
 Calveley, Sir Hugh, 29; Hugo, 11; James, 26
 Calvley, Frances, 62
 Campbell, Geo. Wm., 84, 85, 107
 Campion, John, 113
 Capenhurst, *see* De Capenhurst
 Caponhurst, *see* De Caponhurst
 Cardell, John, 98, 100
 Carden, Robert, 109
 Cardiff, Nicholas, 87
 Cardiffe, Rev. Nicholas, 87
 Carlelle, Rev. John, 34
 Carles, Widow, 96
 Carrington, Ellen, 90
 Carter, Robte, 9; *see* Le Carter
 Cartwright, Elizabeth, 77; Johannes, 77; Rev. John 86, 87; Richd., 77; Thomas, 93; Thomas, Bishop of Chester, 57, 86; —, Bishop of Chester, 59, 75; Widdow, 93
 Cator, Thomas, 109
 Caulken, Rev. Robert, 35
 Caulneley, George, 29; John, 29
 Caulverley, Hugh, 29; James, 29
 Cawdrey, Dan, 100
 Chadock, Thomas, 89
 Chaloner, *see* Le Chaloner
 Chamberlain, George, 30; Richard, 9
 Chaney, —, 8
 Chantler, An, 94; Edward, 94
 Chantrell, Jane, 113; William, 113
 Charles I. King of England, 47, 120
 Charles II., King of England, 47, 112
 Chaterton, Thomas, 37
 Chelmundele, *see* De Chelmundele
 Cherewelle, William, 53
 Cheshire Nonjuring Clergy, 57, 59, 61, 73, 127
 Chester, Bishop of, 113, 114; Elizabeth, 113; Randle, Duke of Brittain and Earl of, 1
 Cholmondeley, Francis, 75; Sir Hugh, 27; Lord, 91; Mary, 27; Marquis of, 103; Thomas, 59, 60, 75; —, Viscount, 27
 Cholmonley, Sir Robert, 23
 Cholmonleyghe, Hugo, 11
 Christians, wife of John, 59
 Church, Randle, 96; — 91
 Chytwood, Roger, 30
 Claghe, William, 95
 Clandon, Tho. 100
 Clarendon, Lord, Lord-Lieutenant of Ireland 59
 Clark, Francis, 64; William, 81
 Clarke, Richard, 81; Sam., 98, 100; Rev. Samuel, 9; William, 81
 Clarrell, John, 95
 Claton, — 96
 Clerke, Thomas, 34; Rev. William, 34
 Cleyton, John, 30; William, 30
 Clive, Catherine, 74; John, 29; Thomas, 74
 Clutton, — 96
 Cocous, Johannes, 58
 Coddington, Edward, 50
 Codynton, Adam of, 55; Randle of, 55
 Coe, Hannah, 72; Richard, 72
 Cokaine, Lawrence, 119
 Coke, George, 2; Rev. Richard, 34; Ryod, 24; *see* Le Coke
 Cokerell, Rev. Edward, 34
 Cole, Dr. Henry, Dean of St. Paul's, 3, 4, 5
 Colle, John, 95, 66; Rev. William, 34
 Collear, Thomas, 34
 Collesone, Adam, 53
 Colley, Willm., 29
 Collin, —, 31
 Colly, Ellnor, 94; John, 94; —, 75
 Comberbach, Alderman Jas., 28
 Combermere, Mary Woolley Stapleton-Cotton, Viscountess, 79; Wellington Henry Stapleton-Cotton, Viscount, 79
 Cook, John, 58
 Cooke, Ellin, 72; John, 72; Tho., 89
 Cookson, Oliver, 84
 Cooper, Benjamin, 85; Nathaniel, 89; Silvester, 85; —, 28
 Corinser, Elysott, 59
 Cork, — Boyle, Earl of, 4
 Corke, John, 88
 Corles, Rev. Harry, 23; William, 23
 Corry, Elysot, 58
 Cote, George, Bishop of Chester, 2
 Cotes, Bishop —, 22, 29
 Cotgrave, Andrew, 45; Thomas, 29
 Cotgreave, Reece, 50
 Cotgreyv, Dns. Randle, 34
 Cottingham, John, 13
 Cotton, Admiral Francis Vere, 79; George, 23, 71; Henry Calveley, 79; Sir Lynoh Salusbury, 79; Mary, 71; Matilda, 79; Matilda Hester Mary, 79; Raphe, 29; Ricardus, 11; Robert Salusbury, 79; Rowland Edward, 79; William, 45, 64; *see also* Stapleton-Cotton

Coventry, Eliza, 63; John, 6;
Richard, 12
Cowdell, John, 100
Cowley, Edd., 45
Cowop, John, 50
Cowper, Lawrence, 104; Samuel,
92; Thomas, 50; —, 95
Cox, David, 108; E. W., 47, 55, 102,
107; Sir Richard, 4
Crabbewalle, William, 59
Crane, Rev. Thomas, 26; —, 75
Cranforde, James, 100
Crew, James, 28; Sir Ranulph, 30,
31
Crewe, Sir Ranulph, 23; Sir
Ranulph, 31
Cripps, Wilfred Joseph, 57
Crisp, F.A., 111
Cromwell, Oliver, 119; —, 91
Crosby, Thos., 94
Crosse, John, 110, 114; Robert,
24, 93, 114
Crouke, Edward, 50
Cronton, *see* De Cronton
Crus, Thomas, 95
Crutwell, —, 103
Crymes, John, 40
Cumberland, Rev. Richard, 119
Cunee, John, 88
C. G., 30

D.

Daas, Randle, 54; Richard, 55
Dacre, Henry, 47; Mary, 47
Dage, William, 53
Dagge, Thomas, 53
Dale, John, 113; Rev. Roger, 89;
Widdow, 93
Dancaster, Hugh, 29
Dangerfield, —, 4
Danham, Catherine, 28
Daniel, Colonel, 59; Elizabeth, 73;
Henry, 73
Daniell, Petter, 23
Danold, Robert, 34
Danyers, Sir Thomas, 119
Darlington, Joseph, 39; Katherine,
93; Margery, 94; Widow, 93
Darnsord, Elizabeth, 96
Dauber, *see* Le Dauber
Dauenport, Willus, 11
Davies, William, 52
Dauwe, 62
Danyes, Robert, 94
Davenport, Humfrey, 23; Ranulph,
11; William, 23; Sir
William, 23; *see also* De Daven-
port
Daves, Thomas, 36
Davie, John, 119; Rev. John, 89,
92; Rev. Jo, 89
Davies, John, 89; Robert, 29;
Thomas, 8, 29; Widow, 29;
William, 44, 64, 67, 117
Davis, Jane, 69; Lawrence, 96
Davison, Robert, 50
Davies, Peelter, 94
Dawson, Margret, 64
Dawe, John, 59
Dayle, Wylm Mycull, 24
Daynteth, Thurstan, 45
De Aston, Adam, 62, 119; Alan,
62; Richard, 62; Widow of
Richard, 62
De Aigburth, Adam, 2
De Andirton, Allan, 61

De Aston, Nicholas, 60
De Andelym, William, 103
De Aykebe', Adam, 2
De Bamville, Sir Thomas, 106
De Barwe, Thomas, 53
De Brayne, Thomas, 27
De Capenhurst, Madoock, 96;
Richard, 96
De Caponhurst, John, 62
De Chelmundele, Hugh, 103
De Coulanges, Fustel, 109
De Crouton, Robert, 55; Thomas,
55, 58
De Davenport, Richard, 27
De Deresbury, John, 61
De Doncaster, William, 95
De Donecastr, William, 96
De Dunham, William, 60
De Dutton, Richard, 59; Thomas, 62
De Elton, Peter, 53; Robert, 53
De Eueron, Richard, 2
De Frodesham, Elena, 58; Thos., 58
De Hale, Robert, 27
De Haurohyn, John, 61
De Hokenhull, Richard, 27
De Holand, Thurstan, 2
De Hole, Adam, 53; Hugh, 62;
Richard, 53; Thom, 53
De Hooton, Margaret, 106; Sir
William, 106
De Hulgreve, Thomas, 62
De Irlond, John, 62
De Kelshall, William, 96
De Legh, John, 27; Robert, 27
De Letesham, Elena, 53
De Lyndeseye, John, 96
De Meschines, Randle, Earl of
Chester, 106
De Moore, Adam, 53; John, 53
De Moreton, Richard, 27
De Mottrum, Roger, 27
De Neston, Robert, 60
De Netherton, Robert, 62
De Nulton, Geoffrey, 58
De Northworthy, Bartholomew, 96
De Nottingham, Leodegarius, 103
De Olton, John, 62; Randle, 62
De Onston, John, 53; Richard, 58,
59; Thomas, 59
De Pycton, Dobyn, 61; William, 61
De Reeve, Emma, 59; Richard, 59
De Rancorn, Hamo, 59
De Rushton, David, 59; William, 59
De Stanley, William, 27
De Sudelow, John, 96
De Sudlow, Robert, 55
De Sutton, John, 27
De Thelwall, Hugh, 96
De Thornton, Sir Peter, 53, 55, 58,
60, 62
De Torperlegh, Richard, 53
De Totenham, John, 96
De Vernon, Richard, 27
De Walet, William, 2
De Walsh, David, 60
De Walton, William, 2
De Weldmore, Roger, 62
De Werlegh, Henry, 55
De Weverham, James, 55
De Whitmore, John, 27; William, 27
De Wolley, Robert, 27
De Worth, John, 27; Robert, 27
De Wynnynton, Richard, 62
De Yate, John, 59
Dean, John, 82; Jonathan, 82;
Robert, 65; Tho., 82

Deane, John, 8; Rev. Ric., 34;
Richard, 36
Dedwod, John, 27
Del Bonk, Henry, 58
Del Broke, William, 59
Del Bryches, William, 60
Del Dounes, Robert, 27
Del Glashouses, John, 58
Del Halle, Elkoc, 60; Richard, 62;
Robert, 60; Thomas, 60
Del Heth, Hugh, 54
Del Mere, Richard, 58
Del Oldefelde, John, 60
Del Walle, Walter, 59
Del Wode, Adam, 61
Delaplace, Sam, 100
Delves, Captain, 96; Henricus, 11;
Sir Thomas, 23
Dennall, Widdow, 94
Denson, Rev. Hugh, 34
Derby, Edward Stanley, Earl of,
25; James, Earl of, 47; —
Stanley, Earl of, 25; —, Earl of,
59, 63
Deresbury, *see* De Deresbury
Devereux, —, 110
Diall, John, 6
Dickenson, Richard, 50
Dixe, Jesper, 95
Dobbe, 62
Dobbs, Richard, 109
Dobson, Rev. George, 34
Dod, Hugh, 13; Rev. Hugh, 34;
Rev. Richard, 34; William, 36
Dodd, Thomas, 28, 104; Thomas,
Archdeacon of Richmond, 23
Dode, Edward, 23
Doda, Mathew, 35
Doe, Thomas, 9
Doncaster, *see* De Doncaster
Donecastr, *see* De Donecastr
Donne, Sir John, 23
Donnel, *see* O'Donnel
Doulton, John, 15
Dounes, *see* Del Dounes
Downes, Phillip, 91
Downshire, —, Lady, 79
Drake, Rich., 96
Drake, Jane, 64
Drinkwater, Raphe, 50; William,
50
Ducas, Lydia, 84; Ruth, 84; —,
84
Ducker, Rev. William, 34
Duckworth, Rev. —, 44
Dudley, Edmond, 47; Lucy, 47
Dulton, Edward, 23
Dune, Willm., 98
Dunham, *see* De Dunham
Dunkborne, John, 109
Dunne, James, 29; William, 100
Dutton, Lieutenant John, 44;
Randle, 104; Rowlandus, 11;
Rev. Thomas, 104; Thomas, 119;
see also De Dutton
Dye, Rev. John, 34
Dyred, John, 60

E.

Earwaker, J.P., 1, 10, 11, 22, 30, 41
Eccleston, Rev. Edward, 88; John,
104
Edge, John, 29; William, 94
Edgeley, George, 52, 91, 93, 96, 117,
118
Edgeleye, Arthur, 95

Edgley, Arthur, 77; Elisabeth, 77; Rev. Samuel, 76, 77
 Edmunds, Elisabeth, 4; John, 4
 Edward, 2; Edward I., 101;
 Edward, VI., 4, 54—Kings of
 England
 Edwardes, Will, 115
 Edwards, Nicholas, 109
 Edgerton, Johannes, 11; Philip,
 119; Sir Philip, 75, 119; Sir
 Richard, 23; Rowland, 49;
 Thomas, 11
 Elams, John, 109
 Elizabeth, Queen of England, 4, 5,
 17, 23, 27, 33, 120
 Ellison, Richard, 93; Thomas, 94
 Elot, 53
 Elton, *see* De Elton
 Emery, Jonathan, 89
 Emma, daughter of Richard, 60
 Englefield, Thomas, 41
 Erby, William, 36
 Erneys, William, 53
 Essex, Earl of, 118
 Euerton, *see* De Euerton
 Evans, Eliz., 74; Hugh, 50;
 Wm., 82; Rev. Thomas, 34;
 —, 8
 Everton, —, 28
 Eye, —, 31
 F.
 Fabro, Rogerus, 41; Sim', 41
 Falkner, John, 61; Rev. Thomas,
 61, 73
 Families: The Actons, 119; Bever-
 leys, 5, 41; Birds, 82; De La
 Lees, 120; Glasiers, 120; Hard-
 wares, 90; Lees, 120; Leghs,
 119, 120; Littlers, 120; Marrows,
 76, 87; Maaseys, 113; Pooles,
 113; Smiths, 126; Snells, 111;
 Stanleys, 106, 113; Sylvesters,
 106; Vyners, 111
 Farbrother, Ellen, 63
 Farringdom, Rev. John, 119
 Fawdon, Rev. Philip, 34
 Fayrolyd, Rev. Thomas, 34
 Fearon, —, 31
 Felden, John, Dean of Blakeburne,
 34
 Fells, John, 114
 Fenwick, —, 119
 Fernehed, John, 34
 Fetherston, Ty, 48
 Fetherstonhaugh, Albany, 47; Brid-
 get, 47, 48; Dorothy, 47, 48;
 Henry, 47; Jane, 48; John, 47;
 Lucy, 47; Mary, 47; Robert,
 47; Thomas, 47; Sir Timothy, 47;
 Timothy, 47; William, 47; —,
 47
 Filcooke, Richard, 95
 Filden, Richard, 50
 Findow, William, 66
 Fish, Edward, 50
 Fisher, Arthur, 77; Catherine, 77;
 Elisabeth, 77; Jane, 77; Rev.
 Samuel, 77; Samuel, 77
 Fitton, Edwardus, 11; Lady, 91
 Fitzwalter, —, Lord, Lord Deputy
 for Ireland 4, 5
 Fitzwilliams, Michael, 113
 Fleocher, Petur, 24
 Flecher, John, 37
 Fleet, James, 39

Fletcher, James, 104; Lawrence,
 93; Margaret, 33; Richard, 93;
 Thomas, 114
 Fogg, Rev. —, 87
 Foldreeve, *see* Le Foldreeve
 Foeter, William, D.D., 13; Dr. —,
 13; —, 74, 83
 Fowler, Isaac, 77
 Fournays, John, 59
 Fox, Thos., 30
 Framley, Jerome, 98
 France, Thomas, 104
 Frances, Robert, 29
 Francis, John, 90
 Frederick, Prince of Wales, 25
 French, Rev. Thomas, 34
 Frere, John, 55; Laurence, 55; *see*
 also Le Frere
 Freysel, Alanus, 55
 Frodesham, Richard, 96; *see* also
 De Frodesham
 Fromwell, John, 109, 110
 Fulleshurst, Robert, 6
 Fydler, Rev. Nicholas, 34
 Fynlowe, Rev. Thomas, 34
 Fyppesone, William, 59
 Fysher, John, 88
 Fyasher, John, 24; Robert, 24
 G.
 Gamon, John, 87
 Gamull, Sir Francis, 8
 Gandye, Hugh, 16
 Garner, Nicholas, 93
 Garnett, Elisabeth, 77; John
 Jasper, 77; Richard Craven, 77
 Garnon, Luke, 113
 Garratt, Abraham, 89
 Garstan, Adam, Lord of, 2
 Gartayde, James, 44, 52, 54, 67
 Gastrell, Bishop, 89; Peregrine,
 Chancellor of Chester, 16—18,
 21, 65, 67, 69, 76, 80
 Gatcliffe, Joan, 35
 Gause, H. T., 5; —, 41
 Gayler, *see* Le Gayler
 Gaythorpe, Harper, 18, 22
 Geaton, Humphrey, 95
 Gee, Edward, 98, 100
 Gefook, 53
 Georg, Peter, 29
 George II. and III. — Kings of
 England, 25
 Gerard, Thomas, 58
 Germanus, 102
 Gerrard, Lord Gilbert, 23; Gilbert,
 88; Ryc., 104
 Gerrarde, Wyllm, 24
 Gessosone, Richard, 60; William,
 60
 Getogode, William, 58
 Gibson, Rev. M., 63; Sam., 100;
 Rev. Samuel, 64
 Gill, Ellinor, 56; Josua, 56;
 Thomas, 36
 Glamorgan, Lord, 99
 Glaseor, Will., 5
 Glaseour, Thomas, 115
 Glashousez, *see* Del Glashousez
 Gleave, John, 6
 Gleeve, John, 6
 Gregg, Edward, 15; Jon., 13;
 Will., 14; William, 13—16; Rev.
 William, 15
 Glegge, Edward, 23; William, 12,
 23

Glinne, Elisabeth, 69
 Glogges, —, 10
 Glover, Alice, 90; Rev. Thomas, 13,
 14, 56
 Godehep, Richard, 58
 Godson, Rev. J., 28
 Glynne, Sir John, 30
 Golborne, Richard, 114
 Gomme, —, 109
 Gong, Thomas, 114
 Goodicar, James, 5, 6; Richard, 5
 Goodman, John, 45
 Gorse, Roger, 114
 Gorste, William, 109
 Gorstlow, Rev. Roger, 34
 Gorstlyow, Rev. John, 34
 Gother, Law, 28
 Gouge, Dr. Wm., 100
 Grandison, Lord, 118
 Grandville, Rt. Hon. Earl, 25
 Grauenor, Nicholas, 37
 Gravinor, Sir Ric., 15
 Grecoote, John, 60; Symon, 60
 Green, Ralph, 114; Thomas, 32,
 William, 95
 Greene, John, 93, 100; Richard, 95,
 Robert, 81, 93; Corporal Robert,
 81; Widdow, 94
 Greenhalgh, Richard, 63, 113
 Gregge, Richard, 52; Robert, 44
 Gregson, John, 63, 113
 Griffen, Agnes, 30
 Griffet, John, 37
 Griffin, John, 39, 45; Marie, 45;
 Thomas, 45; —, 45
 Grigge, Ro., 117
 Grimadith, Tho., 104
 Grimshawe, Alex., 113
 Grindley, John, 30
 Grinley, Phillip, 95
 Grosvenor, Nicholas, 37; Ricardus,
 11; Sir Richard, 23, 28; Sir
 Robert, 25, 28; Sir Thomas, 75
 Grotius, 75
 Guise, Dorothy, 85; John, 113;
 William, 85; 107; Sir William,
 85
 Gryffe, Ryod, 24
 Gryme, John, 59; William, 58
 Gurdon, E., 114
 Gybbesone, Adam, 58; Thomas, 58
 Gyn, Henry, 95, 96
 Gynson, Rev. John, 34

H.

Hale, John, 37, 62; Joseph, 89; *see*
 also De Hale
 Hales, Humphrey, 94
 Hall, Geo., Bishop of Chester, 57;
 Gertrude, 57; James, 76, Peter,
 89; Richard, 78; Thomas, 89,
 109; —, 74, 78, 89, 94
 Halle, *see* Del Halle
 Hame, Thomas, 27
 Hampton, John, 93; Randall, 52,
 91, 93, 96, 117, 118
 Hamson, John, 94
 Hance, E. M., 84
 Hancock, Thomas, 36, 37
 Hancock, Thomas, 114
 Hand, John, 36; William, 8
 Handcock, Roger, 8
 Handcooke, Lawrence, 95
 Handforth, William, 61
 Hankses, Richard, 93

- Hanket, Thomas, 29
 Hanmore, —, 75
 Hanshall, —, 4
 Hanson, Johannes, 48; —, 37, 40, 49
 Harden, Dom Robt., 7
 Harding, Thomas, 94; —, 92
 Hardwar, Thomas, 96
 Hardware, —, 90
 Harnett, John, 93
 Harper, Henry, 13; Richard, 5; —, 103; *see also* Le Harper
 Harpur, Edward, 89, 103
 Harrison, Anne, 74; Eliza, 74; George, 74; Jacobus, 9; James, 64; Joseph, 89; Lawrence, 93; Margaret, 74; Peter, D.D., 61; Thomas, 36, 69, 73, 74, 117; Dr. Thomas, 90; Widow, 29; William, 93, 96, 117, 118; Willm., 52, 91; —, 84
 Harrison, John, 29
 Harryson, Robert, 27; Willm., 91
 Harwar, Rev. Joseph, 77; Mary, 77; Thomas, 52, 91, 93, 118; —, 94
 Harwor, Thomas, 117
 Haslewell, John, 69
 Hassall, Humphrey, 95; John, 50; Richard, 50, 94
 Hastings, Hannah, 63
 Hatewell, Henry, 83
 Hatton, Edward, 88; Edwardus, 88; Mary, 120; Ryod., 16; Robert, 88; Robertus, 88; Robt. 88; Tho., 104; Willm., 104
 Haughton, —, 63
 Haurchyn, *see* De Haurchyn
 Hauwesone, Thomas, 58
 Hawle, Peter, 104
 Hayes, Elizabeth, 113; John, 94
 Hayward, John, 112; *see* Le Hayward
 Heath, Rev. Ralph, 114; Richard, 110
 Heber, —, 26
 Hebltwhaite, Rev. Robert, 34
 Hecheon, Rev. Eyc., 34
 Heduinni, Rob'te fil', 41
 Helsbie, John, 92
 Helsby, T., 120; —, 1, 90
 Helys, Rev. John, 34
 Hemingway, —, 4, 18, 73
 Henkyn, William, 37
 Henry, 2, 56, 60, 62; Matthew, 90; son of Richard, 60
 Henry VIII., King of England, 4, 120
 Henshaw, J., 73
 Henster, *see* Le Henster
 Hercot, George, 34
 Herdman, Rev. William, 34
 Herford, John, 27
 Herle, Charles, 98, 100
 Herrick, Rich., 100
 Herrye, Robert, 24
 Heaketh, Thomas, 9
 Heth, *see* Del Heth
 Hewett, Thomas, 93
 Hewit, Jane, 77
 Hewitt, Ellen, 72; Maria, C. E., 79; Thomas, 79; William, 72
 Hey, Larones, 34
 Heype, Rev. Edward, 34
 Heya, Ellen, 90; John, 90
 Heywood, Rolaf, 88; Rev. Dr. Rowland, 92; William, 50
 Heyworth, Joseph, 63; Mary, 63
 Hibbert, Thomas, 62
 Hiccock, Thomas, 93
 Hickson, William, 114
 Hide, Robt., 92; Robtus, 11; William, 92
 Higgins, Henry, 114; Thomas, 95
 Hildersahon, Richard, 95
 Hill, Catherine, 63; Daniel, 114; Robert, 37
 Hilton, —, 119
 Hitchsone, Thomas, 29
 Hobson, James, 64
 Hockenhull, John, 45
 Hocknel, William, 5
 Hocknell, John, 6; William, 5; —, 6
 Hodgekinson, Rev. Roger, 34
 Hokenhull, *see* De Hokenhull
 Holcroft, Thomas, 11; William, 34
 Hole, *see* De Hole
 Holford, Christopher, 27; Elizabeth, 27
 Holinhed, John, 48
 Holand, . . ys., 88; *see* De Holand
 Holland, David, 10; Thomas, 9
 Hollinworth, Elizabeth, 65; William, 65
 Holme, Randle, 30, 50
 Holt, John, 34
 Holynson, Rev. Cristofer, 35
 Hoole, Robt., 56; Thomas, 93
 Hope, George, 30
 Hopkins, William, 85
 Hopton, Rev. Morgan, 9; Rev. Morgannus, 9
 Hopwood, Rich., 98, 100
 Horabin, Roger, 96
 Horne, John, 97; Thomasin, 112
 Hotchin, Anthony, 29
 Hotchkin, John, 29
 Hotchkine, John, 29; Raphe, 29
 Hough, Elizabeth, 56; Jno., 82; Richard, 6
 Houghton, Dns. Robt., 34
 Howite, Rev. Sir Edward, 34
 Howard, Sir Francis, 48; William, 114; J. J., L.L.D., 111
 Huddleston, —, 91
 Huett, John, 29
 Hug, 41
 Hugh, son of Richard, 61
 Hughes, Thomas, 1; William, 28
 Huhson, Rondull, 24
 Hulgreve, *see* De Hulgreve
 Hulton, John, 50
 Hunt, Elizabeth, 73; John, 73; Randle, 34; Rich., 100
 Hunte, Rich., 98
 Hurleston, Dorothee, 63; Frances, 63; Grace, 63; Jane, 63; John, 63, 64; Peter, 63; Stephen, 63
 Hurlestone, John, 64
 Husband, Dan Richard, 7
 Huxley, Thomas, 94
 Hycocke, Henry, 5
 Hyde, Rev. John, 60; Rev. Nicholas, 34; —, 93
 Hykelyn, John, 27
 Hynd, Alex, 8
 H—o fil' Math', 41
 H. R., 30
 I.
 Illiet, Widdow, 94
 Ince, Nicholas, 50; William, 50
 Inglefield, Richard, 41
 Ireland, Sir Thomas, 117
 Irland, Dns. Robtus, 3
 Irland, *see* De Irland
 Irvine, Wm. Fergusson (of Cloughton, Cheshire), 2, 7, 11, 33, 36, 42, 49, 51, 52, 53, 74, 78, 80, 86, 87, 112
 Izod, Elizabeth, 112; Rev. Henry, 112
 I., W. F., 27, 29
 J.
 Jackson, Rev. Peter, 34; Richard, 36; William, 63; —, 28, 83
 Jacson, Rev. Georgius, 35
 James I., 23; II., 57, 86—Kings of England
 James, son of Roger, 54
 Janion, Richard, 88, 89
 Janyon, Ric'us, 88
 Jayne, Dr. —, Bishop of Chester, 90
 Janyson, Ralph, 69
 Jellico, Mark, 94
 Jennyyon, Thos., 56
 Jephson, George, 84; John, 84; Katherine, 84; —, 84
 Jepson, Roger, 29; Widdow, 93, 94
 Jewel, —, 92
 Jewell, —, Bishop, 9
 John, 53, 55, 59; Bishop of Chester, 14, 72, 90; son of Elot, 53; son Randle, 53
 Johnes, John, 14
 Johns, Rev. David, 34
 Johnson, Rev. Cristofer, 35; Hammett, 104; John, 114; Rev. John, 34; Richard, 14, 64; Robt. 104; Wm., 104
 Jolicoeur, Marc, 96
 Jolly, Thos., 95; —, 49
 Jones, John, 114; Mic., 44, 98; Morgan, 84; Nathaniell, 36; Richard, 113; Rev. Richard, 34; Thos., 28; Will., 8; William, 50
 Jonson, Ralph, 2
 Joynson, John, 50
 Judson, Ralph, 9, 50, 97; Ralph, 42, 43, 52
 Juell, —, 69
 Junsarazen, Radulfus, 41
 K.
 Kally, John, 12
 Kalveley, Sir Hughe, 118
 Kar, Eyc., 104
 Kaventry, —, 36
 Kayper, *see* Le Kayper
 Keble, John, 103
 Kelhall, Theophilus, 89
 Kelly, John, 12; Rev. Jon., 14
 Kellye, William, 113
 Kelshall, *see* De Kelshall
 Kempt, Widdow, 8
 Ken, Bishop —, 57
 Kent, John, 93, 94; Randull, 94; Tho., 64; Rev. Thomas, 73
 Kenyon, Joseph, 82
 Herford, John, 43
 Kettle, Thomas, 50, 69; Margaret, 69
 Kettlewell, —, 61, 73
 Kilmorey, —, Viscount, 94
 King, Thomas, 50

- Kings of England: Charles I., 47; Charles II., 47, 107; Edward I., 101; Edward VI., 2, 4, 54; George II., 25; George III., 25; Henry VIII., 4; James I., 23, 57; James II., 86; William III., 57, 60, 61, 73, 75
- Kingston, John, 37; Lord, 112
- Kinsee, William, 95
- Kinsey, Nathan, 84; Rev. Robert, 35
- Kinston, John, 36
- Kirkbride, —, 48
- Kirkum, John, 94
- Kitchin, Richard, 36
- Knight, Henry, 94; John, 94
- Knowles, Ann, 113; Rev. John, 74; Mary, 62; Robert, 113
- Knowsley, James, 60
- Kunen, —, 3
- Kynge, —, 41; *see also* Le Kynge
- L.
- Lake, Robert, 114
- Lancaster, Mat., 100; Nat., 98; Nathaniel, 64
- Lancelett, Anna, 62
- Langford, Philip, 63; —, 63
- Langley, Geoffrey, 32; Rev. William, 34
- Lardge, Richard, 29
- Latham, John, 94; Thomas, 94; William, 114
- Lathom, Thomas, 64
- Launcelyn, John, 27
- Lauder, *see* Le Launder
- Laurence, 55; Ellen, 64; James, 64; son of Randle, 55
- Law, Rev. Richard, 34
- Lawton, John, 34; Thomas, 11; Thos., 56
- Layet, John, 27
- Le Bruyn, Richard, 96; Roger, 53; 62
- Le Calf, John, 61; Roger, 61
- Le Carter, Adam, 53; William, 53
- Le Chaloner, David, 58
- Le Coke, John, 59
- Le Dauber, William, 59
- Le Foldreeve, Richard, 55
- Le Frere, John, 55
- Le Gayler, Richard, 54
- Le Harper, John, 60; Richard, 60
- Le Hayward, Randle, 53; Richard, 53
- Le Henster, John, 58
- Le Kayper, Alice, 60
- Le Kynge, William, 54, 55
- Le Launder, Elysot, 59
- Le Meleward, Alan, 62
- Le Mercer, John, 55
- Le Mulward, Richard, 55; Roger, 55
- Le Penker, Richard, 55
- Le Reeve, Mabilla, 58; Richard, 53, 55; Roger, 58
- Le Rooder, Richard, 60
- Le Roter, Kandle, 58
- Le Shepherd, Adam, 60; Richard, 54
- Le Spenser, Richard, 59, 62
- Le Swon, John, 62
- Le Taillour, Richard, 54
- Le Taillour, Adam, 53
- Le Thatcher, John, 58
- Le Verdon, John, 59
- Le Webster, Alan, 60
- Le Wrych, John, 60
- Le W—, —, 61
- Lea, Ellen, 113; Sir Richard, 23; Thomas, 113; William, 113
- Leay, Richard, 50; Rimand, 50
- Lee, Elizabeth, 113; Frances, 93; Honor, 113; Rich., 100
- Leech, Jeremiah, 89
- Leeche, Francis, 56
- Lecke, Martha, 113; Thomas, 113
- Leene, Robt., 93
- Leftwich, Mary, 72
- Legge, Margaret, 41
- Legh, John, 115; Thomas, 61; *see also* De Legh
- Leicester, Georgius, 11; Ric., 96; R., 8
- Leigh, Sir Francis, 113; Honnor, 113; Hugh, 50; Mary, 73; Peter, 8, 44, 52, 73; Thomas, 113
- Leighe, Sir Petter, 23; Pettrus, 11; Thomas, 11; Sir Vrian, 23
- Lem, Eliza, 62
- Lembage, Rev. William, 35
- Lennarde, Rob., 6
- Lenott, Robert, 6
- Lenox, Lodowick, Duke of, 23
- Leonard, Robert, 66
- Letesham, *see* De Letesham
- Leverage, William, 23, 95; Willus, 11
- Lewkenor, Ricardus, 11
- Ley, John, 98, 100
- Leyke, James, 35
- Lichfield and Coventry, Bishop of, 114
- Lightfoot, Randall, 94; Thomas, 114
- Limrick, James, 114
- Lindop, William, 93
- Lineker, Richard, 36
- Litherland, —, 81
- Lithgoe, Tho., 89; Thos., 92
- Littlemore, William, 119
- Lloyd, Edward, 9
- Loce, Robert, 53
- Locker, Simon, 28
- Lockwood, John, 79; Matilda, 79
- Lodi, Joh., 41
- Loe, John, 36
- Lomax, —, 66
- Longinus, Dionysius, 25, 26
- Longman, T., 16
- Love, Orl., 100
- Lowe, Andrew, 28; Rev. John, 34, 35
- Lowndes, John, 63; Ralph, 63; Rev. Ralph, 63; W., 63
- Lowther, Rev. Byc., 34
- Loyd, Captain Lucke, 15
- Lumes, Thomas, 94
- Luskin, Robert, 94; Thomas, 93
- Lyaldon, Bartholomew, 27
- Lyndeseye, *see* De Lyndeseye
- L., William, 52
- M.
- Maoocke, —, 44
- Madan, Dr., —, 75
- Maddocke, Thomas, 36; Wyllym, 24
- Madoc, Ellis, 34
- Madock, Richard, 29
- Mainwaring, Elizabeth, 27; Sir Randle, 27; —, 25
- Mainwaringe, Tho., 96
- Malbanous, —, 50
- Malbon, Thomas, 118; —, 78
- Malbone, Thomas, 91, 93, 96, 117
- Mallaby, —, 30
- Mallbone, Thomas, 52
- Mallesone, Agnes, 60; Richard, 60
- Mallory, Gulielmus, 57; Maria, 58; Ric., 13; Richard, 13, 14, 57, 58; Thomas, Dean of Chester, 57, 58; Rev. Thomas, 57; —, Dean of Chester, 13
- Mallorey, Dean Thomas, 23
- Mandevell, Henrey, Viscount, 23
- Maniwaringe, Henricus, 11; Raundlphus, 11
- Manley, Joanna, 35; Richard, 34
- Mannaring [George], 9
- Mannaringe, —, 9
- Manns, William, 34
- Mannwaringe, —, 9
- Mant, —, 4
- Manwaring, Rev. Edward, 86; George, 87
- Manwaringe, Sir Randulph, 23
- Manwringe, Captain —, 14
- Manwringe, Captain —, 15
- Maossons, —, 10
- Mapletoft, Rev., 25
- Marbury, Thomas, 11, 23; Rev., 75
- Marche, Dela, 100
- Marcroft, William, 34
- Margery, wife of William, son of Robert, 59
- Maroe, Ellen, 33
- Marrow, George, 78; Jane, 78; John, 78; Colonel, 76
- Marrowe, Jane, 78; Colonel John, 78
- Marsh, George, 95
- Mary, Queen of England, 4
- Mary II., Queen of England, 57, 60, 61, 73
- Masey, Richard, 27
- Mason, Edmond, 85; Edward, 95; Elizabeth, 85; John, 33
- Massey, Ales., 56; David, 23; Edmund, 56; Edward, 56; Elizabeth, 56; George, 56; Johannes, 11; John, 13, 23, 56; Margaret, 56; Manld, 56; Morguerett, 96; Richard, 56; William, 56; Sir William, 12, 13, 114, 115; —, 119, 120
- Maesie, John, 73; —, 6, 45, 90
- Maeson, Anne, 28
- Massy, Francis, 63; George, 12; John, 12; William, 12, 14; Sir William, 12, 13
- Masey, Agnes, 113; Richard, 113
- Materson, Tho., 96
- Math, H—o fil', 41
- Matilda, wife of Alkoc, 58; wife of Thomas, son of Roger, 58
- Matley, Catherine, 73; Hamnet, 73
- Maudsley, Richard, 69; Sara, 69
- Maurie, Margaret, 41
- Mawdesley, Thomas, 34
- Mawdsley, Rev. Thomas, 34
- Maydoc, John, 88
- Mayfay, Roger, 55
- Maynwaringe, Martha, 96
- Mayre, Rev. John, 34, 40
- Meakin, George, 94; Robert, 94; Thomas, 95

Mears, Thomas, 41
 Meleward, *see* Le Meleward
 Melington, William, 37
 Melling, Richard, 61
 Meoles, Ann, 56; Chorlett, 56;
 Elizabeth, 56; Susan, 56;
 Thomas, 56, 82; William, 56, 82;
 —, 45, 82
 Mercer, *see* Le Mercer
 Mere, *see* Del Mere
 Merry, Eliza, 62
 Merahe, John, 24
 Meyre, John, 16
 Millington, Francis, 113; —, 113
 Minshall, Mary, 96
 Minshall, John, 23, 62
 Mires, Robert, 36
 Miridith, John, 29
 Modaley, Jane, 110
 Mollineux, Mary, 56; Robert, 56;
 Thos., 56
 Molyneux, William, 90
 Monk, E., 38
 Monmouth, Duke of, 85, 107
 Moore, Colonel, 14, 116; Elizabeth,
 73; Thos., 93; —, 41; *see also*
 De Moore
 More, Captain Mainwaring, 75;
 Colonel, 14, 117; Thomas, 113;
 William, 73
 Moreton, Francis, 50; *see also* De
 Moreton
 Morgan, John, 114; William, 113
 Morgell, Edward, 78; John, 68
 Morie, James, 9
 Morreyes, Edwards, 96
 Morris, Canon, 12; Dr. —, 3
 Morrow, Colonel —, 76
 Morton, Widdow, 94; William, 94;
 —, Bishop of Chester, 83; —,
 72
 Mortymer, Jesse, 60
 Moseley, Thomas, 89
 Mosok, Rev. Walter, 34
 Mosse, Abraham, 73; Ellin, 73
 Mossen, Sir Thomas, 10
 Mostin, Wm., 100
 Mostyn, Roger, 8
 Mottershead, Elizabeth, 3, 5
 Mottrum, *see* De Mottrum
 Moxdell, John, 50
 Moyer, Sam., 98
 Muddiman, Thomas, 113
 Mullener, Thomas, 95
 Mullineux, John, 82
 Mulward, *see* Le Mulward
 Murray, Rev. Richard, D.D., 23
 Musken, William, 41
 Mycull, Wylm., 24
 Mynor, John, 27
 Mynahull, John, 29
 Myrkye, Rev. John, 34
 Myshull, Raphe, 29
 N.
 Nangreave, Edward, 104; Richard,
 89; Thomas, 89
 Napper, John, 113; Wife of, 113
 Nathall, —, 93
 Needham, George, 64; Sir Robert,
 23
 Neil, *see* O'Neil
 Neild, Edward, 64; Thomas, 64
 Neston, *see* De Neston
 Netherton, *see* De Netherton
 Newton, *see* De Newton

Newcastle, Duke of, 25
 Newcomb, Thomas, 85
 Newcomen, Mat., 100
 Newport, Ellen, 113; Henry, 113;
 Hester, 113; Thomas, 113
 Newsom, Rev. Edmund, 34
 Newton, George, 61, 62; Rev.
 George, 61, 62; John, 29
 Nicholls, Richard, 12
 Nickall, Wilm., 29
 Nicoll, Peter, 29
 Nicolson, —, Bishop of Gloucester,
 75
 Nield, —, 39
 Norfolk, Samvel, 30
 Norres, —, 69
 N[orris], Alan, 2
 Northampton, Marchioness of, 113
 Northworthyn, *see* De North-
 worthyn
 Nottingham, *see* De Nottingham
 Nuthall, John, 104
 Nutter, Rev. John, 34
 O.
 O'Donnel, —, 5
 O'Neil, —, 5
 Oakes, Rev. John, 75
 Oates, —, 4
 Offa, King of Mercia, 102
 Offspring, Charles, 100
 Okes, Rev. John, 75; Thomas, 75
 Oldefelde, *see* Del Oldefelde
 Oldfield, Leftwich, 75
 Oldmixon, —, 75
 Olerhead, Robert, 68; William, 69
 Only, Humphrey, 119
 Onston, *see* De Onston
 Orde, Peter, 37
 Orford, Wm., 30
 Ormerod, —, 1, 4, 7, 12, 56, 57, 61,
 77, 78, 79, 87, 90, 104, 120; Dr.
 —, 76, 77
 Ormston, Gilbert, 33
 Orred, Ellice, 90
 Oulton, John, 94
 Oulseley, Rich., 100
 Ouseley, Rich., 98, 100
 Owen, Elizabeth, 87; John, 87
 Owere, John, 94
 Owston, Robt., 104
 O., L. E., 29

P.

Page, John, 16, 90, 99
 Paget, Hester, 79
 Palin, Randall, 52; Randall, 50;
 Thomas, 104
 Palliser, Alice, 113; William, 113
 Paman, Henry, 87
 Panmore, Richard, 93; Widow, 93
 Parbut, John, 36
 Parker, Lydia, 84; Widdow, 95;
 —, 84
 Parrott, William, 94
 Parry, Rev. —, 25; —, 38, 39
 Past, Thomas, 95
 Patrickson, Bridget, 47; Thomas, 47
 Patricke, John, 118
 Paxton, —, 83
 Peake, Rev. James, 59, 60
 Pearson, John, 88; —, Bishop of
 Chester, 59, 61
 Pecco, Ryod., 24
 Peock, Robert, 55

Peacocke, Wm., 109
 Peel, Caroline, 79
 Peele, John, 29; William, 29
 Peever, John, 113
 Pekoo, Robert, 55
 Pemberton, Ann, 81; Anne, 81;
 Charles, 81; Edward, 114;
 George, 81; Henry, 81; John,
 36; Miles, 36; Richard, 94
 Pendleton, Rev. Edward, 34;
 Thomas, 94
 Penker, *see* Le Penker
 Penketh, Rev. Robert, 34
 Penny, —, 72
 Peploe, Samuel, Bishop of Chester,
 16, 18, 21, 65, 67, 69, 76, 80
 Perkyll, Rev. Edward, 34
 Perrie, Thomas, 114
 Perrin, John, 94; Widdow, 93;
 William, 93
 Peynson, Ellinor, 62
 Phalliptes, Joseph, 36
 Philipps, Humphrey, 69
 Philip, 55, 58
 Philipps, Humphrey, 69
 Philipps, Humphrey, 50
 Phillips, Jonathan, 62
 Pickavance, John, 114
 Pickerin, Ambrose, 94
 Pickering, Anthony, 114
 Picot, Alexandro al., 41
 Pink, W. D., 27
 Pinor, Humphrey, 37
 Plant, Rich., 86; Rev. Robert, 34
 Platt, Joseph, 82
 Plimpton, Margaret, 62
 Pocket, Thomas, 93; Thos., 93
 Podmore, Lawrence, 95
 Pole, Cardinal, 4
 Poole, James, 113; Sir James, 63;
 Johannes, 11; John, 45, 113;
 Raphe, 91; Richard, 94; Robert,
 94; Thomas, 93; Wm., 56;
 —, wife of James, 113
 Porteus, B., Bishop of Chester, 26
 Porter, Tho., 98, 100
 Potes, Robert, 53
 Potter, Gerrard, 92
 Powell, Hew, 50; Humphrey, 63;
 Jane, 69, 78; Sir Thomas, 14, 78
 Pownall, Tho., 99; Thos., 91
 Pratt, William, 36
 Predgwater, *see* Bridgewater
 Prenton, Thos., 115
 Preston, John, 94; Lawrence, 93;
 Nicklas, 94; Widdow, 94
 Prestwyth, Rev. Robert, 34
 Price, James, 37—40
 Primrose, John, 92
 Prince Frederick of Wales, 25
 Prince Rupert, 14, 97
 Prince, Widdow, 95
 Prison, William, 16
 Pritchard, Joseph, 62
 Puckering, John, 119
 Pulsfort, Thomas, 88
 Pycton, *see* De Pycton
 Pyke, Robert, 89, 109; Rev. Wyl-
 lam, 34
 Pylkinton, Lawrence, 34
 Pyne, John, 2

Q.

Quark, Joan, 35
 Queen Elizabeth of England, 4, 5,
 17, 23, 27, 33, 120

Queen Mary of England, 4
Queen Mary II. of England, 57, 60,
61, 73
Quele, Robert, 36

R.

Rabon, John, 14
Rabone, Robert, 109, 110
Rabson, Ales, 6
Radcliffe, R.D., 47, 53
Radley, John, 50
Radulp', Ric fil, 41
Randle, 53, 56, 58, 62; Duke of
Brittany, and Earl of Chester,
1; son of Alan, 60; son of Philip,
58; son of Richard, 58
Rapheson, Joseph, 84
Ratcliffe, Raphe, 99
Rathbone, John, 36; Lawrence, 44
Ravenscroft, Geo., 78, 117; Jane,
78; Robert, 78; —, 91
Ravenshaw, John, 96
Rawlin, George, 114
Rawlinson, Edward, 69
Raylton, Rev. Rycharde, 35
Reene, William, 94
Reeve, William, 94; *see also* De
Reeve, and Le Reeve
Reynolds, Rev. Isaac, 66, 67
Ric. fil. Radulf', 41
Ric', Vicar of Chester, 41
Richard, 55, 58, 60, 61; son of
Dobbe, and his widow, 62; son of
Gefook, 53; son of Henry, 55,
62; son of Randle, 62; son of
Roger, 55; son of Simon, 60;
son of Thomas, 55
Richardson, John, 69; Peter, 56;
Robt., 82; Rev. Theophilus, 119;
Thomas, 89
Ridge, Martha, 87
Rigby, —, 75
Ringrose, F.D., 90, 93, 104, 119;
Rev. F.D., 102
Ripon, Marchioness of, 113
Rivers, —, Earl, 66 91
Roberts, Richd., 50
Robert, 59, 60; son of Anot, 54;
son of John, 55; son of Walter,
60
Rob'to fil Heduninni, 41
Roberts, Edward, 22; John, 29;
Peter, 29
Roberts, W., 37
Robinson, Bishop, 66; Daniel,
82; John, 82, 96; Joseph, 82;
Ralph, 98; —, 82; Rich., 96;
Richard, 114; Tho., 99; Thos.,
91; Rev. Thomas, 34
Robinsonne, Raphe, 6
Rod, M—io, 41
Roger, 53—55, 58; the Clerk, 53;
Son of Adam, 61; Son of John,
53
Rogero, 41
Rogers, Edward, 114
Rogerson, William, 35; Will'm, 35;
Willms, 35
Rooder, *see* Le Rooder
Rosengreve, Edward, 37
Rosengreve, Edward, 37
Roter, *see* Le Roter
Roughstitch, David, 113
Rowe, Thomas, 112
Rowland, Elizabeth, 63

Rowlinson, Clemence, 72; John, 72
Royle, John, 63
Rudhall, Abel, 30, 41; Abm., 28;
Abraham, 41; Charles, 30, 41;
John, 30, 41; Thomas, 41
Runcorn, *see* De Runcorn
Runcorne, Robert, 37
Rupert, Prince, 14, 97
Rushton, *see* De Rushton
Russell, Adam, 56; Edward, 12,
13, 30
Rutter, George, 104; Richard, 89;
—, 120
Ruttr, George, 104
Rydeing, Thomas, 109

S.

Sackville, Thomas, 11
St. Albon, Frans. Viscount, 23
St. Dunstan, 25
Sale, Margaret, 62; Rev. Richard,
72
Salisbury, Folke, 13; Widowe, 8
Salmon, George, 95
Salowis, Thomas, 37
Sancroft, Archbishop, 57
Sanders, F., 7, 90
Sarazen, Nicholas, 41; Robert, 41
Savage, Johannes, 11
Savage, John, 23, 27; John, Earl
Rivers, 120; Sir John, 104, 110;
Thomas, 13; Sir Thomas, 23
Scott, John, 22; Rev. S. Cooper, 28
Seeborn, 109
Sefton, Earl of, 53; Rev. Roger, 34
Selbie, William, 50
Serkerson, —, 94
Setchell, Rev. Nicholas, 12
Shackerley, Hugh, 45; Margaret,
45; Peter, 45
Shaftesbury, Earl of, 107; —, 85
Shakespeare, 104
Sharpe, Rev. Thomas, 34
Sharples, Ellis, 29
Shaw, James, 93; John, 113;
Ratcliffe, 65; —, 113
Shawe, John, 34; Rev. Sir Por', 16
Shenton, Thomas, 94; Wm., 98, 100
Shepherd, *see* Le Shepherd
Sherlock, Rev. Richard, D.D., 5;
Rev. Richard, 102, 103
Sherlocke, Ellen, 113
Sherwood, Thomas, 63
Sherwoode, Widowe, 8
Shippen, Rev. William, 61
Shone, Alexander, 94
Shorleacre, Henry, 6
Shortes, William, 33
Showell, T., 16
Shrewsbury, Earl of, 7, 8, 78, 91,
116, 117
Simcock, Rev. Randle, 87; Richard,
109
Simcoke, Rev. Ranulphus, 88
Sim', 41
Simon, 60; Son of Henry, 2; Son
of Randle, 53
Skegge, Agnes, 55; Margery, 54;
Robert, 54
Slade, Thomas, 93
Smallman, Thomas, 39
Smallwood, Francis, 93; Frances,
93
Smalwood, John, 34
Smarte, Ithiell, 100

Smith, George, 92; John, 7, 90;
Dom John, 7; Mary, 62, 71;
Dr. Peter, 100; Rich., 82;
Richard, 109; Rev. Richard, 24;
Robert, 44; Stephen, 71, 91;
Thomas, 70—72, 90, 91, 93, 96,
113; Sir Thomas, 70, 72, 90—93,
96, 96; Rev. William, D.D.,
Dean of Chester, 24—26; Lady
—, 117.
Smithe, Robert, 68; Thomas, 11;
Sir Thomas, 96
Smithson, Rev. George, 35
Smyth, John, Mayor of Chester,
24; Robert, 5; Thomas, 6, 41
Smythe, John, 24; Lawrence, 24;
Thomas, 5, 6, 24; Sir Thomas,
91, 93
Snape, Rev. Henry, 34
Snell, Alice, 84; Andrae, 85;
Andrew, 86; Andro, 84; Arch-
deacon, 112; Dorothy, 85, 107;
Eliz., 84; Elizabeth, 112, 113;
George, 44, 84, 98, 100, 112; Dr.
Geo., Archdeacon of Chester,
107; Dr. George, D.D., Arch-
deacon of Chester, 42—44, 52,
83—86; Joannes, 85; Johanna,
85; Johannes, 84; John, 52, 83,
86, 107, 112, 113; John, 84;
Katherine, 84; Lydia, 52, 83, 84,
85, 112; Margaret, 84; Mary,
112; Robert, 112, 113; Susan or
Susannah, 112; Thomas, 83, 84,
107; William, 83, 112; Dr. —,
112; Dr. —, Archdeacon of
Chester, 49
Sneyd, —, 91
Snow, Daniel Stallworthy Jeremy,
112; Frances, 112; Sir Jeremiah,
Bart., 112
Sandford, Randle, 35
Sodor and Man, Thomas Wilson,
Bishop of, 102
Sonster, Alice, 59
Sorocold, —, 115
Sottingham, John, 27
Southernne, Robert, 113
Southworthe, Gilbert, 35
Sparke, Will., 50
Sparkes, Richard, 56, 58; Robt., 56
Sparrow, John, 94
Sparwe, John, 53
Speed, David, 29
Speede, Richard, 29
Spenser, *see* Le Spenser
Spode, Thomas, 34
Sproson, Thomas, 94
Sproston, John, 8; Robert, 50
Samuel, 79
Spryngfield, William, 55
Spurstow, George, 23
Standish, Mary, 56
Stanley, Edward, Earl of Derby,
25; John, 29, 106; Sir Rowland,
Knight, 5, 6, 7; Sir Rowland,
Bart., 113; Rowlands, 11;
Thomas, 11, 82; William, 106;
Sir William, 106; Sir W., 83;
—, Earl of Derby, 25; Lady
—, 113; *see also* De Stanley
Stanway, Ran., 28
Stapleton-Cotton, Mary Woolley,
Viscountess Combermere, 79;
Wellington Henry, Viscount
Combermere, 79

Starkey, Ann, 79; Arthur, 23, 79;
George, 79; Gracia Turnbull,
79; Hugh, 73; John Cross, 79;
Major Samuel Cross, 79
Starkie, John, 69; —, 91
Starky, Bio., 35
Steel, John, 94
Steele, Thomas, 118
Steward, Ellen, 64; John, 64
Stewart, Andrew, 85; James, 85;
John, 85; Captain —, 41
Stockton, John, 104
Stratford, Dr. Nicholas, Bishop of
Chester, 57; Dr. Nicolas, Bishop
of Chester, 86, 87; —, Bishop
of Chester, 60, 75
Streets, Widows, 8
Strickland, Job, 100
Stringer, Lawrence, 93; Richard, 2;
Thomas, 94; Widow, 93
Strong, Wm., 82; Tho., 82
Stuart, Charles, 47
Sturaker, Barnaby, 13
Styles, Richard, 114
Sudlow, *see* De Sudlow
Sudlow, *see* De Sudlow
Sumner, Thos., 104
Sussex, Earl of, 4 5
Sutton, George 64; Henry, 12, 13;
Hughes 95; Thomas, 94; —,
95; *see also* De Sutton
Swayene, Rev. Richard, 34
Swetenham, William, 23
Syndell Margret, 65
Swon *see* Le Swon
Sylvester, Alan, 106
Symkoc, Ellen, 88; John, 88; Rev.
Rondell 88
Symmesonne, Hugh, 59
Symon, 2
Synoston, Robert, 50
S., F., 27, 87

T.

Tadgill, Rev. Thomas, 34
Taillour, *see* Le Taillour
Tailor, Robt., 45
Tailour, *see* Le Tailour
Tailours, Nicholas, 29
Talar, William, 36
Tart, —, 39
Tatnall, Henry, 88
Tatton, —, 16
Tayleour, Rev. Hamlet, 34
Taylier, Andrew, 37
Taylor, Edward, 33; Henry, 95;
Canon Isaac, 117; Rev. Isaac,
115; John, 50; Lawrence, 94;
Widow, 29; Wm., 100
Telier, William, 15
Telier, William, 15
Tenche, Rev. John, 35
Thackeray, Dr. William Make-
peace, 74
Thatcher, *see* Le Thatcher
Thelwall, *see* De Thelwall
Thimbleby, Sir Richard, 6
Thirdgold, Robert, 56
Thomas, 55, 60; F. H. D., 23;
George, 31; —, 39
Thomas, son of Danwe, 62; son
of Richard, 58; son of Robert,
60; son of Roger, 58
Thomason, Thomas, 104
Thomason, Thomas, 29
Thompson, Mary, 73

Thomson, Will, 114
Thornley, Edward, 64
Thornton, *see* De Thornton
Thorpe, Thomas, Mayor of Chester,
7; —, Mayor of Chester, 49
Thorpe, Thomas, 9
Thorpe, Thos., Mayor of Chester,
9
Thropp, Elizabeth, 87; Major
Thomas, Alderman of Chester,
7, 8; Will., 8
Throstal, Henry, 54
Throstal, John, 55
Thucydides, 25, 26
Thyrlwynd, Richard, 34
Tillotson, Johannes, Archbishop of
Canterbury, 77
Tilsley, Lambert, 6
Tilston, —, 43
Tindall, Abraham, 28; George, 28
Tinder, John, 37
Tirer, Gilbert, 35
Tocksey, Joh., 100
Tollemache, Anna, 78; Annie, 78;
John, Baron, 78; Wilbraham
Spencer, 78; William Augustus,
78
Tollet, Joseph, 72; Tabitha, 72
Tomdre, John, 113
Tomlinson, Edward, 77
Tonge, Peter, 32
Top, Richard, 64; Susanna, 64
Topham, W., 30
Torperlegh, *see* De Torperlegh
Torsell, Sam., 100
Torshell, Sam., 98
Totenham, *see* De Totenham
Tottie, Ellen, 41
Townsend, Sir Henry, 23
Towers, Robert, 114
Townsend, Henrcus, 11
Trafford, Sir Edmond, 23; Rev.
Henry, 34; Thomas, 11; Widow,
29; Wm., 89; —, 89
Travis, Henry, 94
Trigold, Robt., 56
Tricocke, Daniel, 56
Trueman, John, 36; Will., 109
Trutbecke, Rev. Edward, 35
Tuam, Archbishop of, 99
Tudman, Widdowe, 93
Turner, Ann, 114; Matthew, 112;
Thomas, 114; —, 108
Tutchett, Henry, 45
Twiss, Jane, 64; Thomas, 93
Tyrer Edward, 114
Tyndall, George, 28; Mary, 28
Tyrer, Margaret, 82

U.

Underhill, Gilbert, 109
Unteen, Robert, 48
Upshan, Rev. William, 77
Urmiston, John, 36; Robert, 36
Urmston, Richard, 69; Robert, 36;
Thomas, 41; —, 82
Urwick, —, 35, 90
Ussher, Henry, Archbishop of
Armagh, 4; James, 4

V.

Vaughan, Richardus, 11
Venables, C. 73; Thomas, 11
Verdon, *see* Le Verdon
Vernan, Wyllam, 88

Vernon, George, 23; John, 114;
Laurence, 93; Ralph, 43; *see
also* De Vernon
Viner, Elizabeth, 112; Mary, 112;
Sir Robert 113; Thomas, D.D.,
Dean of Gloucester, 112
Vyner, Cicell, 113; Elizabeth, 113;
Frances, 113; Honor, 113; Hon-
our, 113; Robert, 113; Sir
Robert, 112; Robert, Charles de
Grey, 112, 113; Samuel, 113;
Thomas, 113; Dr. Thomas, Dean
of Gloucester, 113

W.

Waddon, —, 88
Waed, Mary, 96
Wainwright, Rev. John, 36; Rev.
John, Chancellor of Chester 74;
Mary, 74
Waite, Thomas, 87
Walet, *see* De Walet
Walker, Christopher, 50; George,
100; Randall, 8; Randle, 50;
Ronald, 24
Wall Jo., 104; Robert, 45; Rev.
William, 34
Walle, *see* De Walle
Walley, Arthur, 50; Cha., 50;
Char., 29; Charles, Mayor of
Chester, 51, 52; Rev. George,
34
Walls, John, 114
Wallwerks, Rev. Ellis, 34
Walshe, *see* De Walshe
Walter 60 119; Sir John, 114; son
of Henry, 60
Walton, *see* De Walton
Walworth, Tho., 89
Waran, Andrew, 41
Warberton, Pettar, 23; Petrus, 11
Warb'rtou, Sir Pettar, 23
Warburton, Tho., 99; —, 71
Ward, Rev. Peplow, 38; Rev. —,
72, 73
Ware, Sir James 4; Robert, 4 5
Waring, Richard, 114
Warmington, Isaac, 56
Warner & Sons, John, 30
Warren, Edwardus, 11
Warrington, William, 18, 30
Warton, William, 29
Washington, Thomas, 9, 10
Waters, Mary, 63
Wasse, Thomas, 14
Watkins, D. 72, 114, 117
Watts, Henry, 36
Waynwright, John, 104
Weane, John, 89
Weaver Robert, 94; Urian, 62
Webb, — 82
Webster, John, 36; Wriggan, 89;
Rev. W., 89; *see also* Le Web-
ster
Welch Will, 82
Weldmor, *see* De Weldmor
Wellhausen, —, 3
Wellnes, Widow, 94
Welsh, Will, 82
Werberton, Richard, 34
Werden, Colonel —, 78
Werlegh, *see* De Werlegh
West, Henry, 112
Weston, Richard, 27, 89; Rev.
Thomas, 60; —, 60

- Wettenhall, Gabl., 28; Jo, 64; John, 96; Richard, 63; Tho., 74
 Wetter, William, 37
 Weverham, *see* De Weverham
 Wharton, William, 28
 Whetton, John, 34
 Whickstead, Richard, 117
 Whitbie, Thomas, 69
 Whitehead, John, 36; Thomas, 9
 Whitfield, —, 115
 Whitney, Peter, 112
 Whitlocke, Sir James, 23
 Whitmore, Ellen, 114; Jane, 66, 67; John, 27; Captain Valentine, 66, 67; *see also* De Whitmore
 Whittakers, William, 62
 Whittel, John, 52
 Whittell, John, 9, 42, 43, 97
 Whitworth, John, 9, 42, 43
 Whyte, David, 27
 Whythead, Eyod., 24
 Whythead, Gylbert, 24
 Wickstead, Margaret, 56
 Widdens, Richard, 89; William, 109; Wm., 92, 104
 Wigley, Rev. Henry, 73
 Wilbraham, Sir Richard, 23; Thomas, 11; Sir Thomas, 77; —, 91
 Wilbr, Baphe, 96
 Wilbrm, Roger, 96; Thomas, 96
 Wilcoxon, Rich., 99
 Wilkes, Robert, 96, 117, 118; Robt., 91, 93, 96
 Wilkins, —, Bishop of Chester, 75
 Wilkinson, Ed., 52; Henry, 100; John, 89; Dr. John, 100; Lawrence, 94; Robert, 28; Widdow, 94
 Wilkoce, Henry, 15
 Wilcoxon, Richard, 91
 Wilks, Lawrence, 96; Robt., 96
 Willet, —, 30
 Willeys, John, 50
 William, 53, 59; son of Adam, 58; son of Henry, 60; son of Philip, 55; son of Randle, 58; son of Richard, 60; son of Robert, 59; 59; son of Thomas, 55, 60
 William III., King of England, 57, 60, 61, 73, 75
 Williams, Edward, 50; Jno., 28; Richard, 29; Robert, 29; Roger, 62
 Williamson, Henry, 36; John, 29; Richard, 109; Ryo., 104
 Willson, Christian, 116
 Wilson, Arthur, 50; Guliel, 64; John, 82, 116—118; Margrett, 56; Marie, 117; Rich., 56; Richard, 36, 50, 116; Ro., 36; Robert, 56; Thomas, 36; Thomas, Bishop of Sodor and Man, 102, 103; Wm., 109; —, 118
 Wimpenny Elizabeth, 119
 Winestre, Sarlin, 41
 Winsey, John, 96, 96
 Winstanley, Rev. —, 13
 Winterbotham, Robert, 48
 Wirrow, Peter, 29
 Wiston, Katherine, 37
 Wittell, John, 50
 Witter, Colonel Joseph, 89; Raulph, 104; Ryo., 104; —, 89
 Wixstead, Henry, 94
 Wixted, Rich., 96
 Wode, *see* Del Wode
 Wodger, George, 114
 Wodyer Elizabeth, 114
 Wolley, John, 29; *see also* De Wolley
 Wolstenholme James, 114
 Wood, Anthony, 84, 85; Bridget, 93; Rev. Francis, 114; William, 93; —, 31
 Woodcock, Thomas, 43; William, 44
 Woodd, Wyllym, 24
 Woodhall, Wm., 69
 Woods, Franc., 56; Rev. —, 75
 Woodward, —, 87, 88
 Woolridg, Thomas, 94
 Worcester, Edward, Earl of, 23
 Worrall, John, 113; Richard, 114
 Worth, *see* De Worth
 Worthington, John, 84
 Wrench, Richard, 64
 Wriggan, Robert, 89
 Wright, Catherine, 74; Sir Edmund, Lord Mayor of London, 74; Elizabeth, 74; Francis, 63, 74; John, 96; Mary, 74; Rev. Matthew, 119; Rich., 96; Richard, 74; Rev. Richard, 36, 36, 37, 74; Robert, 89; Tho., 50, 96; William, 30; —, Canon of Chester, 74; —, 69
 Wrigley, Rev. Roger, 34
 Wroe, Richard, 59
 Wryoh, *see* Le Wryoh
 Wryght, Rev. William, 34
 Wudward, Rev. Hugh, 34
 Wyatt, Elizabeth, 13; William, 13
 Wybergh, Dorothy, 47; Thomas, 47
 Wyld, Ralph, 64
 Wylkes, Robert, 52
 Wylkoo, Richard, 55
 Wyllyams, Rev. Roger, 34
 Wynne, Richard, 12; Watkin Williams, 28
 Wynnynton. *see* De Wynnynton
 Wytemore, —, 10
 Wyttacur, James, 34
 W., *see* Le W.
 W., C., 30

X.

Xenophon, 26

Y.

Yale, Dr. David, 68
 Yalle, Dr. David, 11, 23
 Yardley, John, 96; Richard, 95
 Yate, *see* De Yate
 Yates, Ric., 90
 Yeates, Rev. John, 119
 Yeaton, Richard, 34
 Yeowood, Henry, 93; Lawrence, 94
 Yerwood, Richard, 13
 Yonge, Eyed., 24
 York, Duke of, 113
 Yorkyn, 59
 Young, John, 56
 Yoxall, Peter, 38

INDEX OF PLACES.

- A.
 Abbots Cotton, 51
 Acton, 29, 35, 42, 50, 53, 61, 62, 71, 76, 77, 78, 94, 95, 119
 Adlington, 11, 61
 Agrik Bwloh, 102
 Ainho, 77
 Aislaby, 80
 Aldelem, 50, 94
 Alderleigh, 34
 Alderleigh, 11
 Alderley, 42
 Aldford, 34, 104
 Alsager, 42
 Altham, 34
 Alvandley, 89
 Alvanley, 89, 90, 104
 Alyn Valley, 102
 America, 5
 Anglesey, 116
 Antrim, 5
 Arden, 11
 Ardley, 71
 Arfon, 116
 Arley, 11, 23
 Arrow, 63
 Arthur Bwloh, 102
 Arthur Bwloh, Pass of, 102
 Arvon, 116
 Arwe, 60
 Aschton, 16
 Asheley, 11, 23
 Ashton, 71, 91
 Ashton-on-Mersey, 34
 Ashton-under-Line, 97
 Ashton-under-Lyme, 98
 Aslaoebi, 80
 Aslaoebi, 80
 Asolveabi, 80
 Assheton, 34
 Astbury, 75
 Aston, 11, 44, 77
 Aston Supra Marcum, 34
 Asulbvi, 80
 Audelem, 95
 Audlem, 42, 71, 95
 Ayr, Point of, 10
 Ayrshire, 52, 84, 86
 B.
 Baeoford, 41
 Baekford, 12
 Backford, 113, 120
 Badley, 29
 Bally-na-crae, 5
 Bangor, 34, 84
 Bangor, Deanery, of, 48
 Barneston, 6
 Barnston, 84
 Barnston, 71
 Barrow, 22, 23, 34
 Barthomley, 31, 42, 64
 Bartomely, 30

Bartomley, 31, 50
 Bartumley, 31, 35
 Barton, 71
 Bawton, 99
 Beabington, 114
 Beame Bridge, 44
 Bebington, 3, 41, 45—47, 54, 101, 105, 108
 Bebyngton, 34
 Bedson, 43, 44
 Beeston, 11, 52, 102
 Berked, 15
 Bexley, 113
 Bickerton, 44
 Bickley, 79, 103
 Bidston, 14, 15, 35—37, 74, 81, 82, 112, 113, 118
 Bidston Hill, 105
 Billinge Beacon, 102
 Birkenhead, 78, 81, 83, 100
 Birkenhead Priory, 105
 Birkett, 14
 Birkett Pools, 81
 Birkett, River, 82
 Birmingham, 39
 Birmingham, Gosta Green, 38
 Blackburn, 34
 Blakenhall, 71
 Blakenhall, 94
 Bodon, 34
 Bolton, 35
 Bolton, 34
 Bolton-in-the-Moors, 65
 Boughton, 13, 51, 52, 84, 95, 97
 Boulton, 119
 Bowden, 42, 73
 Bowdon, 16, 40, 59
 Bowes, 35
 Bradley, 89, 104
 Bradwell, juxta Hare, 112
 Brentwood, 25
 Breerton Green, 91
 Bretton, 10, 11, 78
 Brimstige, 105
 Brimstige Hall, 108
 Brindley, 77
 Brinley, 34
 Brinson, 5
 Bromborough, 25, 90
 Bromborough Pools, 105
 Brombro, 90
 Brombrough, 34, 93
 Bromhall, 11
 Broughton, 11
 Broxton, 23, 52, 95, 102
 Bruera, Chapelry of, 22
 Bucklow, 119
 Budston, 3
 Budworth, 34, 40
 Budworth Magna, 16
 Bunburie, 35, 38
 Bunbury, 44, 45, 50, 91
 Burton, 3, 10, 13, 34, 41, 84, 90, 102, 113, 114
 Burton-in-Wirral, 42, 102
 Burton-on-Trent, 39
 Bury, 34
 Burye, 34
 Bury St. Edmunds, 23
 O.

Caerleon, 115
 Caernarvon, 116
 Caer-yn-arfon, 116
 Calday, 27, 102
 Calder Abbey, 47

Calday Grange, 12
 Cambridge, 59, 75, 77, 107
 Cambridge, Caius College, 83
 Cambridge, Magdalen College, 59
 Cambridge, St. John's College, 83
 Cambridge University, 107
 Cambridgeshire, 59
 Canterbury, 57, 85
 Carlingham, 11
 Carnarvon, 116
 Cattonell, 93
 Catrall, 104
 Cauldye Grange, 13
 Chaldee, 66
 Chatsworth, 83
 Cheadle, 61
 Cheadle Hulme, 62
 Chedill, 34
 Chelmsdale, 103
 Cheshire, 5, 10, 11, 22, 23, 27, 33, 35, 39, 41, 42, 44, 52, 56, 57, 59, 61, 66, 70, 72, 73, 75, 76, 79, 81, 87, 90, 100, 101, 102, 105, 107, 108, 111, 112, 115, 119
 Chester, 1, 2, 5—18, 22—31, 34, 35, 37—45, 47—53, 56, 61, 68, 70—74, 76—78, 81, 83, 84, 87, 89—91, 95—101, 103, 104, 107, 114—120
 Chester, Benedictine Abbey of St. Werburgh, 6
 Chester "Blue Posts," 3, 4, 5
 Chester Castle, 69
 Chester Cathedral, 3, 22, 37, 46, 48, 49, 59, 90
 Chester Deanery, 2, 22, 28, 30, 32, 41, 68
 Chester, Holy Trinity, 2, 22, 42, 63, 68
 Chester, John's Parish, 49
 Chester, Little St. John, 22
 Chester, Marie's Parish, 50
 Chester, Michael's Parish, 8, 50
 Chester, Peter's Parish, 8
 Chester, St. Bridget's, 22
 Chester, St. Bridget's Parish, 2, 74
 Chester, St. Bridgette, 69
 Chester, St. John, 42
 Chester, St. John Baptist, 22
 Chester, St. John's, 28, 34, 52, 62
 Chester, St. John's Hospital, 1, 12
 Chester, S. Marie's Parish, 2
 Chester, St. Mary, 34
 Chester, St. Mary-on-the-Hill, 30
 Chester, St. Mary's, 22, 42
 Chester, St. Mary's Parish, 69
 Chester, St. Michael, 42
 Chester, St. Michael's, 22, 28, 34, 68
 Chester, S. Michael's Parish, 2
 Chester, St. Michael's Parish, 32
 Chester, St. Olaves, 22
 Chester, S. Olaves Parish, 2
 Chester, St. Oswald, 34
 Chester, St. Oswald's, 22
 Chester, St. Oswald's Parish, 2, 6, 22, 32
 Chester, St. Peter's, 22
 Chester, St. Peter's Parish, 68
 Cheshershire, 115
 Cholmeston, 71
 Cholmondeley, 103
 Cholmondeley, 103
 Christleton, 97
 Christlington, 50
 Christleton, 3
 Christilton, 34
 Christleton, 22, 42, 60, 62, 87, 89, 90

Chrystelton, 88
 Chumleigh, 83
 Church en Heath, 22
 Church Lawton, 11, 64
 Church Hulme, 64
 Churchminahal, 119
 Churton, 3, 18, 22, 29
 Churton Heath, 29, 51
 Churton-by-Aldford, 18
 Churton-by-Farndon, 18
 Chyrche, 34
 Civitas Legionum, 115
 Cloughton, *see* Irvine, Wm. Ferguson
 Claverton, 71
 Clederock, 34
 Clifton, 47
 Clitheroe, 34
 Clwyd, Vale of, 102
 Coddington, 23, 34, 53, 104
 Coddington Hertleye, 40
 Codrington, 54
 Coggeshall, 56
 Colmonell, 84
 Colne, 34
 Colum, 113
 Combermere, 23
 Congleton, 42
 Coppall, 34
 Coppenhall, 64, 71
 Cornwall, 57, 86, 115
 Cotton, 62, 64
 Cotton Corne, 52
 Coventry, 71
 Crabwall, 80
 Crew, 30, 31
 Crewod, 104
 Crewood, 88
 Croughton, 63
 Cumberland, 47, 48
 Cumb'ner, 11

D.

Danby, 80
 Daresbury, 38, 42, 120
 Davenham, 64, 75, 109
 Dawbes, 11
 Dawpool, 10
 Dee Channel, 32
 Dee, River, 31, 32, 100—102, 105, 110, 111, 115, 116
 Delamere Forest, 102, 119
 Denbigh, 116
 Denwall, 71, 80
 Derby, 39
 Dersburie, 40
 Dersbury, 34
 Deva, 115
 Devon, 83, 86
 Didesbury, 34
 Dialay, 64, *see* Ellibank
 Ditton, 56
 Dodleston, 22, 37
 Dodylston, 34
 Dorfold, 78
 Dove Point, 32
 Dove Spit, 32
 Dublin, 4, 5, 41
 Dublin, Trinity College, 103
 Dubr-Duin, River, 115
 Duddon, 71, 91
 Dufordwy, River, 115
 Dunham-on-the-Hill, 38
 Durham, 80
 Dynbyeh-y-Pyscod, 116
 Dytton, 34

E.
 Eastham, 42, 63, 90, 113
 Eaton, 11, 75, 116
 Eatun, 116
 Eccles, 34
 Eccleston, 2, 22, 34, 35, 69, 73, 75
 Edesbury, 91, 99
 Edge, 23
 Edge Hill, 44
 Edisbury, 99
 Ellibank, intra Disley, 64
 Elmore, 107
 Elmore Court, 85
 Elton, 53
 England, 14, 44, 78, 86, 97, 102, 104, 111
 Erby, 66
 Essex, 25, 26, 112
 Estham, 5, 34
 Ewelle, 80
 Eton, 116

F.
 Fairfield, 112
 Farndon, 22, 62
 Farnworth, 73
 Fender, River, 82
 Fetherstone Castle, 47
 Fiddlers' Ferry, 81
 Flint, 114, 116
 Flintshire, 10, 116
 Fluntum, 116
 Flutterbrooke, 71
 Flynt, 116
 Forde, 37
 Fowkstablefore, 50
 Fradsham, Deanery of, 40
 Francklins, 112
 Frankby, 105
 Frankford, 113
 Fremington, 83
 Frith, 116
 Fradsham, 16, 34, 38, 42, 84, 88-92, 97, 102-104, 109, 119, 120
 Fradsham, Deanery of, 16, 72
 Frollsworth, 113

G.
 Gawsworth, 42
 Geaton, 15
 Geaton, 10, 15
 Gelden Sutton, 43
 Gilden Sutton, 27, 44
 Glasgow University, 107
 Glasgow, 84, 86
 Glasgow, St. Andrew's University, 52
 Gloucester, 30, 41, 42, 112, 113
 Gloucestershire, 75, 85, 107, 112, 113
 Goestre, 34
 Grange, 102
 Grapnall, 16
 Grappenhall, 119
 Greasty, 71
 Great Budworth, 42, 56
 Great Meoles, 56
 Great Neston, 114
 Great Saughall, 56
 Great Smeaton, 83
 Great Stanney, 45
 Great Storeton, 100
 Great Wilbraham, 59
 Gresbye, 14
 Gropenhall, 72, 73
 Guilden Sutton, 22, 43, 45
 Gulden Sutton, 45

H.
 Hale, 1
 Handbridge, 71
 Handley, 26
 Handley, 40
 Hanley, 34
 Hanmer, 48, 63
 Hapfenford, 7
 Hapford, 89
 Harding, 114
 Hare, 112
 Hargrave, 43, 114, *see* Tarvin, 23
 Harwood, 34
 Haselwell, 80
 Hasillwall, 80
 Haslington, 64
 Hatherton, 71, 94
 Hatton, 11, 23, 120
 Hawarden, 10, 23, 30
 Hazelby, 80
 Helbrie, Island of, 6, 7
 Hellesby, 60, 62
 Helmingham, 78
 Helsbie, 89, 104
 Helsby, 53, 90, 102
 Henbury, 11
 Herefordshire, 110
 Hertford Green, 78
 Herts, 112, 113
 Heswall, 15, 41, 79, 80, 82, 102, 113
 Heynall, 71
 Higher Bebington, 101
 Hilbre, 31
 Hilbre Island, 32
 Hillbree, 6
 Holford, 27
 Holme, 48
 Holt, 62
 Holt with Iscoyd, 23
 Holte, 37
 Holywell, 85
 Hoole, 46
 Hooton, 6, 106, 108, 113
 Hooton Hall, 108
 Hope Mountain, 102
 Horsley, 78
 Hoton, 27
 Houghanstan, 2
 Houghanston, 2
 Hough, 71
 Houghie, 11
 Houle, 50
 Howle, 49
 Howton, 15
 Hoylake, 31, 32, 105
 Hoyle Bank, 32
 Hoyle Lake, 31
 Huntingdon, 22, 51
 Hurdsfield, 67
 Hurlestone, 63
 Huxley, 11, 45

I.
 Idenshaw, 63
 Idinshaw, 63
 Ince, 3, 23, 35
 Irby, 66, 108
 Irby Hall, 108
 Ireby, 5
 Ireland, 3, 4, 5, 14, 41, 44, 76, 78, 86
 Iscoyd, *see* Holt
 Isca Silurum, 115
 Issington, 113

J.
 Jamaica, 79

K.
 Keggworth, 113
 Kelsall, 71, 91
 Kent, 113
 Kinderton, 11
 Kingsalegh, 62
 Kingsley, 53, 89, 90, 104, 120
 Kirkby-Walley, 82
 Kirkoswald, 47, 48
 Kirkup Lane, 105
 Knoctorum, 6
 Knottisford, 34
 Knowsley, 25, 26
 Knutsford, Nether, 42
 Kyngealegh, 58
 Kyngaley, 104

L.
 Lancashire, 22, 30, 47, 63, 65, 87, 98, 101, 105
 Lancaster, 25, 38, 56, 97
 Lancastershyre, 88
 Lancon, 5
 Lanercost, 47
 Larton-cum-Newton, 114
 Lawton, 34, 49
 Le Mosse, 1
 Lea, 115, 120
 Lea cum Newbold, 22
 Lea Hall, 73
 Leamington, 84, 107
 Leasowe, 118
 Ledsham, 115
 Leely, 11
 Lega-Ceaster, 115
 Lege-Ceaster, 115
 Leicestershire, 113
 Leichfield, 95
 Leigh, 47
 Lexlipp, 41
 Lichfield, 119
 Lichfield, Hospital of St. John Baptist, 71
 Lichfield and Coventry Diocese, 119
 Lincolnshire, 80
 Liscard, 81, 82, 83
 Liscart, 56
 Liscarth, 56
 Litchfield, 91
 Little Budworth, 42, 119
 Little Mollington, 13
 Little Neston, 13, 45
 Little Stanney, 45
 Little Storeton, 100
 Liverpool, 25, 26, 81, 83, 89, 100, 111
 Liverpool Bay, 32
 Liverpool, Port of, 32
 Liverpoole, 81
 Llangollen, 79
 London, 4, 15, 16, 30, 49, 51, 63, 66, 70, 79, 85, 86, 90, 91, 98, 100, 101, 112, 113, 115, 116
 London, Allhallows, Lombard St. Church and Parish, 112
 London, Bethlehem Hospital, 113
 London, British Museum, 11
 London, Christ's Hospital, 113
 London, Goldsmiths' Hall, 117
 London, Gray's Inn, 67
 London, Holborn, 62
 London, Inner Temple, 113
 London, Lincoln's Inn, 45
 London, Record Office, Chancery Lane, 42
 London, St. Anthelm, 113

London, St. Bartholomew's Hospital, 113
 London, St. Clement Danes, 85
 London, St. Mary le Savoy, 85
 London, St. Mary's Woolnoth, 112, 113
 London, St. Sepulchre, 112
 London, St. Thomas's Hospital, 113
 London, Somerset House, 56
 London, South Kensington Museum, 57
 London, Westminster, 5, 12, 63, 117
 London, Whitechapel, 41
 London, Whitehall, 47
 Lowe, 34
 Lower Bebington, 106
 "Lowton, *alias* Lucton," 112
 "Lowghton, *alias* Lucton, 112
 Lym, 72, 73
 Lyme, 34, 72, 73, 119
 Lymm, 34
 Lymme, 119

M.

Macclesfield, 27, 34, 64, 115
 Macclesfield, Christ Church, 42
 Macclesfield, Deanery of, 48
 Macclesfield, Parish of, 42
 Maersee, River, 115
 Maes Garmon, 102
 Malpas, 34, 40, 42, 74, 84, 103—105, 116, 120
 Malpas, Deanery of, 40
 Manchester, 34, 38, 39, 59, 77, 97
 Manchester, Collegiate Church, 16
 Marcum, *see* Aston
 Mandley, 104
 Manley, 89, 90
 Marbury, 11, 35, 42
 Marple, 42
 Marusia, 115
 Maupas, 34
 M'Calanstone, 85
 Medius Vicus, 49
 Medius Wych', 62
 Meola, 105
 Mer, 34
 Mercia, 102
 Meres-ea, River, 115
 Mersey, River, 32, 81—83, 100—102, 105, 110, 111, 115
 Mickle Trafford, 38
 Middlesex, 45, 85, 113
 Middleton, 34
 Middlewich, 42, 53, 61, 62, 71, 73, 84, 91, 119
 Middlewich, Deanery of, 48
 Minshull, 23, 35, 42
 Mobberley, 42, 57, 64, 73
 Moberley, 48
 Mobley, 13, 14
 Moberley, 34
 Mollington, 56
 Mollinton, 13
 Mon, 116
 Mona, 116
 Moreton, 37, 81, 113
 Morfa Rhuddlan, 102
 Morley Lane, 39
 Morton, 15
 Mosbury, 56
 Mosse, *see* Le Mosse
 Mostyn, 10
 Mottram, 34, 48
 Mottram in Longdendale, 42
 M'rcia, River, 81

Mussa Flaxholmes, 2
 Mydleton, 34
 Mynshull, 29, 30

N.

Namphwich, 96
 Namptwch, 91, 96
 Namptwich, 44, 63, 77, 93, 94, 99, 117, 118
 Namptwiche, 118
 Nampwich, 71, 96
 Nantwich, 39, 41, 42, 51, 52, 72, 74, 76—78, 84, 91, 93, 120
 Nantwich, Deanery of, 29, 50
 Ness, 114
 Neston, 28, 34, 41, 42, 81, 89, 113
 Netherton, 89, 104
 New Brighton, 82
 Newbold, *see* Lea
 Newcastle, 27, 72
 Newton, 53, 58, 65, 89, 90, 104
 Newton juxta Chester, 71
 Newton juxta Middlewich, 71
 Norbury, 11, 89
 Norlegh, 58
 Norley, 53, 89, 90, 104
 North Wales, 115
 North Wirral, 105
 Northenden, 42, 65
 Northleach, 113
 Northumberland, 47
 Northwich, 53, 91
 Northwyche, 62
 Northwyche, 78
 Norton, 11, 23
 Norton Hall, 43
 Norwich, 114
 Nottingham, 39

O.

Offa's Dyke, 111
 Oldham, 34
 Olton, 53, 62
 Onston, 53, 55, 62
 Ouer, 34
 Ouldfield, 10
 Over, 26, 61, 75
 Over Budworth, 42
 Over Peover, 27
 Overchurch, 46
 Overton, 34, 89, 90
 Owton, 104
 Oxford, 25, 57, 59, 61, 72, 73, 75, 85, 86, 110
 Oxford, Balliol College, 107
 Oxford, Balliol College, 52, 83
 Oxford, Brasenose College, 57
 Oxford, Exeter College, 57
 Oxford, Gloucester Hall, 57
 Oxford, St. Edmund Hall, 75
 Oxon, 5, 6, 57
 Oxton, 5

P.

Peckforton, 102
 Peover, 119
 Penier Inferior, 34, 40
 Picton, 53, 62, 63
 Piner, 11
 Plemondstall, 62
 Plemonstal, 23
 Plemstall, 2
 Plemstow, 34
 Plumstow, 50
 Plymyard, 90
 Podington, 11
 Poford, 35

Poictiers, 119
 Poole, 11, 77, 90, 113
 Poolto', 81
 Poulton, 82
 Portsmouth, 37
 Portsmouth, The Royal George, 37
 Poton, 35
 Poulton, 53
 Poulton Manor, 81
 Poulton cum Seacom, 56
 Prenton, 6, 105
 Prenton Hall, 105
 Prenton Hill, 109
 Prentoun, 6
 Presburie, 48
 Presbury, 61, 65
 Prescott, 65
 Prescott, 89
 Prestbury, 34, 61
 Preston, 16
 Prestwiche, 34
 Puddington, 10
 Puddington, 113—115, 119
 Pulford, 3, 23, 34
 Pulton, 61
 Pycton, 61

Q.

Quicke, 97, 98

R.

Raby, 114
 Radcliffe, 34
 Rainford, 65
 Ranmore, 118
 Rechedell, 34
 Red Stones, The, 32
 Ribbel, River, 115
 Richmond, 23, 74, 119
 Rivington Pike, 102
 Rock Channel, The, 32
 Rocksavage, 104
 Rome, 33, 113
 Roncorn, 40
 Roncorne, 34
 Rostherne, 73
 Rostorn, 16, 40
 Rosty, 34
 Rowton, 49, 50
 Rumcofa, 116
 Runcorn, 116
 Runcorne, 89
 Rothstorne, 16
 Rydal Hall, 47

S.

Saddleshworth, 34, 98
 Saughton, 22
 St. Germain, 86
 St. German's, 57
 Salisbury Hall, 112, 113
 Sallersich, 71
 Saltney Marsh, 10, 11
 Sandbach, 42
 Sandiway, 78
 Saughall, 12
 Saughall-Massey, 37, 84, 113
 Saugho, 10
 Saughton, 49
 Scotland, 52, 83, 85, 86, 97, 102
 Seacombe, 81
 Seacombe, 81, 82
 Seacom, *see* Poulton
 Shavington, 71
 Shenley, 113
 Shenley Hall, 112, 113
 Shipbrooke, 64

Shotwick, 9, 114
 Shotwicke, 10
 Shrewsbury, 44, 77
 Shropshire, 107
 Sleaford, 80
 Smallwood, 71
 Snowdon, Forests of, 102
 Sonbache, 49
 Southowton, 35
 Spittle, 56
 Sproston Wood, 79
 Stableford, 89
 Staffordshire, 39, 78, 106
 Stanney, 11, 44, 45
 Stanney Grange, 45
 Statham within Lyme, 72
 Staunton, 112, 113
 Stoake, 114
 Stockport, 34, 42, 64, 65
 Stoke, 3, 34, 62, 77
 Storeton, 100—102, 105, 106, 108—111

Storeton, Great, 100
 Storeton Hall, 101, 106, 108
 Storeton Hill, 109
 Storeton, Kirkup Lane, 105
 Storeton, Little, 100, 105
 Storeton, Manor Mill, 108
 Storeton, Town Lane, 105
 Storeton, Umlisons, 110
 Storeton, Well Lane, 105
 Storeton, Western Hill, 106
 Strathclyde, 102
 Studley, 57
 Suffolk, 119
 Surrey, 77
 Sutton, 35, 64
 Swakeleys, 113
 Swetnam, 49
 Swettenham, 34

T.

Tabley, 23, 119
 Tacsall, 34
 Tagstat, 2
 Talacre, 10
 Tarporley, 23, 39, 89
 Tarvin, 34, 39, 42, 50, 66, 91, 99
 Tarvin, with Hargrave, 23
 Tatnall, 34
 Teirton, 7
 Tenby, 116
 Tervin, 35
 Tevorton, 91
 Thingwall, 80, 112
 Thornteton, 98, 100
 Thornton, 7, 23, 34, 35, 53, 72, 77, 90, 97, 99, 114
 Thornton-in-the-Moors, 53, 55, 58, 60, 62
 Thornton-le-Moors, 30, 89

Thorton-in-the-Moors, 38
 Thurstanton, 27
 Thurstaston, 27, 34, 82, 114
 Thurstinton, 10
 Thurstaston, 66, 67
 Tilbury Fort, 27
 Tilston, 34, 40
 Tilston Farnall, 7
 Tiverton, 7
 Torpley, 34
 Torporley, 37
 Tortexth, 2
 Trafford, 38, 39, 53
 Trafford Green, 40
 Tranemore, 27
 Tranmere, 105, 106
 Trenytat, 34
 Trethewen, 57
 Troghford, 62

U.

Uffeton, 107
 Ufton, 52, 83—85, 107
 Usk, River, 115
 Utkinton Hall, 78

V.

Vale Royal, 27, 75

W.

Wales, 22, 99, 101—103, 111
 Walesey, 41
 Walford, 74
 Walgherton Tearton, 71
 Wallasey, 81
 Wallasey, 34, 42, 81—84, 100, 112, 114
 Wallazie, 56
 Wallerscote, 120
 Wallisey, 63
 Waltham Abbey, 57
 Wandsworth, 77
 Warford, 114
 Warrington, 73
 Warrington, 119
 Warrington, 38, 64, 81
 Warwickshire, 107
 Watt's Dyke, 111
 Waverton, 18, 23, 34, 42—44, 84
 Weaverham, 42
 Welsh Hills, The, 102, 110
 West Kerby, 13
 West Kerby, 13
 West Kirby, 6, 12—14, 26, 42, 114, 118
 West Kirkbie, 7, 41
 West Kirkbye, 14
 West Kirkeby, 13
 Westminster, 5, 12, 63, 117
 Westmorland, 47
 Weston in Charlton, 71

Wettenhall, 23
 Weverham, 34
 Whalley, 34
 Wharton, 43
 Whelocke, 11
 Whitby, 80
 Whitechurch, 44, 47, 50, 56, 77, 79
 Whitegate, 75
 Whytegate, 35
 Wibunbury, 50
 Wibunbury, 35, 93, 94
 Wigan, 22, 30, 59, 60, 83, 109
 Wigan Lane, 47
 Wigstaston, 71
 Wilkesley, 56
 Willaston, 71, 96, 114
 Wilmington, 51
 Wilmalo, 34
 Wilmslow, 10, 42
 Wimbolde Trafford, 45
 Winbury, 71
 Winterborne, 85
 Winterborough, 85
 Winwick, 5, 102, 103
 Wirbal, 115
 Wirral, 10, 14, 22, 42, 45, 54, 81, 83, 93, 100—2, 105, 106, 108, 110, 113, 115, 117, 118
 Wirral, Deanery of, 3, 22, 113
 Wirral, 67
 Wirral, Deanery of, 40
 Wirvell, 2
 Wirven, 2
 Wirvin, 63
 Wirvin Newton, 63
 Wistaston, 64
 Wolverhampton, 39
 Woodchurch, 5, 6, 34, 41, 46, 74, 84
 Woodhey, 11
 Woodhouses, 89, 104
 Woodlands, The, 117
 Woore, 39
 Wooton-under-Edge, 75
 Worcester, 25, 47, 107
 Worleston, 71
 Worrall, 66, 119
 Worrall, 14, 114
 Worthembre, 34
 Worthenbury, 48
 Wrenbure, 35
 Wrenbury, 50
 Wrenbury, 29, 77, 79, 116, 117
 Wrexham, 39
 Wybunbury, 29, 42, 71, 72
 Wye, River, 111
 Wystaston, 29, 35

Y.

Yanwath, 47
 York, 13, 14, 69, 97
 York, Diocese of, 119
 Yorkshire, 74, 80, 98, 112



D. . 1

THE
CHESHIRE SHEAF,
Third Series,
BEING LOCAL GLEANINGS,
HISTORICAL AND ANTIQUARIAN,
RELATING TO
CHESHIRE, CHESTER AND NORTH WALES,
From many Scattered Fields.

EDITED BY THE REV. FRANCIS SANDERS, M.A., VICAR OF HOYLAKK, AND
WM. FERGUSON IRVINE, HON. SEC. RECORD SOCIETY.

"O, ~~LET~~ ME TEACH YOU HOW TO KNIT AGAIN
THIS SCATTER'D CORN INTO ONE MUTUAL SHEAF."

REPRINTED, AFTER REVISION AND CORRECTION, FROM THE "CHESTER COURANT."

VOL. II.
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THE "CHESTER COURANT" OFFICE, BRIDGE STREET
1899.

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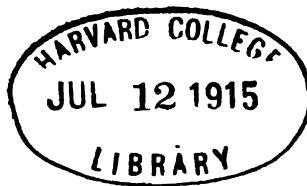
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J. A. Lowell fund
(II, VIII)

TABLE OF CONTENTS.

1. Introduction.
2. Seventeenth Century Love Letters.
3. A Chester Ordinary of Arms, 1629.
4. The Will of Jeffrey Duncalf of Chelford, 1588.
5. A Chester Ordinary of Arms, 1629.
6. Old Clocks in Chester.
6. Cartwright, Barrow, and Whitney Families.
6. Northwich Free Grammar School.
7. The Portmote and Pentice Courts.
7. The Deans of Chester. Thomas Clark, 1541.
9. Inscription on Font in Warburton Church.
9. Church Monuments.
11. A Chester Ordinary of Arms, 1629.
11. Davies Family of Ashton and Manley.
11. The Deans of Chester, Henry Man, 1541—1547.
14. Marriage Registers of St. Oswald's.
14. Inscription on Font in Warburton Church.
14. A Dispute about Lands in Great Meols and Wallasey, 1659.
16. The *Post-mortem* Inquisition of Thomas Bold, Constable of Chester Castle, 1437.
16. Marriage Registers of St. Oswald's.
17. An Unpublished Letter of 1684.
18. A Chester Ordinary of Arms, 1629.
19. Marriage Registers of St. Oswald's.
19. The Will of John Duncalf, of Mobberley, 1592.
20. Marriage Registers of St. Oswald's.
20. Extracts from Nicholas Blundell's Diary, 1702—1728.
21. Old Clocks in Chester.
21. The Meaning of the Word "Slang," in Field Names.
22. A Schoolmaster's Licence from the Bishop of Chester, 1733.
22. Marriage Registers of St. Oswald's.
23. Old Clocks in Chester.
24. The Deans of Chester, William Cliff, 1547—1558.
26. A Chester Ordinary of Arms, 1629.
27. Marriage Registers of St. Oswald's.
27. Venables Family.
27. The Pooles of Poole Hall.
27. Sir Timothy Featherstonhaugh, a Discrepancy.
27. King's Vale Royal.
28. The Word "Fender," as the Name of a Stream.
29. Edward the First in Cheshire in 1277.
29. Aston Hall Charters, Frodsham.
29. The Cooke Family of Tarvin.
29. Date of the Making of Parkgate Road.
29. Marriage Registers of St. Oswald's.
30. The Siege of Poole Hall in 1644.
30. The Deans of Chester. William Cliff, 1547—1558.
31. Seventeenth Century Love-letters.
32. Alehouses in Wirral in 1619.
32. Marriage Registers of St. Oswald's.
33. General Venables, Governor of Chester Castle, 1660.
33. A Chester Ordinary of Arms.
34. Marriage Registers of St. Oswald's.
34. "Slang" as a Field Name.
35. The Rev. Richard Wright, Incumbent of Bidston, 1663—1668.
35. Inscription on Font at Warburton Church.
35. Cooke Family of Tarvin.
35. A Curious Entry in the Wallasey Parish Register.
36. The Field-name Slang.
36. Sir William Stanley, of Hooton (The first Baronet).
37. A Chester Trial a Hundred Years Ago.
37. A Remarkable Escape at Sandicroft in 1784.
37. Marriage Registers of St. Oswald's.
38. Sir Timothy Featherstonhaugh.
38. Bishop Keene's Family.
39. Witton Free Grammar School.
40. Old Clocks in Chester County.
40. A Chester Mention of the Great Plague of London, 1665.
40. A Chester Ordinary of Arms, 1629.
42. Marriage Registers of St. Oswald's.
42. On Norman Surnames in Cheshire.
44. The Rev. John Barker, Incumbent of Bidston, 1698—1730.
44. Samuel Davies, Organist of Chester Cathedral, 1716.
44. Marriage Registers of St. Oswald's.
45. Recusancy in Cheshire in 1580.
46. Date of Making of Parkgate Road.
47. Bishop Keene's Wife.
47. Bishop Keene's Family.
47. Newton Quakers' Chapel.
47. General Robert Venables.
48. The Adams Family, of Woodchurch.
49. John Wesley in Chester.
50. The Vicissitudes of a Cheshire Clock.
50. "The Knights of King Arthur's Round Table."
50. Marriage Registers of St. Oswald's.
51. A Dispute relating to Pews in Neston Church in 1711.
52. The Parliamentary Election, 1727.
53. *Inquisitio Post-mortem* of John de Meoles, 1417.
53. Marriage Registers of St. Oswald's.
54. The Meaning of the Place-name Hoole.
54. The Deans of Chester. Richard Walker, 1558—1567.
56. Marriage Registers of St. Oswald's.
56. A Breach of Promise Case in 1637.
58. The Snell Family.
58. The Meaning of the Place-name "Hoole."
58. Marriage Registers of St. Oswald's.
58. Leasowe Castle and Race Course.
60. A Breach of Promise Case in 1637.
61. Marriage Registers of St. Oswald's.
61. Epitaphs on Chester Cathedral Choristers.
62. Northwich Free Grammar School.
63. A Heswall Slander Case in 1533.
64. The Snell Family.
64. Marriage Registers of St. Oswald's.
64. Mr. E. W. Cox's Article on the Antiquities of Storeton.
66. The Ancient Boundary of Wirral and Broxton Hundreds.
66. Pownall Family.
67. Marriage Registers of St. Oswald's.
67. Varia.
68. Northwich or Witton Grammar School.
69. Marriage Registers of St. Oswald's.
69. Norman Surnames in Cheshire.
70. A Breach of Promise Case in 1637.
71. Northwich or Witton Grammar School.
72. Marriage Registers of St. Oswald's.
72. Norman Surnames in Cheshire.

73. A Breach of Promise Case in 1637.
74. Marriage Registers of St. Oswald's.
75. Norman Surnames in Cheshire.
76. Marriage Registers of St. Oswald's.
76. A Milton Relic! Cheshire Associations.
77. A Breach of Promise Case in 1637.
78. Northwich or Witton Grammar School.
79. Old Clocks in Chester.
80. Marriage Registers of St. Oswald's.
80. Lord Audley and his Four Esquires at the Battle of Poitiers.
81. Birkenhead Priory.
82. The Date of the Making of the Parkgate Road.
82. Marriage Registers of St. Oswald's.
83. A Breach of Promise Case in 1637.
84. Church Goods in the Deanery of Wirral in 1549.
85. Marriage Registers of St. Oswald's.
85. The word Slang, as a Field Name.
86. Genealogical Abstracts from the Wills at the Probate Registry.
87. The Inquisitio *Post-mortem* of Henry Rebington, of Bebington, dated 1403.
87. Marriage Registers of St. Oswald's.
88. Cotton Letters. Combermere M.S.S.
89. Archdeacon Finmore.
90. Quaker Families in Frodsham.
90. Font in Warburton Church.
91. Marriage Registers of St. Oswald's.
91. Birkenhead Priory.
92. The Brownells of Gawsworth.
93. Marriage Registers of St. Oswald's.
93. A Congleton Quack Medicine of the last Century.
94. An Incident in the Plague at Bromborough, 1578.
95. The Inquisitio *Post-mortem* of Gilbert Glegg of Gayton, dated 1428.
96. A Curious Entry in the Wallasey Parish Register.
96. Ancient Water Mill at Wallasey.
96. Marriage Registers of St. Oswald's.
96. Cotton Letters. Combermere M.S.S.
97. The Brownells of Gawsworth.
98. The Date of the Making of the Parkgate Road.
100. Marriage Registers of St. Oswald's.
100. Delves-Broughton of Doddington.
101. The Brownells of Gawsworth.
103. Thomas Mottershead, Sheriff of Chester, 1641-2.
103. Marriage Registers of St. Oswald's.
103. Birkenhead Priory.
104. A few more Cheshire Norman Names.
105. Cotton Letters. Combermere M.S.S.
106. Marriage Registers of St. Oswald's.
106. The M.S. Collection of the Four Randle Holmes of Chester.
108. Cotton Letters. Combermere M.S.S.
108. Marriage Registers of St. Oswald's.
109. Cotton Letters. Combermere M.S.S.
111. Admissions to St. John's College, Cambridge, Part I., January 1629-30 to July 1665.
112. Madox Family of Farndon.
112. Gateway in City Walls.
112. Ancient Wall in Weaver-street.
112. Marriage Registers of St. Oswald's.
112. The Place-name Greasby.
114. Admissions to St. John's College, Cambridge, January 1629 to July 1665.
115. Marriage Registers of St. Oswald's.
115. Cotton Letters. Combermere M.S.S.
117. A Strange Legend of a Lancashire Church.
117. The Name of Parkgate.
117. Bidston in 1785.
117. Belfry Rhymes at Daresbury.
118. The Bells of Chester Cathedral.
118. Parish Registers of St. Oswald's.
118. Extracts from the Diary of the Rev. Sir Henry Poole, Bart.
119. The Cotton Letters.
120. Notes on Birkenhead Priory.
120. Parish Registers of St. Oswald's.
120. Extracts from the Diary of the Rev. Sir Henry Poole, Bart.
121. Leasowe Castle.
122. Who was Mayor of Chester in 1643-44?
123. Marriage Registers of St. Oswald's.
123. Cotton Letters. Combermere M.S.S.
125. The Snell Family.
125. The Pewing of Neston Church, 1711.
125. Madox Family of Farndon.
126. Marriage Registers of St. Oswald's.
126. Cotton Letters. Combermere M.S.S.
127. The Family of Meoles of Great Meoles and Wallasey.
127. Cotton Letters.
128. The Congleton Quack Doctor.
128. Inscriptions on Chester Cathedral Bells.
128. Marriage Registers of St. Oswald's.
129. A Journey from Dublin to Chester 107 years ago.
131. Inscription on the Font in Warburton Church.
131. The Mayor of Chester in 1643-4.
131. Marriage Registers of St. Oswald's.
131. Birkenhead Priory.
131. Admissions to St. John's College, Cambridge; Part II., 1665-1715.
134. Cotton Letters. Combermere M.S.S.
134. Marriage Registers of St. Oswald's.
134. Birkenhead Priory.
135. Admissions to St. John's College, Part II., 1665-1715.
137. Cotton Letters. Combermere M.S.S.
137. Marriage Registers of St. Oswald's.
138. The Ghost at Thurstaston Hall.
139. Birkenhead Priory.
139. Admissions to St. John's College, Cambridge.
139. John Stones, the Cheshire Antiquary.
140. Marriage Registers of St. Oswald's.
140. The Court Roll of the Manor of Hoose in 1812.
141. Cotton Letters. Combermere M.S.S.
142. Cheshire Emigrants to America in the 18th Century.
142. Notes on the Admissions to the St. John's College, Cambridge.
143. The Mayor of Altrincham's Breeches.
143. Marriage Registers of St. Oswald's.
143. Wirral after Fifty Years.
144. Abstract of Wills at the Probate Registry, Chester.
145. Marriage Registers of St. Oswald's.

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VOLUME II.

JANUARY 5, 1898.

INTRODUCTION.

In beginning a second volume of the third series of the Sheaf, the Editors wish to thank that small band of contributors which has helped them from time to time in the past and to express the hope that this year the help afforded will be greater than hitherto, as it must be obvious that to produce week by week the necessary quantity of matter containing items interesting to those who have the history and archaeology of the county at heart, as well as to the wider body of readers whose interest is of a less direct nature, is a task which weighs very heavily, unless a large measure of support is forthcoming from correspondents. The task is one of such an exacting kind, that it is only after urgent requests from a number of readers that the Editors have consented to take the work in hand again, and they confidently appeal to all who can help — and there must be many — to do so as much as possible. The Editors especially ask for queries, as such often lead to interesting correspondence, and to the eliciting of much useful information. As an example of the lack of support that there was in 1896, the list of bell inscriptions in the Chester Deanery may be instanced. Surely there is one reader in each parish who would take the trouble to

climb his church tower, and spend 10 minutes in deciphering and copying these oft-times interesting inscriptions, and contributing an item of real interest to the history of his parish and county, and yet the Editors only received two such lists for the whole of Chester Deanery.

For the coming year the Editors have several pieces of work of real value in prospect. They hope amongst other things to print for the first time a portion of a valuable and interesting heraldic document, now in private hands, entitled 'Davies' Heraldry.' The portion they propose to print is that referring to Chester city. It contains over 150 coats of arms belonging to Chester men, many of whose descendants are still living among us. The first instalment of this document will appear in to-day's issue. Mr. Sanders will contribute articles on the lives of the various Deans of Chester from the foundation of the See, and Mr. Irvine hopes from time to time to write a series of articles on the old Halls of Cheshire—not on those which are so well known to every tourist, but on the smaller but no less interesting ones, which have in many cases now simply become ordinary farm houses. For the ardent genealogist the Editors have a plan which they think will be found very useful. It is, of course, a truism that Parish Registers are the basis of all family as well as parish history, and many efforts have been made to print these. To do this for the whole of Cheshire, would, of course, be utterly out of our scope, but it must

be obvious to all, that the marriages are the most interesting portion of any registers, as they often give clues which lead to the elucidation of some long-hidden mystery in a family tree. It must be further obvious that Chester City, as the centre of the county, will contain the most interesting marriages in its registers, as in former times people often came from all over the county to be married in the capital city. It has, therefore, been decided to print as many of these marriage registers for the City of Chester as possible, and a start will be made with those of St. Oswald, beginning in 1581.

Some more extracts from the Royalist Composition papers are also ready for printing, and the usual selection of documents from the episcopal registry (for the permission to print which the editors are again indebted to John Gamon, Esq.), together with some specially interesting wills, will form part of the work in prospect. For the rest the editors again appeal confidently to their readers for help and suggestions.

THE EDITORS.

NOTES.

[129] SEVENTEENTH CENTURY LOVE-LETTERS.

The following copy of an amusing love-letter is one of some ten or a dozen surviving originals which passed between Mary Hatton (daughter of Piers Hatton, gentleman, of Quistie Birches, in Hatton, by Daresbury), and her sweetheart, in the reign of the Commonwealth. Except for stains by damp, they are in good preservation, but sometimes too rapidly written to readily transcribe. The seals are either damaged or broken away altogether, save two or three. On the present one are the remains of a seal armorial (a saltire being only just perceptible through pressure of the dark red dilapidated wax). It is addressed:—"For the verie virtuous good Ladye the — Mrs Mary Hatton — att — Walthamstowe — in — Essere.—These pr.snt." And is endorsed in the handwriting of Miss Hatton, with date, and name of writer.

"My Madme.—Itt rejoyceth me greatly that you are tarrying again att Walthamstowe, and I shall faile not to do as you list whilest you be there: I praye you make my love as you will to my ladye, and tell her my bad foote is much too painefull to truste to stirrope for some daies. Yor. sweete lettr. is all I have att p'sent of muche comforts. I have slepte ye bettr. for

knoweing how near you tarry to me & truste me I shalbe nearer to you ere long: Mr. Boothe came to me one daie this weeke with muche complainings: I am yet angered everie daie wth. sights and men who by looke and acte and speeche on one partie or ye othr. seem as [if] they dwell'd (I hope butt tarrie) in an enemyes countrie: I wish not and in deepe am fearfull to drawe on some of them. My hande is shackld by ye contynual remembrance of you and ye knoweing of what muste come forthe of them that spewe all out for luke warmeness Thus my deareste mistris [missis, phonet.] you neede little fear I shall yet abide and grinne so long as I tarrie here. Althings on a time were tis true dreery enough, but ye towne could not go in sackeclothe and ashes for ev'r (wch. myld. Oliver verily knoweth): I doubt'd alwayes if ye fashion could last long after ye apparell was worne bare enough for stubborne folke to see ye nakednesses of many of them that once did weare itt.

I was with much companie ye last weeke on ye Themes. Wee had good voyces and singinge of maddrigalls and othr^m all ye waye to Hampton and backe againe. Itt was very pretty to heare and in especiall ye sweetlie loud notes of ye greates beautys in ye companie to witt Mrs Cicelie Wynne and her couzen Doll, My ladye Penell [ope—blurred] also hath a good voyce, but lord how itt broke awaie from all curbe and time, Yett she wente flowndring aboute bravelie to ye verie last: I did wish you had been there: the daye was espetiall fine and you would have joyed over it But how sillily young Mr. Brearton gott madd upon Doll. I do thinke that a brace or two of his like would make a good playe to be call'd ye Beddlambes and Belledames: It was pretty enough to watch how Doll workd her eyes, now full of drollerie when he came round aboute her, and then how she dropt them prettily and here and there cast them aside till he was smitt all ovr. fantastickly and went nigh stumbling into her lapp, and she I could sweare not caring one groate for his paines: Thinke you of Megg Laurence there with her feete (such feete, like Chris Dixons in ye shoue from Leedes) all ways in ye way of ye companies eyes, and all for ye wanting of an elle more of gowne. But there there (sic.) be not many women so greatly to my liking albeit twould be more to itt if you had her to learne her a little of yor. graces, for I verily see fewer everie day that could and would. Then we all got out at Charing and tooke coaches to

ye parkes (*sic.*) and thence to Mrs Wynnes and suppd & sinfullie dancd late, and see home to bedd. I shalbe gladder then all when I can come to you att Walthamstowe and still remaine evr.

Madme.

Yours only

RAND : H."

"from ye Strande
this 2d of Julij 1654."

The Mary Hatton to whom this letter is addressed was eventually heiress of her two brothers—which unfortunately ended the elder line of the house (except the mere female representation), but left the male representation in the line of a brother of Sir Christopher Hatton, K.G., the 'dancing Chancellor,' whose Garter Plate still remains *in situ*, over his stall in St. George's Chapel, Windsor Castle. This surviving line was then represented by Lord Viscount Hatton of Holdenby, co. Northamp. and Hatton Garden, High Holborne, but now by the Finch-Hatton family. This surviving line descended from one of the 8 or 10 sons of Mary's ancestor of Hen. VIIIth's time, who married the daughter and heir of Holden, by of Holdenby, and so founded several other houses whose heads were titular patentees in the 17th century, but are now all extinct—so far as positive proof goes.

The references to drawing the sword 'on some of them,' and to 'luke warmness,' and 'sinfully dancing,' are somewhat curious, inasmuch as both families—stock and branch in Cheshire—were certainly Parliamentarians.

T. HELSBY.

ORIGINAL DOCUMENTS.

[130] A CHESTER ORDINARY OF ARMS, 1629.

We are indebted to J. Paul Rylands, Esq., F.S.A., the well-known writer on heraldic subjects, for the following valuable communication, the continuation of which we hope to publish from time to time. It will be of special interest to Chester people, as it contains a more complete list of coats of arms than any yet printed.

Mr. Rylands describes the communication as follows:—

"Extracts from a manuscript called 'Davies' Heraldry' dated 1629, which belonged formerly to Dean Cholmondeley of Chester & to Mr. Matthew Gregson, F.S.A. of Liverpool. In the original the arms are coloured."

1. Reverendissimus in Xpo Pater & Dominus RICHARDUS VAUGHAN sacre Theologie Doctor ac Diocesis Cestriens : presens Episcopus &c.*
Sable a chevron between three fleurs-de-lys Argent [Vaughan]; impaling, Gules, three mitres Or [The See of Chester].†
2. DOWNEHAM sacre Theologie Doctor olim Episcopus Cestriensis
Azure, on a chevron between two birds, in chief and a wolf's head erased in base Argent a rose Gules between two books also Gules the edges of the leaves Or. [Downham] impaling, the See of Chester as above.
3. CHATTERTON sacre Theologie Doctor Epus. Cestriens. Argent, a chevron Gules between three flesh-hooks Sable; on the chevron a crescent Or. [Chatterton] impaling the See of Chester as above.
4. HUGO BELLLOTUS Sacre Theologie Doctor nuper Epus. Cestriens.
Argent, on a chief Gules, three cinque foils of the field; a mullet of the second in the fesse point for difference [Bellott] impaling the See of Chester as above.
5. BARLOWE Sacre Theologie Doctor ac Decan's Cestrie.
Sable, an eagle displayed with two heads standing upon the limb of a tree raguled and trunked fesseways in base Argent, and charged on the breast with a crescent Gules for difference.
6. DAVID YALE utriusque juris Doctor ac Cancellarius episcopi predict.
Ermine, a saltire Gules, thereon a crescent Or, within a bordure engrailed Sable.
7. CUTHBERTUS BELLLOTUS sacre Theologie Baccal' ac Archidiaconus Cestrie.
Argent, on a chief Gules three cinquefoils of the field: a double cinquefoil Gules in the fesse point for difference.
8. Gravissim's & litteratissim's vir Wms. GOODMAN sacre theologie professor
Gyronny of eight Ermine and Sable, an eagle displayed Or.
9. MALLORIN S. T. B.
Or, a lion rampant Gules; in dexter chief a crescent of the second for difference.
10. LEWIS, S. T. B.
Sable, a chevron between three fleurs de lys Argent.
11. RAVENSROFT, un's prebend.
Argent, a chevron Sable between three ravens' heads erased proper; upon the chevron a fleur-de-lys Or. for difference.

*As Bishop Vaughan was translated from Chester to London in 1604, the manuscript must be somewhat older than 1629.

†It will be observed that the arms of the See are incorrectly placed on the sinister instead of the dexter side in Nos. 1, 2, 3 & 4.

12. NATHANIEL DOD Sacra Theologice Doctor Argent, on a fesse Gules, between two barrulets nebulée Sable, three crescents Or; upon the middle crescent another Sable for difference.
13. MERE UNUS prebend' Argent, a ship with three masts, the sails furled Sable.
14. SANDFORD. Per chevron Sable and Ermine, in chief two boars' heads fesseways Or coupé Gules.
15. HAYDOCKS. Argent, a cross and in dexter chief a fleur-de-lys Sable.
16. JACOB'S BANESTEW. Argent, a cross patonce Sable; in dexter chief a trefoil of the second for difference.
17. FRANK: PILKINTON Artis musicæ baccalari's Argent, a cross patonce Gules voided of the field; in the fesse point a trefoil Sable for difference.
18. WMS. IRELAND. Gules, a spear in bend, Or headed Argent, the head pointing to the dexter chief, therefrom a penon pendant of the third, between six fleurs-de-lys of the last, all within a bordure engrailed of the second pelletée.
19. BYRAM Rector Eccl'ie S'ci Joh'is Baptiste Argent, a chevron Sable between three hedgehogs proper.
20. THYCKENS Rector S'oe Werburgæ. Argent, a chevron Sable fretty Or, in chief a saythe blade Azure.

(To be continued.)

JANUARY 12, 1898.

ORIGINAL DOCUMENTS.

[131] THE WILL OF JEFFREY DUNCALF, OF CHELFORD, CO. CHESTER, DATED 1588.

The following will has a special interest, owing to the curious list of bequests of agricultural and household implements, some of which need explanation. Three nawkers are *three augers*, and one nasse stands for *one adze*, the Cheshire workman to this day calls an adze, an *asse*. It will be seen from the form of wording that the old carts or wains were usually dealt with in separate parts, a 'pair of wheels' being one portion, which was often bought and sold by itself, while the chest or body of the cart was distinct. The blanks in the document are due to a hole in the parchment.

Birkenhead.

WM. FERGUSON IRVINE.

In nomine dei Amen, the eighth day of [* *]ber in the xxx years of the reigne of our sove[reign] ladie Elizabeth by the grace of god queen of englande fraunce a[n]d ireland defender of] the faythe &c.

I JEFFREY DUNCALF of CHELFORDE in [the County of Chester] husbandman being sicke in body but of good and p'fect [* *] make my last will and testamete in man [er * *] firste I geve and bequethe my soule into the [* *] ffaythe fullye beliveinge that I am Red [* *] of my savio'r and lord Jesu christe and my [* *] And as for my worldlye goods and Cattell's I [* *] in man'r and forme followinge.

Imp. I geve and bequeathe to Raufe and John my two sonnes the greatest brasse [* *] bequeathe to my wief one meat clothe [* *] to Remayne to my sonne Raufe It. I geve and bequeathe [* *] one almyre and one sauspæ and one checked towell [* *] the best brass pott, the least brass pott and [* *] ve and bequeathe to ye said Emme two kyne to be deliv'ed at [* *] ou'seers It. I geve and bequeath to my sonne Raufe one Jack [* *] sawe one framing sawe and one checked towell [* *] Raufe one oow to be deliv'd at the discreo' of my ou'seers hereinafter to be named It. I geve and bequeathe to my said sonne Raufe one [* *] wheeles the axell trees and corne weanes cheste two peare of marling wheels with the coppes and tombrels one pear of clogg wheels the turffe weanes cheste, two mucke weanes chests one plough one peare of Irons fyve yoks, two peare of cleves one Iron cheyne two harrowes with the pynnes theironto belonginge one matooke one shoe one cutting axe one hatchett three nawkers one nasse and two chissels and all my playnes the said Rauf permitinge his moth' to have use and occupye all this husbandrie ware before bequeathed (duringe her life) if the so longe do last to do her husbandrye, helping whe' need is to mende the same. It I geve & bequeathe to ye said Raufe, one borde, forme & tressels standing in the parlour, the best brasse pottle but one, the worst feather beed, one boulster, one peare of canvas sheets, one sheett of teire of hempe, one coverlett, one twilsheett, one tubbe & troughte to salt fleashe in, two ewe lambes, one weaving lowme the said Rauf permitting his mother to weave her cloth theirin dueringe her lief. It I geve and bequeathe to John Duncalf my sonne one flooke beede one brasse pott, one coffer one cowe and a heiffer to be deliv'ed at the discreo'n of my ov'reers hereafter named. It. I geve & bequeathe to Rauf Duncalf one swyne tubb of stonne It. I geve and bequeathe to John Duncalf one you'g horse and if the pri'cipall then I geve and bequeathe acke mare It. I geve and bequeathe to my sonne John Duncalf all my intreeste and in a cten pee of grounde called the Wo

for the same to John Snelson his
and bequeathe to Edwarde fletcher and to
beede, one brasse pottle, and all yt my
the to the halfe with them in Ast
one cowe to be deli'ed at the
discreoon of my ou'seers hereafter named
It. I geve and bequeathe to Rondle
grastye one coverlett one
twilaheet one pearse two ewe
lambes and one pewter dische. It. I geve and
bequeathe to Henerye Cleato' my svaunte twoe
ewes and one coffer in his tenure It. I geve
and bequeath to M'garet ffallowes alias Duncalf
one ewe lambe. It. I geve and bequeath to Henrey
poivall one hopp of barley and an other of ottes and
one pearse of hossen It. I geve and bequeathe to
Rauf Deane my brother-in-lawe my best cote. It.
I geve bequeath and assigne all the Resdue of
my household stuffe goods debts and cattels
(my legacies funerals and debts first being
discharged vpo' the whole) to my wief Emme
to Rauf and John my two sonnes and to Edwarde
fletcher my sone in lawe equallye to be devyded
amongste them. It. my will is yt all ye poe'
of goods debtes and chattels due to my sonne
Johnne Duncalf shalbe put forward to ye best
com'odytie of the said John Duncalf by Hughe
Mottra' and Will'm Dayne at the ou'sight of
George Low the elder and Georg Falloweis the
elder two of my ou'seers hereafter named vntill
suche tyme yt ye said John Duncalf either oo'
to any pmoco' or acco'plishe the age of xxi years
It. I make co'stitute and appoynte my wief
Emme and Hugh Mottra' afforesaid my true and
lawfull executo'rs of this my last will and
testame't And I ordeyne and appoynte Georg
Low the elder Georg ffallowes the elder and
Will'm Dayne ou'seers of this my last will and
testame'te to see yt it be acco'plished to ye true
meaninge In witness whereof I have hereunto
put my crosse in psence of George Low the elder
George Low' Junir Edwarde ffallowe—

Debtes	doe owe.	xxs
Imp' to Anne		xijjs
Itm to Alice		

[132] A CHESTER ORDINARY OF ARMS, 1629.

(Continued from No. 130.)

21. The Arms of ye Right honorable Sir
THOMAS EGBERTON, Knight, Lord Keeper of
the Great Seale of England, Maister of the
Bowles, High Chamb'laine of the County
Palatine of Chester, and one of the Queen's
Ma'ties most honorable Privie Counsell.
Argent, a lion rampant Gules between three
pheons Sable, all within a bordure engrailed of
the last; on the lion's shoulder a crescent Or
for difference.
22. The Armes of PETER WARBURTON Esq. one
of the Queenes Maties Justices of her High-
nesse Court of Comon Pleas at Westminster

and Vice Chamb'laine of the said County
Palatine of Chester.

Quarterly, Argent and Gules, in the first
quarter an ermine spot Sable, in the second
and third a fret Or; in the fesse point a
crescent Sable charged with another Or, for
difference.

23. HUGH BRESTON Esq. Surveyor of the
Court of Eschequer at Chester.
Argent, a bend between six bees volant Sable.
24. JOHN EGBERTON Esq. Baron of the said Court
of Eschequer
Argent, a lion rampant Gules charged on the
shoulder with a crescent Or [between three
pheons Sable] within a bordure engrailed of
the last; a label Azure.
25. ALEXANDER COATE Deputy Baron of the
said Court.
Paly of six Or and Gules, a bordure Azure
besantée.
26. WM. POWELL Knight Deputy Baron of the
said Court.
Sable, three roses Argent, seeded Or, tufted
Vert; in the fesse point a crescent of the
second for difference.
27. THOMAS BOOTH sergeant of the said court
Argent, three boars' heads erect and erased
Sable; in middle chief a crescent Gules for
difference.
28. EDWD. SMITH sergeant of the said court
Azure, two barrulets wavy Ermine, on a
chief Or a demi-lion issuant Sable; in dexter
chief a crescent Sable for difference.
29. JOHN GOODMAN sergeant of the said court.
Gyronny of eight Ermine and Sable; an eagle
displayed Or, charged on the breast with a
crescent of the second for difference.
30. WM. RAVENSCROFT sergeant of the said
court.
Argent, a chevron Sable between three ravens'
heads erased proper; on the chevron a crescent
Or for difference.
31. THO. CASE attorney of the said court
Argent, on a bend engrailed Gules plain
cotised Sable, three round buckles Or.
32. THO. HARPER attorney of the said court.
Argent, a lion rampant within a bordure
engrailed Sable, charged on the shoulder with
a mullet Or for difference.
33. RICHARD WARDEN attorney of the said
court Gules, on a bend Argent three leopards'
faces of the field; in sinister chief a crescent
Or for difference.
34. ROBERT WHITEBYE attorney of the said
court. Argent, a chevron Sable, between in
chief two crosses pattée fitchée Gules, and in
base a snake voluted Vert.

35. **PETER MIDDLETON** attorney of the said court Argent, on a bend Vert three wolves' heads erased Argent; in sinister chief a crescent of the second charged with a mullet Or.

36. **EDWD. BOSSOME** attorney of the said court Gules, three bird-bolts with single heads erect the feathers upwards Argent.

37. **CLEMENT HYCKES**, privy searcher of the port of Chester Gules, a chevron Ermine between three clarins Or; in middle chief a crescent of the last for difference.

38. **JOHN SPARKS**, controulor of the Custome house, Cheeky Or and Vert, a bend Ermine.

Other arms belonging to the Cittie of Chester Aunciently called Caerlegion.

39. [THE CITY OF CHESTER.]

Gules, three lions passant guardant in pale Or dimidiated, impaling Azure, three garbs Or also dimidiated.

40. **LAWTON**, Recorder of the said Cittie.

Argent, a fesse between three cross croalets fitchée Sable; on the fesse a mullet of the field for difference.

(To be continued.)

QUERIES.

[133] OLD CLOCKS IN CHESTER.

Several letters in recent issues of the *Courant* on the subject of old Wirral clocks and clock-makers have suggested to my mind that such a subject would be a fit one to broach in your interesting column. There must be many old clocks in Chester with the names of the makers, and possibly the dates, still preserved on the face, and it would be very useful if some sort of list of such clocks could be compiled through the medium of your column, as a comparison of names and styles would often enable the date of their making to be satisfactorily fixed. There are few subjects on which people are less precise than this one of the dates of their family possessions. The following story which happened to me recently is probably a fairly representative experience of anyone endeavouring to ascertain the date of a clock. The lady of a house in which I was staying, knowing I was interested in archaeological matters, stated that a cottager during the previous autumn had shewn her a clock nearly three hundred years old, and asked if I would care to see it. Such a clock certainly would have been interesting, and a visit was duly made. The clock proved to be one probably dating from 1760 or 1770, but on my hostess asking

its age, she was assured by its owner with pride that it was "nigh on to four 'ndred years old, mum." Thus this excellent clock had grown one hundred years in a winter! Such vague generalisations as to date would be effectually stopped if a few of your correspondents would send particulars of the old clocks in their possession, and if the names of the makers were given, the writer would do his best to fix their dates by reference to contemporary documents. As an example of what may be done, the writer may instance an old brass faced clock now standing in the office of the City Surveyor at the Town Hall, bearing the inscription 'Cawley, Chester.' Now Robert Cawley, clockmaker, of Chester, died before 1743, as in that year administration of his goods was taken out at the Probate Registry. So that it is obvious the clock must have been made at a date prior to this, unless, and this is of course possible, Robert Cawley left a successor in the trade who carried on the business under the old name. The lettering of the name, however, is quite in keeping with the date, 1730-1740, if not slightly earlier.

It may be taken as a fairly accurate rule that the clocks with painted faces date from sixty to a hundred years ago (though of course such clocks are being made down to the present day, while those with good brass dials often run from one hundred to one hundred and eighty years in age. Earlier than this, the clocks frequently had merely the single finger.—

Yours truly,

Liverpool.

HORLOGES.

[134] CARTWRIGHT, BARROW, AND WHITNEY FAMILIES.

Information relating to the families of *Cartwright* and *Barrow* of Sheppenhall, and of *Whitney* of Coole, in the parish of Wrenbury, is required for historical purposes. I have worked out pedigrees of these families, but wish to know whether the *Cartwright* family migrated after the middle of the 17th century; and the *Whitney* family after the middle of the 18th century. Are any representatives of these families still living?

JAMES HALL.

Lindum House, Nantwich.

[135] NORTHWICH FREE GRAMMAR SCHOOL.

Can any of your readers give me information about the free grammar school, which is said to have been founded at Northwich by a Sir John Dean, and also whether anything is known of the founder? Ormerod, in speaking of the

school, alludes to an interesting document among the Harleian manuscripts, which is said to contain the original statutes of the school. Has this been printed anywhere?—Yours,

Liverpool.

EDUCATIONALIST.

[136] THE PORTMOTE AND PENTICE COURTS.

The advertisement columns of the *Courant* every quarter bear the rather curious announcement that

The Portmote and Pentice Courts for the City and County of the City of Chester will be holden at the Town Hall, in the said City, on such and such a day, being the exact time and place when the City Quarter Sessions are held. The reports of the Quarter Sessions held before Sir Horatio Lloyd, as Recorder, contain no reference whatever to this mysterious inquiry as to 'Portmote and Pentice,' and it would be interesting to not a few Cestrians to learn what is the meaning of this antiquarian-looking announcement—Yours truly,

CESTRIAN.

JANUARY 19, 1898.

NOTES.

[137] THE DEANS OF CHESTER.*

By his letters patent, dated at Walden, 4th August, 1541, King Henry VIII. founded within the site of the dissolved monastery of St. Werburgh an episcopal see† and cathedral church, for one bishop, one dean, and six prebendaries. He appointed that the monastic church should henceforth be named The Cathedral Church of Christ and the blessed Virgin Mary, and he conveyed the site of the monastery, with all the ancient privileges, liberties, and customs belonging to it (excepting what was given to the Bishop) to the new Dean and Chapter. The Dean and Chapter were to rule themselves according to a charter to be afterwards made; to be the Chapter of the new

* By Deans of Chester, I of course refer to the Deans called into existence by the Act of A.D. 1541. I am quite aware of the claim of the Deans of St. John's to the previous use of the title.

† "The *See* and the *Diocese* of a Bishop are sometimes confounded. The *Diocese* is the territorial extent over which he has episcopal jurisdiction; the *See* (*sedes*) is strictly the Bishop's official seat or throne in his Cathedral Church; secondarily, it is applied to the church which contains the throne, and to the city which contains the church, and from which the Bishop commonly takes his title."—E. A. Freeman.

cathedral, with the same powers as that annexed to the diocese of Lichfield and Coventry, or any other diocese, and a body corporate with all powers of suing, &c., and to have a common seal. They had, moreover, the power of appointing or removing all the inferior officers of the Cathedral. The King, by charter, was to nominate the Dean and Prebendaries.

A Body of Statutes was made for the government of this church, and delivered to the Dean and Chapter (1541), but they were not then, nor have they been ever since, confirmed under the Broad Seal. But the Dean and Canons have been constantly sworn to observe them.

The charter of dotation contained ample provision for the support of the new Cathedral. The original grant comprised the manors of Huntington and Sutton, the last in Wirral Hundred; Upton, Bromborough, Irby, Ince, Saughton, Barnshaw, Fernel-cum-Pertinensiis; lands in Backford, Huntington, Cheveley, Sutton, Bromborough, Upton, Boughton, Newton, Wervyn, Croughton, Stamford, Christleton, Chorlton, Lee, Morton, Saughton, Shotwick; right of fishery in the Dee, as customary appertaining to several of these places; the rectories of Shotwick, Bromborough, Upton, West Kirby, Prestbury, Great and Little Neston, Willaston, and Ince; parcel of Chester late monastery; tythes in St. Oswald's parish in Chester city; rectory and advowson of Campden, county of Gloucester; pension of forty pounds issuing out of Rufford Manor, County of Lancaster; pensions out of Christleton, and the churches of St. Mary and St. Peter in Chester; Bebington, Eastham, West Kirby, Thurstaston, Doddleston, Coddington, Handley, Astbury, and Northenden; advowsons of Christleton, and St. Mary's and St. Peter's in Chester, Bebington, Thurstaston, West Kirby, Doddleston, Coddington, Handley, Astbury, and Northenden; advowsons of the vicarages of Neston, Prestbury, St. Oswald's in Chester and Eastham, with all lands belonging to those places which were ever parcel of Chester late abbey.*

This charter was unfortunately voided a few years later, owing to the omission of the word *Cestrias* after the expressions *Concedimus decano et capitulo ecclesiae Christi et beatae Mariae Virginis*. The greedy courtiers of the subsequent reigns took advantage of this flaw to deprive the new Dean and Chapter of their just rights, and to subject them to a long and trying litigation.

* Hemingway's *Chester*, I, 315-6.

The value of the endowments at the time of the foundation is thus stated:—

	£	s.	d.
Impropriation of Huntington and Cheveley manors	49	9	4
Sutton manor	11	12	2
Upton	21	11	4
In Boughton, Newton, Wervyn, Croughton, Backford, Chorlton, Stamford, Christleton	104	18	2
In Moston, Saughall, Civ. Cest. cum Vico Malbano	67	18	11
Bromborough manor	34	15	7
Bebington-cum-Eastham	21	18	6
Irby manor	27	17	7
Ince-cum-Membris	223	2	1
	563	3	8

SPIRITUALIA.

St. Oswald's, Chester, Prestbury, Ince, Campden, Shotwick, Upton, Neston, cum pensionibus ecclesiarum	358	10	2
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£921 13 10*

The revenue of the Dean and Chapter and the distribution of it prior to their spoliation is given in a document dated 1547, which we reprint from *Gastrell's Notitia*, Vol. 1., pp. 67-8. The difference in the value of money then and now must of course be taken into account.

	£	s.	d.
To the Dean	100	00	00
Six Prebendaries, £20 each	120	00	00
Six Minor Canons, £10 each	060	00	00
Six Readers of Epistle and Gospel, to each £6 13s. 4d.	040	00	00
Four Students in Divinity at Oxford, £6 13s. 4d. each	026	13	04
Two Sacriste, £6 each	012	00	00
Master of ye Choristers	010	00	00
Eight Choristers, £3 6s. 8d. each	026	13	04
Schoolmaster	016	13	04
Usher	008	00	00
Six Almsmen—£6 13s. 4d. each	040	00	00
24 Grammar Scholars—£3 6s. 8d. each	080	00	00
Given in Alms	020	0	0
Laid out in Repairs	100	00	00
Upon Common and Publick Ways	020	00	00
To the Auditors	010	00	00
Steward of the Lands	06	13	04
Porter of the Gates	06	13	04
Under Porter	04	13	04
Butler	06	00	00
Cook	06	00	00
Under-Cook	03	06	08
Steward to provide Victuals	06	00	00
Expenses extraordinary	020	00	00

* So Hemingway, I. 316. In *Gastrell's Notitia*, I. 67, the amount is computed at £944 12s. 9d.

For collecting of Rents	010	00	00
For Tenths and First Fruits	106	16	05½
Salary to Bailiffs of Upton, Chester, Ince, &c.	020	00	00
To Chaplains of St. Bridget's, Chelford, Ince, &c.	026	00	00
Vicars of St. John's and St. Oswald's	03	00	00
Proc. for several Churches	03	05	04
	£916	08	05

By the Charter of Erection, Thomas Clark, the last abbot, who had surrendered all the estates and rights belonging to the monastery of St. Werburgh to the King, was nominated Dean, and William Wall, Nicholas Bucksie, Thomas Newton, John Huet, Thomas Radford, and Roger (or Robert) Smith* were appointed the first six Prebendaries.

I.—THOMAS CLARK,† A.D. 1541.

Of the first Dean of Chester, it is impossible to glean more than a few particulars. His name is spelt *Clerk* in the Oxford Register, while in his will it appears as *Clarke*. But anyone with the slightest acquaintance with ancient records knows that the spelling of proper names was entirely arbitrary down to a comparatively modern period. Of the date or place of Clark's birth there seems to be no record. The first mention of him is in the Oxford Register, where he is described as a Cistercian, and is found supplicating for the degree of Bachelor of Divinity in 1535. Two years later (11th March, 1537) he was elected Abbot of St. Werburgh's, in the place of John Birkenshaw. Why, if a Cistercian, he was placed at the head of a Benedictine community needs an explanation, which existing authorities do not seem to supply. Dr. Morris said that he had formerly been a monk in the Abbey, a statement which complicates the matter still further. But whatever may have been his previous history, the new Abbot was not destined to retain his proud position long. On 20th January, 1539, he surrendered his Abbey, with all its broad lands, into the King's hands, doubtless receiving at the same time a promise of future reward in return for his ready compliance with the royal commands. For this reward he had not long

* *Gastrell* gives the former name, Ormerod the latter.

† Often erroneously called John Clark, as by Ormerod, Vol. I., p. 254 (2nd Ed.), and by Cooper Scott, p. 23 of his *Hist. of St. John's Church*.

to wait. In 1541 the abbey church of St. Werburgh's became the cathedral church of Christ and the blessed Virgin Mary, of which Clark was nominated the first Dean.

A few months after his appointment to the Deanery, Clark made his will, which is dated 13th September, 1541. This interesting document, with the accompanying inventory of his effects, is printed in full in *Lancashire and Cheshire Wills*, edited by the Rev. G. J. Piccope for the *Chetham Society*. The Dean, who describes himself as in a feeble condition of body, did not probably survive the execution of the will many months, but as the date of the probate is not given, we cannot fix the exact time. His successor's name occurs in the Treasurer's Accounts of the Chapter for 1542, so that Clark may be assumed to have died in the previous year.

It is ordered in the will that "the funerall costes and charges" are "to be made off his whole goodes," and in the accounts filed by the executors, this entry occurs:—"Imprimis, for funerall expenses about the burial off the testator: xlii. xjs. ijd., from which it is evident that the funeral was stately and sumptuous, costing not far short of £400 of our present money.*

F. S.

QUERY.

[138] INSCRIPTION ON FONT IN WARBURTON CHURCH.

William† Drinkwater, *the Keeper*, 1595, is cut on the stone of the Font in Warburton Church.

What is the exact meaning of the designation in italics? BOILEAU.

JANUARY 26, 1898.

NOTES.

[139] CHURCH MONUMENTS.

In the 1896 volume of "The Cheshire Sheaf" I was responsible for copies of monumental inscriptions in the churches of Acton and Wrenbury, which had not found a place either in the first or second edition of Ormerod's

* An interesting Note on Thomas Clark will be found in 'Cheshire Sheaf,' I. Series, Vol. 2, p. 277.

† Another account says Richard.

B

History of Cheshire. I propose to continue the series for the churches in South Cheshire; but, before giving the unpublished monuments of another village church, I wish to correct certain inaccuracies, and give additional information, respecting the memorial glass in Wrenbury Church.

On page 79 (*Sheaf*, 3rd series, vol. I.) I said—

"The chancel window is also filled with memorial glass (undated) to the late Lady Downshire, sister to the second Lord Combermere."

This should read as follows:—

The chancel window is filled with memorial glass, *undated*, and *uninscribed* to the memory of the late Field-Marshal LORD COMBERMERE, by his family as part of the general repair of the chancel undertaken soon after his death.

The memorial glass in the east window of the south aisle to MATILDA HESTER MARY COTTON, who died 20 May, 1868, aged 76, was inserted by *Admiral Francis Vere Cotton*, of Whitechurch, her brother, some years before (not 'after' as stated on page 79 *ibid*) the issue of the second edition of Ormerod's *History of Cheshire*.

Respecting the four windows in the north aisle filled with memorial glass to MARY WOOLLEY, VISCOUNTESSE COMBERMERE, a benefactress of the parish, who died in 1889, it should be added that this was in accordance with that lady's bequest for a monument in Wrenbury Church. This memorial glass was, of course, inserted since the issue of the second edition of Ormerod's *History of Cheshire*.

The hatchment of Field-Marshal Lord Combermere still remains in this church.

Nantwich.

JAMES HALL.

III.—MARBURY CHURCH.

The monuments in this church, both old and modern, are unnoticed in Ormerod's *History of Cheshire*. A complete list is here printed for the first time:—

Chancel.

The east window has memorial glass—

"In memory of WILLIAM HALSTED POOLE Capt. 23rd Royal Welch Fusiliers who fell at the storming of Sebastopol Sept. 8th 1855. This window is erected by the friends and neighbours of his family.

On a mural tablet, south wall of the chancel—

"In memory of WILLIAM HALSTED POOLE Captain 23rd Royal Welch Fusiliers who having landed with his regiment in the Crimea and been present with it at the battles of Alma and Inkermann and during the whole period of the siege operations before Sebastopol,

fell dangerously wounded whilst among the foremost gallantly leading his men in the final assault on the place on the 8th September, 1855, and died on the 24th following, aged 20 years.

This tablet is erected by his father, his only surviving parent."

South Aisle.

The east window is filled with memorial glass:—

"In memoriam SARÆ POOLE quæ obiit Aprilis secundæ A.D. 1837. Matri pientissimæ posuit filius D. Poole."

The next window memorializes:—

"ELIZABETH wife of William Halsted Poole of Terrick, Salop. Died May 25th 1848 aged 38 years. JOHN HALSTED their son. Died July 5th 1846 aged 9 months. DOMVILLE HALSTED their son. Died March 5th 1844 aged 11 yrs."

A mural tablet on the south wall:—

"Sacred to the memory of SAMUEL BENNION, of this parish, gentleman, who died on the 28th day of May 1837 aged 95 years;

Also of ELIZABETH BENNION, eldest daughter of the above-named Samuel Bennion, and wife of William Bennion of Rhos-dhu Lodge, near Wrexham, in the county of Denbigh, Esquire, who died on the 26th day of February 1846 aged 83 years;

Also of DEBORAH BENNION, spinster, youngest daughter of the above-named Samuel Bennion, who died on the 5th day of December, 1846, aged 76 years;

Also of the above-named WILLIAM BENNION who died on 9th day of December 1846 aged 80 years.

All of whom were buried in a vault in Marbury Churchyard.

This tablet was erected by Mrs. Elizabeth Foulkes of Ashfield, near Wrexham, the affectionate daughter of the above-named William Bennion and Elizabeth his wife."

On a stone much worn and almost illegible, in the South aisle:—

Hic jacet MARIA Filia et hæres CAROLI POOLE de Marley gen. uxor Thomæ Tatton cui peperit 2 filios et 1 filiam. Obiit 21 die Junii Anno Dom: 1731 Etatis sue 42.

North Aisle.

Three mural tablets:—

(1) In memory of JOSEPH REDDROF late of Boreham, near Warminster Wilts. who died on the 2nd October 1845 in the 81st year of his age, and was buried at Marbury.

This tablet has been erected by one of his nephews in testimony of his grateful affection and respect.

(2) "In memory of JOHN CHURTON, who died October XXII. aged XXXVI, MDCCCLXVIII. [1768]; also of ELIZABETH, his wife, who died October 1st MDCCCIII (1803) aged lxxiii.

Thanks be to God, who giveth us the victory, through our Lord Jesus Christ.—1 Cor. xvth, 57.

This tablet is placed here in affectionate remembrance of his deceased parents by John Churton, Rector of Wheathill in the county of Salop."

(3) "Sacred to the beloved memory of WILLIAM HALSTED POOLE Esq. of Terrick Hall, Whitchurch, Salop, Captain half-pay Royal Artillery. Born December 12th, 1793; died January 28th, 1859 aged 65 years. He served in the Campaigns of 1814 and 1815, including the bombardment of the French fleet at Antwerp, and the Battle of Waterloo, where he was severely wounded. For many years he faithfully fulfilled the duties of magistrate for the Counties of Cheshire and Salop. Of this latter County he was deputy-lieutenant.

This tablet was erected by his surviving children."

On the respond pier at the east end of the north aisle is affixed a brass, inscribed as follows:—

"Beneath lie the bodies of HUGH HEATLEY late of Norbury. Buried 23rd of October 1722 aged 46; and of HUGH HEATLEY, his son, late of Norbury asfd. who departed this life 28th October 1784 aged 71."

Middle Aisle of the Nave.

(1) "Here lie the remains of DEBORAH wife of Samuel Bennion of Norbury in this parish, who departed this life June the 27th 1780 aged 40 years." [On a brass under the above inscription, on the same stone] "JOHANNES BENNION Deborah Bennion supra dictæ hæres mortuus est Wexfordiæ in Hibernia 3 Martii Anno Domini 1791 qua est sepultus ætatis sue 25."

(2) A large flat stone, inscribed as follows:— "Underneath lie the remains of the REV. JOHN HALSTEAD POOLE, A.M., who died the 4th of Sept., 1830, aged 39 years.

Also SARAH POOLE mother of the above J. H. Poole, who died April 2nd 1837 aged 77 years.

Also ELIZABETH WRIGHT aunt of the above J. H. Poole, who died September 5th 1840 aged 86 years.

Also DOMVILLE HALSTED POOLE, died March 5th 1844 aged 11 years.

Also JOHN HALSTED POOLE, died July 3rd 1846 aged 9 months.

Also ELIZABETH POOLE died May 25th 1848 aged 38 years.

Also W. H. POOLE Captain R.A. who died Jan. 28th 1859 aged 65 years.

Also of DOMVILLE H. C. POOLE, who died Jan. 10th 1867 aged 79 years."

Before the recent restoration of the church there were hatchments to the Poole family; but these have been since removed.

Nantwich.

JAMES HALL.

[140] A CHESTER ORDINARY OF ARMS, 1629.
(Continued from No. 132.)

41. VALENTINE BROUGHTON, Ald[erman]
Ermine, a lion rampant Sable.

42. RICHARD BAVAND, Ald.
Ermine, two bars Gules, in chief two boars' heads fesseways Sable, coupé Gules.

43. DAVID CLOUGH, late Ald.
Gules, a chevron between three mullets Or; on the chevron a crescent Sable for difference.

44. JOHN FITTON, Ald.
Argent on a bend Azure three garbs Or; in sinister chief a crescent Sable for difference.

45. EDMOND GAMWALL, Ald.
Or, three mallets Sable.

46. WILLIAM EABLE of DABBY, Alderman.
Argent, on a bend Azure three stags' heads cabossed Or; in sinister chief a crescent Gules for difference.

47. JOHN SAVAGE, Kt., Alderman.
Argent, six lionsels rampant. 3, 2 and 1, Sable.

48. THOMAS SMITH, Esq., Ald.
Azure, two barrulets Ermine, on a chief Or a demi lion issuant Sable.

49. HUGH GLASIER, Esq., Ald.
Per bend sinister Ermine and Sable a lion rampant Or.

50. ED. HANMER, late Ald.
Argent, two lions passant guardant in pale Azure; in chief a martlet of the last for difference.

51. SNAGGE, late Ald.
Argent, three pheons Sable.

52. WILLIAM MASSY, late Ald.
Quarterly Gules and Or, in the first quarter a lion passant Argent; in the fesse point a trefoil Vert, thereon a crescent Or for difference.

53. THOMAS GREENE, late Ald.
Gules, a lion rampant Argent ducally crowned Or, charged on the shoulder with a trefoil Vert

54. THOMAS LYNEALL, Ald.
Azure, on a bend Argent three crosses patonce Sable, on a chief Or a trefoil Vert between two garbs Azure.

55. ROBERT BREERWOOD, late Ald.
Ermine, two pallets vair Or and Azure on a chief of the last a bezant between two garbs of the second.

56. WM. ALDERSEY, Ald.

Gules, on a bend engrailed [Argent], between two cinquefoils Or, three leopards' faces Vert; in chief a martlet of the third for difference.

57. FYOULK ALDERSEY, Ald.

The same, but with a crescent Or for difference.

58. JOHN ALDERSEY, Ald.

The same, but with a mullet Or for difference.

59. DAVID DYMMOCK, Ald.

Per bend sinister Ermine and Ermines a lion rampant Or, within a bordure engrailed Vert.

(To be continued.)

QUERY.

[141] DAVIES FAMILY OF ASHTON AND MANLEY.

Can any of your readers give me any information about the family of Davies of Ashton, near Tarvin, and of Manley, in the parish of Frodsham? It seems to have been a family of importance in the county at the end of the 17th and the beginning of the 18th Century, but the pedigree given in Ormerod (Mr. Helsby's edition) is very imperfect, and very little seems to be known about it. I understand that some portraits of the family were in the possession of the late Mr. Edwards, of Frodsham, draper, and I should like to know what has become of these.

Manchester.

T. H. D.-C.

FEBRUARY 2, 1898.

NOTES.

[142] THE DEANS OF CHESTER.

(Continued from No. 137).

II.—HENRY MAN, 1541-1547.

Henry Man, the second Dean of Chester, was born in Lancashire, in or about the year 1500. At the age of twenty,* he was admitted a scholar of Corpus Christi College, Oxford, a new foundation, which owed its existence to the munificence of Richard Fox, Bishop of Winchester, and Lord Privy Seal. Hugh Oldham, Bishop of Exeter, a Lancashire man and founder of Manchester Grammar School, had largely assisted Fox in his good work, and it may be due to this fact that Man obtained his scholarship at Corpus. Seven other scholars were admitted on the same day as Man† (18th June, 1520), one of them being Nicholas Udall, afterward Head Master of Eton and West-

* Foster, *Alumni Oxonienses*.

† Fowler's History of C.C.C., p. 382.

minster, the author of the well-known *Ralph Roister Doister*, and another Edward Wotton, celebrated both as a classical scholar and as a physician.

Man must have been a member of the University before his election to a scholarship at Corpus, for he supplicated for his B.A. degree in the following year (15th June, 1521). But he did not take it, as he left Oxford and became a Carthusian. Later on we find him procurator of the famous house of his order at Sheen. While here, he seems to have been greatly influenced by the utterances of Elizabeth Barton, called the "Maid of Kent," a half-crazed woman who had attracted much notice by prophesying the death of Henry VIII. for having divorced Catherine of Arragon. In the course of her wanderings, she had visited the Charterhouse at Sheen, and the nuns at the neighbouring establishment at Syon.* Writing early in 1533 to Dr. Bocking, the maid's confessor, Man says:—"Let us praise God, Who has raised up this holy virgin, a mother indeed to me and a daughter to thee for our salvation. She has raised a fire in some hearts that you would think like unto the operation of the Holy Spirit in the primitive Church, if you saw with what frequent tears some bewailed their transgressions." †At a subsequent date, he again writes, that it is only "of late it has pleased God to give me some knowledge of His secret and wonderful works, which He works daily in His special spiritual daughter. This accends my heart in the love of God." "I beg you," he continues in his letter to Dr. Bocking, "to accept me as your spiritual son and ask the prayers of Elizabeth Barton to obtain grace to mortify myself, and live only for Christ."‡

The execution of the 'Maid of Kent' was followed by the punishment of her aiders and abettors, and the opponents of the Divorce and the Royal Supremacy. Amongst these the Carthusians and the Friars Observant (a branch of the Franciscans) were conspicuous. The terrible vengeance wreaked by Henry upon them is a matter of history. Visited by Royal commissioners and tendered an oath to 'be obedient, true, and agreeable to the king's high pleasure and will,' many of both orders refused compliance and suffered a cruel

death in consequence. The Carthusians of Sheen were not, however, among the number. The Commissioners reported to Cromwell that they had induced them to take the required oath. The prior and procurator had been doing their best to win over to the same mind their neighbours, the Observants of Richmond, earnestly exhorting them to bend their minds to the king's wishes. Both the visitors had also been busy at the same work, holding various conferences with the friars; but, as they are obliged to confess, without any sign of success. In fact, until now, they had been in despair of effecting their purpose, but, with the Sheen influence at work, they had some slight shadow of hope that they might finally win the Franciscans to what the king required.*

This slight shadow of hope was doomed to disappointment. The arguments of Man and his brethren were of no greater avail than those of the Commissioners. The Observants refused to acknowledge the Supremacy, and with the rest of their order were expelled from their houses, to perish for the most part in loathsome prisons. But the monks of Sheen, by their compliance, remained in possession of their priory for a few years longer, during which Man was promoted from the office of procurator to that of prior. Foster gives 1535 as the date of his appointment.†

In June, 1538, the Oxford University Register records that "Henry Man, Carthusian, was allowed to use a byret in preaching." He supplicated for his B.D. and D.D. degrees, and made the necessary disputations in the December of the same year. He was admitted to dispute for his B.D. 1st May, 1539 and obtained the degree on the 3rd of the same month. In the same year, he disputed, as Prior of Sheen, for his Doctor's degree, which was conferred upon him on 7th July.‡

It was in this year (1539) that the Act of Parliament, abolishing all monasteries and

* *Calendar vii.*, No. 622, May 7.

† It is possible that Man may have been for a time Prior of the Carthusian house at Wytham in Somerset. In a general account of C.C.C., Oxford, 1534, mention is made of Mr. Mane, pryor of Wytham. See A' Wood.

‡ *Ormerod*, vol. i., 266, says that Man was not only Prior of Sheen, but one of the brethren of Syon. This must be an error, as the brethren of Syon were of the Brigittine order.

* *Bridgett's Fisher*, p. 236.

† *Calendar vi.*, No. 836, quoted by Gasquet.

‡ *Ibid* No. 1,149.

granting them to the King, became law. Dr. Man surrendered his priory, receiving the large pension of £166 13s. 4d. But his ready compliance with Henry's wishes and his past services marked him out for speedy promotion. We are therefore not surprised at finding him named to succeed Clark as Dean of Chester.

He was presented to the Deanery, 8th October, 1541,* and presided over the Chapter till 1547. No particulars of his decanate seem to have been preserved, except that he confirmed, in 1541, the grant made by Bishop Bird, of the next turn of presenting to the Archdeaconry of Chester to Bonner, Bishop of London. During his term of office, four new prebendaries, Peter Mainwaring, John Gibbs, George Cotes, and John Lepington, were appointed to vacant stalls. The third-named ecclesiastic subsequently became the second Bishop of Chester.

During Man's decanate, the services in the Cathedral were carried on with all their mediæval splendour. It was not till after Henry's death that any important change was made in the Church's ritual,† and Man had resigned his deanery before this took place. With his deanery, he held the rectories of St. Mary-on-the-Hill, Chester,‡ and Finningley in Nottinghamshire, to the former of which he was presented 30th March, 1543. He also appears to have been one of the king's chaplains.

On 22nd January, 1546, Man was appointed Bishop of Sodor and Man by patent. This patent was issued without any reference to the Earl of Derby, Lord of the Isle. Bishop Man had permission to retain "together with his bishopric, the deanery and dignity of our Cathedral Church of Christ and of the blessed Mary the Virgin, His mother, in our county of Chester, together with the parochial churches of the blessed Mary upon the mount in our city of Chester, and Fynyngley, in our county of Nottingham."§ He was consecrated in St. Paul's Cathedral, 14th February, 1546, by

Edmund Bonner, Bishop of London, assisted by Thomas Chetham, suffragan Bishop of Sidon, and John Hodgkins, suffragan Bishop of Bedford.*

Notwithstanding the permission which he had received to retain his deanery in *commendam*, the Bishop did not long avail himself of it, since his successor, William Cliff, was presented on 30th May, 1547. He had resigned the living of St. Mary-on-the-Hill in the previous year.

Man does not appear to have been an active Bishop, there being in fact no record of his ever having been present in his insular diocese.† He seems, however, to have retained the good graces both of Edward VI.'s guardians and of Queen Mary, as he died in possession of his Bishopric. Why he was not deprived under Mary is difficult to understand, as he was a married man, and the Queen had refused to recognise any "wived clergy," even when they made full submission.

"It is possible that Man was deprived of his temporalities, for Stanley (his successor) was 'provided' in Man's life, 21st June, 1555, and Pole is said to have granted faculties for him, as Bishop of Sodor, on 24th February, 1555."‡

Man died in London 19th October, 1556. The following extract from Machyn's *Diary* refers to his funeral:—"The xxij day of October was bered doctur [Man] sumtime the pryor of Shen the Charterhouse, and after made bysshope of Man by kyng Edward the vjth;§ [and] was mared; and bered at sant Andrews hundershaft, London and ded [died] at master Whethley's, marchand tayller." Stow records that he was buried "before the doore within the chancell," of St. Andrew's, Undershaft, and that the following inscription was on his tomb:—"Henry Man, doctur of divinity in the Universaity of Oxenford, and sometime Bishop of Man, which Henry departed this life, the 19 day of October, An. Do. 1556, and lyeth buried under this stone."

* Le Neve, *Fasti*.

† See Morris's *Diocesan Hist. Chester*, pp. 110-112, for particulars as to ritual at St. Mary's-on-the-Hill.

‡ In *Ormerod*, vol. i., p. 339, he is incorrectly called Henry May.

§ Rymer's *Foedera*, xv., 86.

* Stubbs' *Registrum*. Le Neve is wrong in stating that he was consecrated by Paul Bush, Bishop of Bristol.

† A. W. Moore's *Sodor and Man*, p. 138.

‡ J. W. Lea, *Spiritual Jurisdiction*, p. 51.

§ A mistake. Man was appointed in 1546.

ORIGINAL DOCUMENTS.

[143] MARRIAGE REGISTERS OF ST. OSWALD'S, CHESTER.

By the courtesy of the Rev. E. C. Lowndes we have obtained permission to print the marriage registers of his parish. This week we give the earliest year, and we hope to continue the series weekly.—EDITORS.

WEDDINGS ANNO. 1581.

Robert Cowper & Margerye Quaintrie, 12 July
Wm. Knyght & Anne Hopton, 23 July
John Topady (?) & Jane Crofton, 20 August
Thomas How & Mary Banester, 3 Sept.
Thomas Eaton & Katherine Launolet, 3 Sept.
Thomas Scounce & Eliz. Gruff: 22 Oct.
Harry Shurlock & Agnes Davies, 24 Oct.
Harry Coventrye & Margaret Browne, 26 Oct.
Robert Percivall & Margaret Johnes, 5 Nov.
Wm. Loyd (?) & Eliz. Humsterton (?), 12 Nov.
Richard Teiler & Syslee Mercer, 3 Dec.
Richard Mershe & Jeis Modesley, 9 Jan.
Wm. Washington & Ann Cowper, 13 Jan.
Rauff Washington & Ellen Cowper, 13 Jan.
Roger Chauntrell & Margery Whithead, 5 Feb.
Rauff Johnson & Ales Adams, 5 Feb.
Thomas Quirke & Jane verghe Hughe, 5 Feb.
Thomas Tacie & Ellen Rider, 5 Feb.
James Sale & Margaret Lightfoote, 12 Feb.
Peter Jeinkyn & Margerie Harison, 13 Feb.
Wm. Janion & Ales Elles, 19 Feb.
John Hodgson & Eliz. Worall, 25 Feb.

REPLY.

[144] INSCRIPTION ON FONT IN WARBURTON CHURCH.

(See Query No. 138.)

Without inspecting the actual inscription, it would be difficult to give any definite opinion as to the meaning of the phrase as stated by "Boileau." I have, however, seen a careful drawing of the font in question, and the inscription is arranged as follows:—

WILLIAM DRINK
WATER THE
KEEPER
1595 [P]

There is considerable doubt, I understand, as to whether or not 1595 is the correct reading.

The inscription is admittedly very indistinct, and I would suggest as a possible explanation, that one letter should be altered, and that it should read: William Drinkwater, Tho: Keeper, 1595, in which case it would simply be the name of the two church or chapel wardens. *Keeper* as a surname is not unknown in Cheshire at this period; but if this be the correct

explanation, a reference to the Church Register should settle the matter.

A second, but less likely explanation, is that the word *Keeper* should read *Rector*, the number of the letters is identical, and the K and R might easily be mistaken for one another, but the question at once arises, as to where William Drinkwater was Rector—it being doubtful whether Warburton was then considered a Rectory.

A third, and likewise rather fanciful explanation is that the mason was told to cut the name, and to follow it with the usual designation of *guardianus*, and he translated this inaccurately into the mother-tongue, by *Keeper* instead of *Warden*. Is anything known of the William Drinkwater in question?

Yours, &c.,

Birkenhead. WM. FERGUSON IRVINE.

FEBRUARY 9, 1898.

NOTES.

[145] A DISPUTE ABOUT LANDS IN GREAT MEOLS AND WALLASEY, 1659.

Among the Exchequer Depositions taken by Commission now in the Public Record Office in London is a large bundle referring to a suit between several members of the family of Meols, of Great Meols and Wallasey, and a certain Richard Young, gentleman, a citizen of London, who appears to have administered the Meols estate during the minority of the plaintiffs. As is so often the case in these depositions, the point at issue is not very clear, nor is the result of this action now known, but as the evidence throws a good deal of light on the descent of the Meols property at this period, which is a very obscure one, it may be worth while to print a summary of the evidence and a few extracts. In all, five Commissions to collect evidence seem to have been sent down from Westminster, one of which sat at Wallasey (in the house of Elizabeth Hill, widow), two at Chester (in the house of Joane Whitby, widow), one at Seacombe in Joane Turner's house, and one at Bidston, in the house of Thomas Linacre, which stood on the site of Mrs. Halliwell's, next to the church, now incorrectly called The Old Vicarage.

From the evidence, it appears that Thomas Meols, the father of the plaintiffs, died about 8 October, 1639, and John Gill, the grandfather

of the plaintiffs, who seems to have taken much interest in the young children, and promised them all his property at his death, died about 13 October, 1642. Their step-mother Margery (*née* Green) survived her husband 13 years, dying about 1652. At the time of their father's death, there were six children living, Eleanor, aged 16; Thomas, aged 11; Elizabeth, 9; William, 8; Susan, 5½; and Margaret, 4½; all of whom came to the age of 21. Thomas Meols, the elder boy, became at his father's death a ward of the King, but at the death of the grandfather, a dispute seems to have arisen as to who should have the privilege (for privilege it certainly was from a pecuniary point of view) of bringing up the heir. Richard Young, a citizen of London, and a nephew of the said John Gill, the grandfather, claimed the right, and promised to marry his only daughter to young Meols. Dr. Snell, the rector of Wallasey, also seems to have put in a plea, though, doubtless, for less interested motives, and, as it appears from the evidence, actually expended some money in the matter, which was ultimately refunded him. The upshot of it was, however, that Richard Young won his point, and took Thomas Meols up to London to live with him, though he did not succeed in eventually marrying his daughter to the young heir. William Meols, the second son, seems to have been sadly neglected, as the Rev. Thomas Glover, the dispossessed rector of West Kirby, who gave evidence, states, that "William was not brought up to any trade or calling whereby to get a livelihood, and that by reason thereof, about the nineteenth year of his age, he sold a parcel of land given him by his grandfather, and passed into a foreign country." The property appears to have been allowed to run down very much, as a good deal of evidence is given shewing the dilapidated condition of the hall and outbuildings, the gates being utterly decayed, and two bays of a barn completely fallen down, and many other evils happened to the property. Richard Coventry, of Knocktorum, yeoman, acted as agent for Richard Young, and was joined in the action with his master. He gives some interesting particulars of the value of the estate, and the difficulty he had in letting the land, owing to the low rates paid on account of "the wars," and the great wasting caused by soldiers.

Some of the following extracts are interesting, especially the reference to the garrison which was kept at Birkenhead as late as 1653. It makes one wonder how much the ruined con-

dition of the Priory buildings may have been due to the presence of a garrison in their immediate neighbourhood; the buildings would form such an excellent quarry from which to get ready dressed stone. It will be remembered that Birkenhead was captured by the Parliament in the autumn of 1644.

Exchequer Deposition by Commission, Chester, March, 1659. No. 18.

"The Keepers of the liberties of England by authority of Parliament." To Edward Glegg, Esq., Richard Green, gent., Robert Gregg, the elder, gent., and Richard Golborne, gent.

Giving them power to examine all witnesses upon certain articles to be exhibited as well on behalf of Richard Younge, Esq., and Richard Coventry defts as on behalf of William Meoles and others plts.

Witness John Parker at Westminster the 22nd day of June, 1659.

Depositions of witnesses taken the 25th day of October, 1659 at Thomas Linacres of Bidston in co Cheshire on behalf of Rich : Yong in a case depending in the High Court of Exchequer at Westminster wherein the said Rich : Yong and Rich : Coventry are defts. against William Meoles and other plts.

RICHARD COVENTRY, aged about 59 years, says that he knows the plts & defts., & also knew Tho. Meoles deceased late father of the plts. Will. Susan and Margaret. Deponent knows the manor of Great Meoles & other the lands and tenements in Walesse in co. Chester whereof the said Thomas Meoles was seised in fee or some other estate of inheritance. The said Thomas had living at the time of his death 6 children, to wit, Thomas, William, Susan, Elinor, Elizabeth, & Margaret.

Since Thomas Meoles, the elder brother of plt. attained the age of 21 years, he received the issues and profits of the said manor, lands & tenements to his own use.

The debt. Richard Yong made & received out of the said premises during the minority of the said Thomas Meoles the sum of £356 13s. 11d. or thereabouts, and the reason why no more would be made out of them was because many of the years fell out to be in the time of the late wars when lands were set at a low rate.

Witness believes that the several books in these interrogatories intended were those books which were shewn to him upon his examinations upon 3 several commissions concerning 3 suits wherein said Rich. Yong was plt. against the said Will Meoles, Susan Meoles, & Philip Wilson & Margaret his wife daughter of Thomas Meoles deceased: which said books were accounts concerning the persons & things in these interrogatories & began and ended as herein is expressed, & that the sums total in the said interrogatories expressed were the

same in the said books : all which said books witness knows to be true accounts because the several sums therein expressed to be disbursed were so disbursed by deponent by the direction of the deft. Rich. Yong, & were in deponents own handwriting : all which said books were with the said commissions & examinations sealed & sent up to the Barons of the High Court of Exchequer at Westminster.

Edw. Glegg
Richard Green

RICHARD COVENTRY.

[There are no Interrogatories hereto annexed.]

Deposition taken at Wallasey at the house of Elizabeth Hill, widow, 14 June, 1659, on the part of Wm. Meols, etc., complainants, against Rich. Young, etc. Commissioners as before.

CHRISTOPHER BENNET of Saughen Massey gentleman aged 70 or thereabouts, was High Constable for the Lower Division of Wirral in 1642 till November 1644, etc.

HENRY BIRD of Poulton Seacombe aged about 85.

ANNE BALL of Wallasey aged about 80.

JAMES WILLIAMSON of Birkett, slater, aged about 40.

THOMAS DOBE of Poulton Seacombe yeoman aged 78.

WILLIAM BIRD of Poulton Seacombe aged 50 and others gave evidence.

WILLIAM WILLSON, of Wallasey, yeoman, aged about 30 years, was Constable for Wallasey about Michaelmas, 1653, and for one year after, during which time neither the Hall of Wallasey nor any of the lands of Thomas Meols, Esquire, the plaintiff's brother, in Wallasey aforesaid, were charged with the quartering of any soldiers, nor with any of the contributions towards the quartering of any soldiers, and whereas the township of Wallasey did that year pay taxes to the garrison then kept at Birkett, nothing was that year paid for the Hall of Wallasey, nor was anything paid towards the horses which were charged upon the township for the Parliament service, under the command either of Sir William Brereton or of Col. Moore.

THOMAS GLOVER, of Wallasey, Clerk, aged 58, also gave evidence, the substance of which is given above.

Depositions taken at Chester, 28 April, 1659, before the same commissioners.

RICHARD COVENTRY, of Knocktorum, yeoman, aged 58, agent of Richard Younge, gave evidence.

Depositions taken 29 December 1659 at Joane Turner's house in Seacom, same Commissioners, etc.

HENRY BIRD of Poulton cum Seacom yeoman aged 85 says he was one of the valuers of the goods of John Gill deceased, the grandfather of plaintiffs & his signature thereunto was an H set

the wrong way, but by reason of his age & imperfection of sight he cannot well discern it on the document produced.

THOMAS DOBBS of Poulton Seacombe yeoman aged 68 and JOHN BAYLIE of Barnston aged 40 also gave evidence.

Birkenhead. WM. FERGUSON IRVINE.

[146] THE POST-MORTEM INQUISITION OF THOMAS BOLD, CONSTABLE OF CHESTER CASTLE, 1437.

From the *Welsh Records. Inquisitions post-mortem. 15 Hen. 6, No. 1.*

Thomas Bold, to whom the following extract relates, was appointed Constable of Chester Castle, 17 July, 1432, *vice* William Venables, 'for life of the said William, and afterwards during pleasure.' (See *Halsby's Ormerod, I., 223.*)

Inquisition taken at Prestbury, before John de Legh del Bigge Escheator of the King in the county of Chester on Thursday next after the feast of St. Barnabas the Apostle, 15 Hen. 6, by the oath of John Pygot, Robert del Dounes, John de Worth, Griffin Wylet, Peter le Warde of Somerford, Philip de Acton, William le Cronther, William Baron, Robert de Terkynton, Henry Jonesone de Werford, Thomas le Warde del Dene, and Edmund de Mottersshade, who say that

THOMAS DE BOLDE, Esq., late Constable of the Castle of Chester, was seised on the day of his death of the Office of the Constabulary of the Castle of Chester of the grant of the King that now is, taking by the day for his wages 12d. at his Exchequer of Chester. The said Thomas did not hold any lands of the King or others within the said county of Chester. He died on the first day of April, 14 Henry 6 [1436]. Alice, wife of William Chauntrell, is his daughter, and next heir, and is aged 40 years and more.

ORIGINAL DOCUMENTS.

[147] MARRIAGE REGISTERS OF ST. OSWALD'S, CHESTER.

(Continued from No. 143.)

1582.

Richard Leeche & Katherine Deane, April 16

John Johnes & Jane Birde, April 26

Thomas Tyrer & Elis. Parker, May 5

Thomas Harison & Grace Harrison, May 15

Thomas Dichborne & Agnes Povenford (?), June 20

Rauff Egerton & Margeret Combes, June 26

Richard Case & Widowe Birchley, July 14

Peter Storeet & Widowe Raulin, July 14

William Seller & Margerie Heighfield, July 26

Peter Goswell & Jane Kiree (?), Aug. 5

Richard Tylston & Jane Massie, Aug. 20

Toby Meadwell & Mary Dymmoeke, Oct. 12

Banabye Poole & Jane Robinson, Nov. 19

Thomas Rixon & Ales Swynton, married at Trinitie, Jan. 2

Hugh Banbery & Margerie Egerton, Jan. 28

Nicollas Barnes & Eliz. Woods, Feb. 5

Thomas Handley & Eliz. Leigh, Feb. 12

John Bithell & Jane Shepert, Feb. 12

FEBRUARY 16, 1898.

NOTES.

[148] AN UNPUBLISHED LETTER OF 1684.

The interesting letter printed below was written by Sir John Arden at Stockport to Sir John Crewe at Utkinton under the following circumstances. Towards the close of Charles II.'s reign, a spirit of uneasiness pervaded the kingdom. Failing to pass the Exclusion Bill, by which the Duke of York, afterwards James II., was to be excluded from succeeding to the throne, and enraged at the king's arbitrary conduct with respect to Corporations, the Whig party, or rather some of its extreme members, formed the Rye-House Plot for Charles' assassination. The discovery and punishment of this plot rendered the power of the Crown for the time irresistible. Orders were issued that the houses of suspected Whigs should be searched, and all weapons found in them removed. Among the Cheshire Whigs, Sir John Crewe of Utkinton was prominent. Equally prominent on the Tory side was Sir John Arden (or Arderne) of Harden, near Stockport. Crewe and Arden were not only close friends, but also first cousins, their mothers being sisters, heiresses of the Dones of Utkinton. But kindred and friendship were to count for nought in those troubled times and Arden was ordered to go to Utkinton Hall, and to remove all arms which he found there. Sir John Crewe was absent from home at the time, and the subjoined letter was written to him by his cousin, apologising for the action which he had been forced to take. It is satisfactory to know that the friendship of Crewe and Arden was not in the end broken by this unfortunate political difference. In Bishop Cartwright's Diary we find the cousins on friendly terms. On 24 Jan., 1687, the Bishop writes:—"I went from Col. Whitley's to dine with Sir John Crew [at Utkinton], where dined Sir Thomas Stephens et uxor, Sir Fr. Norrice's sister, Major Done's sister, Sir Michael Biddulph, Sir John Arderne, &c., &c."

Sir John Crewe was buried in Tarporley Church in 1711. A monument of black and white marble, which reaches quite to the top of the

church, was erected to his memory. On the altar part of it there is a full figure of the knight in white marble, and a large wig, with a loose and thin robe flung carelessly about him, his hands closed, and his eyes looking up to heaven. On the table, below the figure, is a very long and laudatory inscription, in which it is stated that "He was a lover of ye constitution, both in Church and State, and consequently an enemy to Popery and arbitrary government: steadfast to ye establisht religion, but charitable to such as dissented from it, who he thought were to be won over rather by mildness than severity, by ye force of reason yn persecution. He was exemplary in his devotions and carefull to have his family join with him twice a day therein. His loyalty was unshaken and conformable to ye laws of his country. He strenuously maintained the Revolution principles, and rejoyct in ye happy prospect wch. was ye natural effect of them, ye establishmt. of ye present royal family, and therein ye preservation of ye British liberties and ye security of ye Protestant religion."

Sir John Arden was High Sheriff of Cheshire in 1666. He died in 1702, and was buried at Stockport.

The Lord Delamere whose death is referred to in the letter was the well-known George Booth, the leader of the abortive Cheshire rising of 1659.

M. A.

Aug. 13th, 1684.

Sir,—I hope you'll pardon the abrupt leave from Utkinton: I could not have gotten home in any convenient tyme: had I staid your returne: I met the Corps before I came to Northwch: at Harford greene: and parted with thm on Bowdon Downes: and next daye was at the holing of hym at Mottrum: soe I thinke I did rather over than underdoe my parte: but I assurd several there, it was for the sake of his good wife and my friend her brother: this tragicomedy minds me of the tragedy of my good Ld. Delamere's death: a virtuous, prudent gentleman, and my assured goode friend: may his heir inherit his virtues: though my Interest in that family extinguish: I never did nor can love any Lord soe well as I lovd hym: save the Ld. of hosts: the buriall will not bee this 20 daies (at least) as I heare thence: I sent one thither yesterday: the old Ladye is not well: she maye probably please the heir: and not displease neighbors: if she haste after hym: I long to see you, and wishe wee could meet some where before you returne: on Tuesdaye

next, I go to Knowlwy: shall returne in a weeke; and either before or after my Journey will meet you when and where you please: I have a minde to saye somewt to you & probably a horsewapp in at all but whether wee meet or not, or whether wee (in these sickly times) ever see one another againe: let mee gaine an assurance that none is more desirous to be upon kind good termes wth. you than my selfe: nature & the former strict bonds and usages of amitye makes mee covet it: & I dare appeale to your kinde & calme selfe whether wt was done by mee (w'ch was ungratefull to you) was not in the best manner I could possibly doe it, & not impossible but you maye thinke it was as much a necessity upon mee: as ungratefull to mee: done in the hurry of those circumstances wee were then under: soe that allowe mee a grain of your candid Interpretation: & serious thoughts: & I thinke it not impossible but you'l whisper to your selfe: you must and would have done the same had you exchanged circumstances wth my (*sic*) mee: I steale my thoughts into this scribble: w'ch had I made audible might probablye have put you into a passion: but in reading I hope will not: wae & consider it then burne it: or put it to ye meanest service: I would not have it seene by any person: in some hands ye Coment will bee ungratefull to mee: & looke very meane. I'll assure you I never did or will saye ye like to anyone in yt liste; but I courte your friendship & would avoid your frownes.

Maye wee returne to ye old habitt of friendship. Maye our different sentiments of publikque affaires never swell to ye heate of an argumt: & soe burst into a passion: wch alwayes leaves us worse than it found us: but I have noe roome for more prayers: or addition: save ye tender of humble, hearty, and due service to my honord good Aunt whom I'll serve while I live: my service to your virtuous Lady: and good mother Rowe (P) when you visite or see them, & am assurdly

Honord Cosin

Yours to love and serve you
wtsoever you thinke of
J. ARDEN.

All here are your humble servants.

[The letter is endorsed "These to Sir John Crewe at Utkinton." In another hand is written 'S Jo. Arden's apology for his disarming his Kindred.'

ORIGINAL DOCUMENTS.

[149] A CHESTER ORDINARY OF ARMS, 1629.

(Continued from No. 140.)

60. ROGER HUBLESTON. Argent, four ermine spots in cross Sable; a crescent of the second in dexter chief.
61. EDWARD DUTTON. Quarterly, Argent and Gules, in the 2nd and 3rd a fret Or, all within a bordure engrailed Sable.
62. WILLIAM BALL. Argent, a lion rampant Sable holding in the dexter paw a fire ball proper.
63. WILLIAM DYMOCKE. Per bend sinister Ermine and Sable a lion rampant Or.
64. ROBERT WALL Ald. Argent, three bears' heads erased Gules muzzled Or; in chief three ogresses; a mullet in the fesse point Azure.
65. WILLIAM COTGRAVE, late Ald. Gules, a fesse dancetté Ermine between three hunting horns stringed Or; a crescent in chief of the last.
66. JOHN TYLSTON, Ald. Azure, a bend cotised between two garbs Or.
67. JOHN LITLER, Ald. Argent, a chevron Sable between three squirrels saliant Gules; a crescent in chief of the second.
68. WILLIAM BALL, late Ald. Gules, a human leg embowed in pale, coupéd at the thigh and erased at the ankle Argent, pierced through the calf with the coulter of a plough of the last; a martlet in dexter chief Or.
69. THOMAS HARVEY. Gules, on a bend Argent three trefoils slipped Vert; a mullet in sinister chief Or.
70. WILLIAM BYRD, late Ald. Argent, on a cross patonce between four martlets Gules, a fifth one Or; a canton Azure.
71. THOMAS FLETCHER, Ald. Argent, a cross engrailed Sable between four ogresses each charged with a pheon of the field.
72. THOMAS GAMULL, Ald. Or. three mallets Sable; a label of three points Azure.
- *73. HANKY, late Ald. Per pale Gules and Azure a wolf rampant Or.
74. JOHN REYNOLDS. Azure, a fesse dancette between three leopards' faces Or; a bordure gobony of the second and first; in chief a mullet also of the second.
75. THOMAS CHALLONER. Argent, on a chevron Sable three cherubims, the faces proper the wings Or.
76. WILLIAM KNIGHT. Azure, a chevron between three fleurs de lys Or, a canton of the second.
- *77. ELLIS WILLIAMS. Per pale Gules and Or, two lions rampant addorsed counterchanged; a staff-sling in pale Argent.

* Below the shield of Hanky and above that of Ellis Williams is written "This coat is not his"; this remark probably refers to the latter coat.

78. HENRY HAMNET. Or, three fusils conjoined in fesse Sable, each charged with a fleur-de-lys Argent.

79. THOMAS YONGE. Or, three roses Gules; a trefoil slipped in the fesse point Sable.

80. RANULPHE HOULME. Barry of six Or and Azure, on a canton Argent a rose Gules.

81. WILLIAM HOLLAND. Azure, semée de lys Argent, a lion rampant of the second charged on the shoulder with a cinquefoil Sable.

82. JOHN WILLIAMS. Azure, a lion rampant Or.

83. *RAPHE ALLEN. Per bend sinister Sable and Argent six martlets counterchanged, a torteaux in the fesse point.

84. LOOKER. Argent, a chevron Sable between three wolves' heads erased Gules muzzled Or.

85. WILLIAM MANNING. Gules, three crescents Or.

86. WILLIAM ALCOCKE. Argent on a fesse Gules between three scythes Sable, an escallop Or.

87. *KYNVERICKE AP JEVAN. [Argent] a chevron Sable, between three boars' heads of the second coupéd Gules.

[150] MARRIAGE REGISTERS OF ST. OSWALD'S,
CHESTER.

(Continued from No. 147.)

1583.

Wm. Hollant and Ellen Sparke, May 13
John Muchell and Marget Hanle (?), May 27
Anthonye Enos and Marget Mekin, June 2
Alexander Wildinge and Marget Leye, June 10
Wm. Galawaye and Jane Drinkwater, July 27
Thomas Wmson and Ann Gramwall, Aug. 3
Edd. Okes and Mode Bunnell Aug. 3
Randle Halywell and Jane Gybon, Sept. 15
Wm. Foster and Jane Eaton, Sept. 21
Richard Stocken and Margerye Adams, Oct. 6
Thomas Thomason and Ellen Haiward, Oct. 6
Robert Bennet, and Ellen Dowe, Oct. 21
Godfrey Wynne and Mode Wright, Oct. 23
Robert Williamson and Ales Sefton, Nov. 10
Wm. Good and Amye Faulkner, Nov. 21
Edward Kylahe and Catherine Jones, Jan. 6
Lanslot Hughes and Elizabeth Trolocke, Feb. 10
John Rotingson & Mode Moyle, Feb. 26
Richard Ashton & Marget Chauntrell, Mar. 1

*Below the shield of Ralph Allen and above that of Kynvericke ap Jevan is written "this coat is not his;" this remark probably refers to the latter coat.

FEBRUARY 23, 1898.

ORIGINAL DOCUMENTS.

[151] THE WILL OF JOHN DUNCALF OF
MOBERLEY, 1592.

The following will from the Archives at the Bishop's Registry contains an interesting example of the elaborate preamble which some men seem to have delighted to make to their last will and testament.

It will be observed that the text at the commencement from the Book of Job is not from the Authorized Version, as the date of the document itself shows, but from an earlier one.—

Yours, WM. FERGUSON IRVINE.
Birkenhead.

I am sure yt my Redemer liveth and that I shal ryse out of the earth in the last daie & shall be couered again with my skyne and shall see god in my fleashe whom I my selfe shall see & my eyes shall behould & none other for me & this is my hope laid up in my bosome.

In the Name of god amen the xxvith daie of September in the yeare of Or lord god after the Computacon of the Church of England 1592 & in the yeare of the Reigne of Or Soueraigne ladie Elisabeth the by the grace of god of England france & Ireland Queene Defender of the faith &c. xxxiiijth I JOHN DUNCALFE of Moberlaie in the Countie of Chester yeasmanne sick & weak in bodie & not withstandinge of good & pfect remembrance & callinge to mynd yt nothinge is more cert'n then death & nothinge more vncertaine then the daie & houre thereof & for the better quietinge of my conscience & disposinge of my worldly goodes I doe make ordain & constitute this my last Will & Testament in maner & form followinge: first I doe willingly & wth free hart render & geve over into the handes of my lord god my spiritt wch he gaue vnto mee when hee fashioned me beleevinge yt the same my lord god for his mercies sake set forthe in the precious bloodde of his Dearlye beloved sonne Jesus Christ our only Saviour and redeemer will receave the same againe & place it in Abrahames bosome amongst his holie angells and blessed saintes And as concerninge my bodie I doe wth good will & freeye hart geve it over commendinge it to the earthe whereof it came, vnfaignedly beleevinge yt my lord god by his mightie power will rease it out of the earthe at the last daie of the greates & generall resurrection not a weake mortall corruptible & vyle bodie as it is now but an incorruptible Immortall & pfect bodie lyke vnto the glorious bodie of my lord & saviour Jesus Christ, and as

concerninge my worldlie goodes wher wth god hath blessed me frst it is my will yt my Executors hereafter to be named shall pcease, receaue, lewie, & take, such & soe much poell of my said goode & cattells as shall be sufficient to be by them converted & imploid to paie & satifye my debtes and funerall expences. Item that donn & pformed it is my Will I doe geeve grant assigne lymite & bequeath vnto Margret now wyfe of mee the said John Duncalfe the thirde pte of all my said goodes cattells whatsoever. Item it is my will & I do geeve, grant, assigne, lymite, and apoynt vnto John Duncalfe my eldest sonne the half of all husbandrie wares & toules in full contentation & paiement of his portion & chylde pte of goodes whatsoever Item it is my will & I doe geeve, grante, assigne, lymite, & a poynt vnto Henerie Duncalfe my sonne 40s in full paiement & contentation of his portion & chylde pte of good. Item whereas heretofore I have geeven & bestowed vpon Margrett my Doughter towards hir pferment in mariadge the some of xxli. now therefore it is my will & I doe geeve, grant, assigne, lymitt & a poynt vnto the said Margret my Doughter xijd. in full paiement & contentacion of hir portion & chylde pte of good. Item it is my will & I doe geeve, grant, assigne, lymitt, and a poynte vnto Raphe Duncalfe my sonne my bargaine wch I had of Macer house and one ladder wch is in the said house in full paiement & contentation of his portion & chylde pte of goodes. Item whereas I have geeven & bestowed vpon Margret Duncalfe my Doughter a certainn somme of monie toward hir p'formment in mariadge now therefore it is my will & I doe geeve, grante, assigne, lymitt, & apoynt vnto the said margret xijd in full paiement & contentacion of hir portion & chylde pte of goodes It is my will & I doe geeve, grant, assigne, lymitt, and apoynt vnto Wm. Duncalfe the greates Kenne [?] & the barke & the occupacion of the barke pites to tanne forthe his leather & then to Thomas Duncalfe my sonne & Joane Duncalfe my daghter all the residue of my saide goodes and Cattells whatsoever equallie be divyded betwixt them. And this my last will & testament ordaine, constitute & make Margret my wyfe, John Duncalfe, Raphe Duncalfe, & Thomas Duncalfe my sonnes my true & lawful executors Charginge them as they will answer at the greates daie of the generall Judgmente faithfullye and trulye to exeoute pforme, & accomlishe, this my last will and Testamente accordinge to the intente reporte & meeaninge of theese presentes.

M pronounced & acknowledged for the last will & testamente of the above named John Duncalfe in the prsence of + Ellyse Strettell + Richard Hyll + John Bodon.

Debtes owinge vnto me the said John Duncalfe.
 first William Boreiiij. s. iiijd.
 Item Sherie of Maclesfeldxij. s. iiijd.
 and for the arestinge of they of the Bondle }
 in Maclesfeld } xd.
 Item Robert Burges my sonninelawexixs.

Debtes wch. I doe owe.

first I doe owe vnto Joane Newton
 of Ryngaie..... iijl. xij. s. iiijd.
 Item to William Duncalfe my sonnexij. s. iiijd.
 Item to Joane Duncalfe my daughter.....viij. s.
 Item to Thomas Duncalfe my sonne.....ixs.

[152] MARRIAGE REGISTERS OF ST. OSWALD'S,
 CHESTER.
 (Continued from 150.)
 1584.

Denis Pecooke & Eliz. Mekyn, April 1
 Married at St. John's.
 Wm Browne & Marget Wmson., April 23
 John Tasker & Ellen Looker, June 9
 Thomas Squire & Ellen Richardson of Wirven,
 June 21
 William Dorington & Ann Mercer, July 12
 Raffe Grange & Ales Percivall, July 19
 Richard Jonson & Ales Wyndro, July 26
 Thomas Belyn & Jane Edwardes, Aug. 9
 Wm. Wattes & Marget Mason, Aug. 27
 Jevan Davie & Marget Bridd, Sept. 1
 Wm. Foulke & Letice Benet, Sept. 13
 John Tilston & Elizabeth Grimesdiche, Sept. 21
 George Birche & Elizabeth Hinson, Sept. 28
 John Eaton & Elizabeth Scounce, Oct. 18
 Thomas Robinson & Marget Scounce, Nov. 1
 Thomas Varnai (?) & Elizabeth Veales, Nov. 2
 Thomas Chalner & Eliz. Alcocke, Nov. 8
 Raufe Witter & Widowe Eaton, Nov. 12
 John Kynge & Margery Johnson, Nov. 14
 Wm. Bedford & Ales Pymblet, Nov. 22
 Hughe Jonson & Marget Berian, Nov. 24
 Lewis Roberts & Elizabeth Mershe, Jan. 20
 Harry Trafford & Elizabeth Battlyfe, Jan. 27
 Thomas Lenord & Kathern Gleave, Jan. 30
 Hughe Flecher & Eliz. Moneley, Feb. 24

[153] EXTRACTS FROM NICHOLAS BLUNDELL'S
 DIARY, 1702—1728.

The following extracts from Nicholas Blundell, of Crosby's Diary, recently published by Mr. Walmsley, and edited by the late Father Gibson, are interesting to Cheshire people, especially the accounts of his journeys through Cheshire, on his pilgrimage to the shrine of St. Winifred, at Holywell.

The references to Shotwick Ford, Eastham, Woodside, & the Rock Ferries are interesting. Mr. Darcy Chantrell, of Knocktorum, was a Roman Catholic and Non-juror.

The allusions to the Wallasey races in 1721 and 1727 are new, and show the continuance of the use of that well-known racecourse.—Yours,
 HOLLY.

p. 51. [June 26, 1707.] My wife, Mr. Plumb and I came from Hollywell over Shotwigg Ford, it was very deep, thence we came to ye Woodside where we got over.

- p. 68. [Nov. 26, 1708.] My wife went to lodge at Neston at Mr. Darcy Chantrells.
- [Dec. 7th, 1708.] Lord Mountgarret & Pat; Gelib[rond] went to Liverpool to meet Sr. Wm. Gerard & Sr. Rowland Stanley about Mr. Chantrells business of Nocturnum.
- p. 76. [June 18th, 1709.] I dined at Garswood & signed some writings for selling Knock-torum to Mr. Chantrell, he came with me as far as Knowsley where we called & drunk at the gates.
- p. 79. [Aug. 18, 1709.] My wife & I began our Journey towards Whitehorough. We came too late for ye Boats at Leverp[ool] so we went over at Runkhorne after wch we lost our way & went to Windy Weston where we got a guide that brought us to Fradsom.
- [Aug. 19th]. We went from John Websters the signe of ye Bears Paw at Fradsom to Whit-Church to Mr. Benbow's ye Signe of ye Red Lion where we dined & discoursed Dr. Bostock about my Wives Paine in her back, from Whit-Church we went to Chester where we lodged at Mr. Taylors ye signe of ye Golden Lyon.
- [Aug. 20th]. We saw several of ye Paletines in the Wool-Hall etc. We dined at Chester & thence went to ye Rock hous, but the Boat was gon, so we got a smoke made but no Boat coming to us we went to ye Wood-side where Mr. Darcy Chantrell came to us and got a Boat for us so we came home.
- p. 133. [Ap. 4, 1715] From Ditton, Malley & I went by Runkhorn Bote & so by Helsby to Chester where we lodged at Edward Parsonidge his ye signe of ye Golden Lyon.
- [Ap. 5] From Chester we came to Eastom & came over in ye Boat.
- p. 175. [April 15th, 1721] Mr. Carrol Molin[eux] & Mr. Heskaine went to Walloway & saw my Lord Molineux his Horses sweat.
- p. 223. [Feb. 6, 1727] Coz: Butler went to Wallosy Race where Sr. Rich: Grannors [Grosvenor] Hors beat a Black Hors of my Lord Molineuxes.
- p. 178. [July 8th 1721] My wife I began our journey towards Holywell but no Ferry-Bote being on this Side I hired the Sower-Milk Gallay. She carried us & our three Horses over at twice and Landed us at ye Wood-Side, thence we went to Shotwick; at Holy-Well we Lodged at the Starr.
- [July 9th] My wife and I went into ye Well. I was much out of Order after I came out and Continued so for some Hours. I went with my wife to Mrs. Crews.

[July 10th] We came from Holliwel to Flit [Flint], thence to Shotwick, where I Rode over without a guide & came back agin with one to fetch my wife over, then to Eastom where I left my servant and horses. My wife and I went over in the Sower-Milk Galley and landed about eleaven of ye Clock at Night at Leverp: we lodged at the Wool-pack.

- p. 195. [May 26. 1723] We went over from Leaverp[ool] in Eastom Boat and dined at Hooton with Doctor Low, thence to Chester.

- p. 198 [Oct. 3, 1723] To Chester where we Lodged at ye Golden Raven a very cheap Hous, my Horses met me there.

[Oct 4] Came over in Eastom Boat, but there not being Roome in it for my Horses, I left them and my Men in Cheshire.

- p. 199 [Dec. 1st 1723] Mr. Standley of Hooton and Parson Poole came hither with Mr. Blund[ell].

[154] OLD CLOCKS IN CHESTER.
(See No. 133).

I have a grandfather's clock with brass face and oak case. It has but one finger and one weight, and runs for about 30 hours. There is no key to wind up the clock, the operation being performed by raising the weight with one hand and hauling down the slack of the chain with the other. There are, of course, no screws in the case. The hinges and locks are fastened with nails. The case is in an excellent state of preservation. The inscription on the face is 'Plimer, Wellington,' but it bears no date. Can any of the readers of the *Sheaf* give me the age or approximate age of my clock?

Chester.

J. A. B.

MARCH 2, 1898.

NOTES.

[155] THE MEANING OF THE WORD 'SLANG' IN FIELD NAMES.

The subject of Field names presents many features of interest, and is one that would well repay a close investigation. At present there seems to be but little literature on the subject, and the following note and query is inserted in the hope that it may call forth information from those more versed in this particular lore than the writer.

The word 'slang' as a field name appears to be of fairly common occurrence, and it is always applied to a long strip-like field. Both Halliwell and Miss Jackson explain it as a

narrow strip of land, and Miss Jackson quotes an instance of its use by a Shropshire farmer, who evidently used it as a word describing any narrow slip of land. Canon Isaac Taylor, however, points out that it is only applied to narrow fields lying adjoining the highway, and explains that it means any unused strip of land by the roadside, such as would be suitable for gypsies to encamp upon. The expression for being on their travels used by these strange people is being 'out on the slang,' and from such a use it is easy to see how the term 'slang' was transferred to the language spoken by hawkers and itinerant showmen.

It would be interesting to discover whether this explanation is borne out by facts; and it is on this point that I would ask for information. In three instances that have come under my own notice it certainly is so. Mr. G. C. Newstead, the author of the interesting 'Annals of Aughton,' tells me that in that parish the field bearing the name *The Long Slang* is a narrow strip of land running for the first half nearly at right angles, to the high road and then curving round slightly to the left. In Wallasey parish there is a field marked *Slang* on the tithe map (1841), which is still to be seen to the east of the Poulton Hospital, and running along the south boundary of the Central Park. In this case it is a long narrow strip scarcely wider than a lane, running at right angle to a field road which leads from Poulton-road in a northerly direction and ends at the Central Park south boundary. In an old map of Birkenhead (1824) there is a field marked *Slang* among the Bridge-end fields, and in this case it was a narrow strip lying parallel with the old road along the Pool side. There must be plenty of other examples of the use of this word in Cheshire, and the writer hopes that some of the readers of the *Sheaf* will communicate local examples. Can anyone suggest a derivation?—Yours &c.

Liverpool.

HOLLY.

ORIGINAL DOCUMENTS.

[156] A SCHOOLMASTER'S LICENCE FROM THE BISHOP OF CHESTER, 1733.

Samuel* by Divine Permission Bishop of Chester To our well beloved in Christ Roger Lea of Tarleton in the County of Lancater Gentleman Greeting. We do by these presents give and grant unto you our Licence and

*Samuel Peploe, Bishop of Chester, 1726-1752.

Faculty to teach and instruct Children the Art of Grammar Writing Arithmetick and other Lawful and honest Learning in the free School of Tarleton in the County of Lancaster aforesaid (you having first taken the Oaths and subscribed to the Articles in this case by Law required to be taken and subscribed). Provided nevertheless that you publickly teach your scholars every week (among other things) the Catechism of the Church of England set forth by authority and no other either in the Latin or English Tongue and diligently attend them to the parish Church of Croston every Sunday and Festival there to hear divine Service and Sermons In Witness whereof we have to these presents during only our pleasure set our Episcopal Seal this fourteenth day of June in the year of our Lord One Thousand Seven Hundred Thirty and Three and in the Eighth year of our Consecration.

SAML CESTRIENS.

The usual large wafer seal is attached and the document bears two Revenue stamps of 5s. each: it is written on parchment in an educated rather than a clerical hand and has the following endorsements

"ROGER LEA'S LICENCE."

"Exted. in the Vison of Samuel Lord Bishop of Chester held in the year 1738.

EDW. ROBERTS, D.R.

"Exted. in the Vison of the sd Ld Samuel in the year 1742.

EDW. ROBERTS D.R.

"Exhibited in the Visitation of Samuel Lord Bishop of Chester held in 1747.

EDW. ROBERTS D.R.

Yours &c.—WM. E. GREGSON.

Great Crosby.

[157] MARRIAGE REGISTERS OF ST. OSWALD'S, CHESTER.

(Continued from No. 152.)

1585.

Edward Kyshe & Elizabeth Hue, April 20
John Rogerson & Ellen Newport, May 2
Eddward Burgeis & Anne Sparke, May 20
Richard Welshe & Jane Ryder, May 23
John Granwall & Marget Bingley, May 24
David Lloyd and Ales Bavan, May 23
Thomas Sharples & Ellen Covinen (?), June 25
David Dune & Elizabeth Ley, July 10
Harry Prittohard & Kathern Looker, July 11
Symone Ince & Ales maide to Robert Ince, Aug. 2
Robert Prince & Elizabeth Smith, Aug. 2
Roger Rider & Joane Wilson, Aug. 21
John Nicoll & Ellen Ithell, Aug. 21
Thomas Cowper & Ellen Brosko, Aug. 28
Robert Cashe & Thomasen Freer, Oct. 2
John Evans & Katherine Davies, Oct. 3
Thomas Handley & Ales Waule, Oct. 18
Pattrike Thomas & Elen Conways, Oct. 31

Richard Peecke & Margery Dodd, Nov. 6
 James Baule & Alice Bearemore, Nov. 22
 John Coney & Ales Cowley, Dec. 7
 Harry Turner & Widowe Kempe, Dec. 19
 Robert Warton & Elis. Mason, Jan. 16
 John Churton & Margaret Trafford, Jan. 29
 Thomas Haies & Marget Walley, Jan. 29
 Nicollas Well and Eliz. Woods, Feb. 7
 Edward Meare and Joane Danat, Feb. 15

REPLY.

[158] OLD CLOCKS IN CHESTER.

In reply to 'J. A. B.'s' inquiry as to the date of his clock, it would be difficult to give a definite opinion without a careful examination of the clock itself. Had the maker been a Chester man, it would have been easy to identify him, and find out when he died, and so fix approximately the date of the clock. It is evident, however, from 'J. A. B.'s' description, that he is the fortunate possessor of a very early specimen of the so-called 'grandfather' clock, and, to judge from the primitive method of winding and other details, it would seem probable that it was originally made between the dates 1690 and 1700. The following extract from a lucid and comprehensive work on 'Former Clock and Watch Makers,' by Mr. F. J. Bretten, published a year or two ago, contains a number of suggestions, which will be found useful in assigning a correct date to old clocks.—Yours, &c.,

HORLOGE.

"The manufacture of chamber clocks for domestic use, as distinguished from the costly and highly-decorated timekeepers made for public buildings, or to gratify the tastes of the wealthy, seems to have commenced about 1615 or 1620. These chamber clocks were of the pattern known as 'lantern,' 'birdcage,' or 'bed-post.' They were supported on a bracket, and wound by pulling down the opposite ends of the rope to that from which the driving-weights were hung. * * *

About 1661 the pendulum was introduced, and quickly superseded the balance. * * *

The size of the lantern clocks varies from about three inches by two and a half to five inches square. * * *

With but little variations in the style, these brass clocks seem to have been made from the time of Elizabeth until about the beginning of the reign of George III., the later specimens being principally of provincial manufacture, and with square arched-top dials. * * *

The brass chamber clock with the wooden hoods to exclude dust developed into the long case eight day clock now familiarly termed 'grandfather' towards the close of the reign of Charles II., and although veritable specimens of that period are very rare, examples between then and the close of the seventeenth century are occasionally to be seen.

Some of these primitive 'grandfathers' were exceedingly narrow in the waist, only just sufficient width being allowed for the rise and fall of the weights. The escapements were either of the ancient balance or bob pendulum description. A curious addition to these cases is sometimes seen in the form of wings or projections on each side of the waist to permit the swing of a long or 'royal' pendulum, when it came into general use about 1680. As the conversion was a simple process, it is now very difficult to meet with an example having the original balance escapement. * * *

The earliest were small in size, with square dials, and had no door to the hood, which had consequently to be taken off completely before the clock could be wound. The cases were frequently covered with marqueterie work of more or less of artistic merit, most likely the production of the many Dutch artists who were settled in London at that time. Corkscrew pillars at the angles of the hood were also a distinguishing mark of the period, and were often used in the reign of Queen Anne. * * *

The hour circles on the dials have many distinguishing marks. To a close observer particularly it will be noticed that in the earlier specimens the inner circle is retained dividing the hour into quarters, the half hour being shewn by a longer stroke, terminating in a "fleur-de-lys" or a similar ornament. This form of circle was used before the adoption of the minute hand, but being found unnecessary was soon abolished; the minute divisions on the outer edge had besides the numerals denoting the number of minutes, a cross or dagger marking the half quarters. There was no lack of engraving on the early dials, especially on those of the William III. and Queen Anne periods. Round the edge was often a 'herring bone' or laurel leaf border, and on 'the matting' in the centre something in the form of birds and foliage bordered the aperture shewing the day of the month; this had a very good effect when burnished bright in contrast to the matting. Further relief was given by turning a number of rings round the winding

holes. On the early clocks of the seventeenth century the maker's name will be found in Latin under the circle on the bottom of the dial thus—

"Henricus Jones Londini fecit ;"

later it was engraved on the circle between the figures vii. and v. About 1715 name-plates appear to have been used, and individual makers used their own discretion in the matter, the Latin inscription going out of use excepting for such popular mottoes as *Tempus fugit*, *Tempus edas rerum*, &c.

The addition of the arch to the dial was a great improvement to its appearance. It is first seen in some of Thompion's later clocks, and was very generally adopted for the better class of the work in the time of George I. Old square dials will often be found to have had the arch added, the square and arch being made in separate pieces and rivetted together. The idea may have come from the old lantern clocks, for the form and decoration of the arch resembled the fret at the top in front of the bell, which was used in some of them, especially those with the favourite dolphin pattern. Why the old clockmakers were so attached to this conventional device does not appear to be recorded, but dolphins were for a long time retained as an ornament to the arch dial, one being engraved on each side of a domed plate, on which was inscribed either the owner's or the maker's name, occasionally with a crest or motto. The strike-silent hand was a later addition. During the latter part of the eighteenth century there was a great taste for moving figures placed in this part of the dial, such automata as see-saws, heaving ships, time on the wing, etc., being especially favoured.

The date of the introduction of plain silvered and painted dials may be put down as about 1780; those having engraving instead of matting in the centre are earlier, and will be found on clocks made about 1740. Calendar circles in the arch of the dial were very popular. * * *

The raised ornamental spandrels or corners are another sign of the times in connection with the dial.

The earliest were the cherubs or angels' head. This pattern will be seen on the clock represented in the coat-of-arms granted to the Clockmakers' Company in 1671, and was largely used until the end of the century. It was succeeded by larger and more elaborate patterns. Then more ambitious designs came into use notably two Cupids or nude boys supporting a crown in

the midst of ornamental scroll work; or a crown with crossed sceptres and foliage.* * *

These well known patterns were followed later in the eighteenth century by various combinations and those of a rococo character, until we come to the degenerate patterns of the George III. period when many were rough castings never touched by a chasing tool after leaving the sand. Traces of water-gilding will often be found on those first made, clearly shewing that such clocks were only for the wealthy. Soon after the pendulum was introduced, concentric minute hands were commonly applied, although one hand clocks continued to be made to a much later date, especially by makers in country districts. The hands on eight-day clocks of the William III. period are most artistic, not only being elaborately pierced, but also carved and shaped on the surface.

As material for the cases, oak has been used from first to last, but rarely for high class work. Walnut cases, both plain and inlaid, were largely made during the latter part of the seventeenth and beginning of the eighteenth centuries. Numbers of cases, with the English copy of quaint-looking Japanese or Oriental lacquer work, were made about 1745, but the most highly prized cases are those of mahogany in the Chippendale and Sheraton styles, inlaid with satinwood, &c."

MARCH 9, 1898.

NOTES.

[159] THE DEANS OF CHESTER.
(Continued from No. 142.)

III.—WILLIAM CLIFF, 1547-1558.

On the resignation of Bishop Man in 1547, William Cliff was appointed to succeed him as Dean of Chester.

The name of the new dean is spelt in various ways, Clyffe and Clyve being perhaps the commonest forms. Whether he belonged to the ancient family of the Clives of Huxley, I have so far been unable to ascertain. His name does not at any rate occur in the pedigree given in Ormerod's *Cheshire*.*

Wherever or of whatever stock he was born, it must have been towards the end of the fifteenth century; for we find him taking his LL.B. degree at Cambridge in 1514.†

* Vol II. 2nd ed., pp. 800-1.

† *Athenæ Cantabrigienses* I., 187.

He had doubtless followed the ordinary routine of the time, in graduating in Arts previous to this date; but I can find no reference to this in the University Registers. Prior to the Reformation, the authority of Canon Law was recognized in England, and its study was eagerly pursued by young ecclesiastics, as a means of attaining to high positions in the Church. It is, therefore, no matter of surprise to find Cliff, who probably all along intended taking Holy Orders, devoting himself to the law. He was admitted an advocate, 15th December, 1522; and in the same year he was made a Commissary of the Diocese of London,* which was then ruled by Cuthbert Tunstall. While holding this position, Cliff took his LL.D. at Cambridge, 1523. On 11th November, 1526, he was presented with the Prebend of Twyford in St. Paul's Cathedral. It may therefore be reasonably concluded that he had by this time become a priest. On the 30th of October, 1529, Cliff was made Archdeacon of London, and was *ex officio* a member of the Convocation of the Province of Canterbury which assembled in 1529. This Convocation had to discuss the burning question of the Royal Divorce, and the new Archdeacon was "one of the Canonists who advised" its members on the subject. He seems to have been a ready instrument of the King; and his services did not fail to win him rewards. He was made Prebendary of Fulton, in York Minster, 17th January, 1532, and in the following year, Archdeacon of Cleveland.

The acceptance of this Archdeaconry caused Cliff to vacate that of London. He henceforth became identified with the Northern Province. In 1534 (2nd Nov.) he was appointed Chanter or Precentor of York, and on 13th April, 1534, he was installed Treasurer of the same church, being the last person who held that dignity.

In 1537 a committee, consisting of all the bishops, eight archdeacons, and seventeen doctors of divinity and civil law, was appointed to draw up a book of religious instruction in matters both of faith and morals. Of this committee Cliff was a member. "The result of its labours was the book known as the *Institution of a Christian Man*, sometimes described as *The Bishops' Book*. The committee met at Lambeth. Each part of the work, after being discussed and agreed upon, was signed by the whole of the divines, so that there could be no drawing back. The plague was raging at the time of their work, which no doubt further tended to expedite matters. The book was rapidly

finished. The king signed it, as it seems, without considering its contents. It was entrusted to the care of Bishop Fox to see to its printing, and some time in May, 1537, it made its appearance.

"The book thus somewhat hurriedly put out is in many respects an admirable work. Its great merit is the practical and devout tone which prevails throughout it and the simplicity and power of some of its theological expositions. It consists of a full and practical explanation of the Apostles' Creed, the Ten Commandments, and the Lord's Prayer; an explanation of the Sacraments, of Justification, and of Purgatory. It would be hard to find anywhere in our theological literature a better exposition of the Creed than is here given. . . . The book when finished and licensed by the king was pressed by the Bishops in various ways upon the attention of their clergy."*

Henry 8th died 28th January, 1547, and the guardians of the young Edward VI. at once began to make fresh annexations of Church property. On the 26th May of this year Cliff was induced to surrender the treasurership of York, with all its possessions, into the king's hands. As a reward of his complaisance, he was four days afterwards appointed Dean of Chester (30th May, 1547).

"At the death of Henry, power passed from an irresistible despot into the hands of rival oligarchical cabals of selfish and unprincipled schemers, the Seymours and the Dudleys, who were, perhaps, the basest and most worthless politicians who ever had made themselves masters of the fortunes of a great nation. Public plunder, for themselves and for the partisans who were to strengthen their power, became the real object of these new rulers of England."† The possessions of the Church were regarded as the legitimate prey of these adventurers. Every form of rapine and injustice was put into practice to wrest their lawful property from the clergy. One of the victims of this rapacity was the new Dean of Chester, who was speedily called upon to experience the temper of the times.

Among the families which rose to notice and wealth on the ruins of the Abbeys were the Cottons. Sir George Cotton, an esquire of the body to King Henry VIII., became the grantee of the Cistercian house of Combermere. His

* *Ibid.* I. 551.

* Perry's *Ch. Hist.*, vol. II., pp. 151-2.

† Dean Church, *Occasional Papers*, I., 397.

younger brother, Sir Richard Cotton, Comptroller of the Royal Household and a Privy Counsellor, was evidently in a hurry to enrich himself in a similar way. Taking advantage of his influence and position, he caused Dr. Clyffe and two of the Prebendaries of the Church of Chester to be imprisoned in the Fleet, until by compulsion they granted him most of the chapter lands for the yearly rent of £603 17s., the old rent being above £700.

Sir Richard Cotton died 2nd October, 1556, and two Inquisitions *post mortem* were taken relative to the abbey lands in Cheshire possessed by him. The second was taken 4 and 5 Phil. and Mar., and specifies only the Dee Mills, omitted in the first Inquisition; the other, taken the year preceding, states him to have died seized of the manors of Tattenhall and Newhall, Stanlaw Grange, and lands in Eastham; the Manors of Huntington and Cheveley; the manor of Sutton in Wirral; with lands in Great and Little Sutton, Thornton, Overpool, and Whitby; the manor of Bromborough, with lands in Bebington, Plimyard, and Eastham; the Manor of Upton, with lands in Croughton, Christleton, Chorlton, Lee, and Moston; the manor of Ince, with lands in Bridge Trafford, Manley, Alvanley, Idencot, Elton Thornewton, Helleby, and Frodsham; the manor of Saighton, with lands in Church en Heath, Huxley, and Codrington; the manor of Boughton (?); lands in Shotwick, Saughall, Northenden, and Crue; and the rectorial tithes of Great and Little Neston, Willaston, and Sutton; and ether lands in Wyrwyn, Thurstanston, Plemstall, Ter'ton, War'ton Hulton (*sic*); £27 rent in Irbie; £47 rent in Barneshawe; £4 rent in Tilston Farnehall; 100s. rent out of Stamford Mylne; 53s. 4d. rent out of land near Moston; advowsons of the churches of Crytleton, Bebington, and Austburie; and of the vicarage of Prestburye; and the lands in Goostree, Lees, Cranage, Sandbach, Chelford, Asthull, Prestburye, Northwiche, Hulse, Weynyngton, Netherstabley, Plomeley, Budworth, Or'pol, Hylton, Whythie, Walesie, and other places already mentioned purchased 7 Edward VI. of the Dean of the Cathedral Church of Christ and the blessed Virgin Mary of Chester, and the Chapter of the same: yielding annually to the Dean and Chapter Sexcentum tres libras 18s. 10d.*

By his will 27th September, 3 and 4 Philip and Mary, Cotton devised certain lands to his

younger sons, but left his eldest son, George, his heir. The nefarious arrangement seems to have been acquiesced in by Dean Cliff, but we shall see that his successors did not submit to it without a long and keen struggle.

(To be continued.)

ORIGINAL DOCUMENTS.

[160] A CHESTER ORDINARY OF ARMS, 1629.

(Continued from No. 149.)

88. JOHN OWEN. Gules, a chevron between three human heads coupéd Argent [crined proper]; on the chevron a mullet Sable.
89. OWEN JONES. Azure, a chevron between three spear heads erect Argent; on the chevron a crescent Sable.
90. PHILLIP PHILLIPS. Argent, a lion rampant collared and chained Or.
91. RICHARD SNEADE. Argent, a scythe the blade in chief the sned or handle in bend sinister all Sable, in the fesse point a fleur-de-lys of the second.
92. WILLIAM LECH[s]TER. Azure, a fesse Gules fretty Or between three fleurs-de-lys of the third; a crescent in chief also of the third.
93. CHRISTOPHER CONWAY. Sable, on a bend Argent cotised Ermine a rose Gules between two annulets of the first; a crescent in sinister chief of the second.
94. HASSALL. Per chevron Argent and Or three pheons Sable; a crescent in chief of the last.
95. RICHARD DRIHURST. Or, a fesse Gules between three wolves' heads erased Sable; on the fesse a crescent of the first.
96. GUILLIELM[u]s LUCH[er]. Ermine, on a chief indented Gules three coronets Or; a crescent in the fesse point of the second.
97. JACOB[u]s DOWSON. Argent, two pallets Sable, over them a chevron Gules, on a canton of the last five bezants disposed in saltire.
98. LAURENTI[u]s DITCHFIELD. Azure, three pine-apples Or; a crescent in chief of the last.
99. WIRRALDE. . . . Argent, two lions passant guardant in pale Sable, on a chief of the second three garbs Or.
100. RICHARD GRIMEDICKE. Vert, a man statant* in Armour [?] Argent his face towards the sinister grasping with his dexter hand the sinister claw of a griffin segreant Or.
101. RICUS CORTNOR[sic]. Gules, a chevron between three stags' heads cabossed Argent; upon the chevron a mullet Gules.
102. WEBSTER DE. . . . Argent, a cross patonce between four mullets Sable.

* The man is often represented as lying down with the griffin above him.

* Ormerod 2 ed., III., 405.

103. TETLOW DR. Argent, on a bend engrailed Sable, plain cotised Gules, three crescents Or.

104. JOHN MUNSSEN. Gules, a manuch Or.

105. LYNSEY. Gules, three awls points downwards Argent.

106 MALVESINS. Gules, three bendlets Argent.

(To be continued.)

[161] MARRIAGE REGISTERS OF ST. OSWALD'S, CHESTER, 1586.

(Continued from No. 157.)

Wm. Baule & Eliz. P'civall, April 17
 Hughe Gresate & Anne Fasagerley, May 8
 Thomas Thomlenson & Jane Younge, June 27
 Thomas Wormal & Eliz. Pecooke, Aug. 15
 John Pyper & Marget [], Aug. 15
 Thomas Craghan & Jane Poole, Sept. 26
 John Cromell & Katherine Blaken, Oct 10
 Richard Quail & Ales Jeffrey, Oct 30
 Phillip Davides & Eliz. Bridgley, Nov. 21
 Nicolas White & Wydowe Traford, Nov. 21
 Robert Chaulner & Elen Ormston, Nov. 23
 Robert Warton & Eliz. Mason, Jan. 16
 John Churton & Margaret Traford, Jan. 29
 Thomas Haies & Marget Walley, Jan. 29
 Rauff Higgins & Katherin Pears, Feb. 3
 Richard Ince & Mary Warmisham, Feb. 3
 William Becke & Elen Sounce, Feb. 7

—
 QUERIES.
 —

[162] VENABLES FAMILY.

Can any of your readers inform me whether General Venables, who captured Jamaica and was afterwards made Governor of Chester Castle, had any children; and if so what their names were, and where they lived and died? Also whether there is any record of General Venables' death, and who his father was? And if at Chester Castle there are any records of another Governor (the last), Thomas Venables, and whose father was Peter Venables, of Bollin, co. York?—Yours, G. W. V.

[163] THE POOLHS OF POOLE HALL.

Can any of your readers give me an account of the siege of Poole Hall in 1643 or 1644, or tell me where I am likely to find it? In 1844 some firearms and swords were found in a pit at Poole, the latter beautifully engraved, shewing they must have been the property of persons of rank. I should like to know also what became of the find.—Yours truly, WIRRAL.

[164] A DISCREPANCY.

While scanning an old pamphlet, I noticed a reference to the execution of Sir Timothy Featherstonhaugh, who, it was stated, was shot

in Chester Corn Market, in 1654, by order of the Parliament. In Volume I. p. 47 of the present series of the *Sheaf*, it is stated that Sir Timothy was beheaded for alleged treason in Chester Market-place, on October 22nd, 1651. Can any of your readers give me information on the subject?

W. B. D.

MARCH 16, 1898.

NOTES.

[165] KING'S VALE ROYAL.

This well-known, interesting, gossip old work, taking its title from the dissolved Abbey of Vale Royal, was, as most of your readers will perhaps be aware, first published in the reign of James I.—William Webb, M.A., being, I think, the compiler and author, in the early part of the 17th century—Daniel King being the publisher and printer. Very few copies of the original issue are extant, and those I have seen in private libraries appeared to me to do considerable credit to the press and bookbinders of that age.

The work itself affects to be an 'Itinerary' of Cheshire, and as to certain parts of the county, with some of whose residents Webb was more particularly acquainted, it probably deserves that title. It was, at all events, regarded by many a well-read antiquary, historian, and topographer, as an Itinerary of some historic authority long after the deaths of Webb and his publisher. But, like a good many other works in all ranks of literature, it wrought a good deal of misapprehension; and it was not until more recent days that its accuracy became doubtful. That it had, however, its considerable errors of omission and commission, had for ages been known to many of the old residents of the county—though certainly to nothing like the extent that in our time has been discovered. The writer of this note had, nearly a quarter of a century since, occasion to examine the work more closely than had his predecessors (who were possessed of an old, and now dilapidated, copy, containing a few of their critical remarks), and he came to the conclusion—wholly independent of the black marks in this copy—that Webb's 'Itinerary' was pretty nearly confined to one apartment. Taking such information as books, maps, and MSS, a few correspondents and travellers supplied, he seems, for the most part, to have sat comfortably at home to do his Itinerating. And so the whole olla-podrida of truth and error

was launched as a very fine original dish for the hungry history-hunter of Cheshire. Certainly, notwithstanding any flavouring or high seasoning of criticism, it will never be a bad dish for the hungry—it contains too many flattering flourishes. But, it remained alone for the late Mr. Earwaker, with his usual acumen, to prove long ago, with something like scientific accuracy, that as an authority of any moment, on any points of importance, the 'Vale Royal' was worthless—not by any means on account of Webb's unquestioned abilities, and scrupulosity of general character, but by reason of his neglect, perhaps his laziness, or more likely because he was cruelly cramped by circumstances of some sort (King probably being responsible for much) which led to this particular bantling being launched upon the world, unbaptised in the hot waters of criticism—except, perhaps, as a 'Guide Book.'

Taking, for example, the lists of landowners which the work affects to give, Mr. Earwaker informed the writer, a few months before his lamented decease, that he had not only found numerous omissions, but, what was infinitely more astonishing, that in almost, if not in every, case the names were, in fact, taken from the various *Inquisitions postmortem* of the reign of Henry VI. !—or such of them as had escaped destruction. These Inqs. p. m. were then, and had always been, kept in Chester Castle; and there they remained uncared for, matted together by damp, mouldering and rotting, eaten by rats through all the ages, stolen, and cut up for labels when labels were extensively used and parchment was very dear. Their original numbers, therefore, were perpetually being reduced, inasmuch as it has been found that many sets are greatly defective, and, in some cases, all those relating to the lands of whole townships, and touching many parishes, are no longer in existence. Probably the 17th century is responsible for this even more than all the other centuries put together. Cromwell's Roundheads and Charles' red-coats alike would find them invaluable for destroyed drum-heads, and as a waterproof covering for parcels; or as a wrapping for pipe-clay, button-sticks, and brushes for every Royal turn-out, their handiness was patent. The labour of separating, cleansing, assorting, and pressing the poor but wealthy remains—some couple of thousand or so?—of these defiled skins of ancient animals (which I once personally examined and abstracted) at the National Record Office in London, whither they had been removed in the 'Sixties,' must have

been immense; and such labour is, I believe, not yet over—there being charters and other documents of the Cheshire Palatine to be 'restored' by the same treatment. But, this poor, yet rich, remnant, is now as exceedingly well cared for as Master Webb could wish as the author of 'King's Vale Royal of Cheshire.'

T. HELSBY.

[166] THE WORD 'FENDER' AS THE NAME OF A STREAM.

The word *fender*, meaning a ditch, or slowly flowing stream, is, so far as the writer knows, peculiar to Cheshire, and he would be very grateful for any other record of the occurrence of the word.

The earliest mention which he has found is in a document dated 1st May, 1585, being a deed between Myles Fells, of Bidston, and John Roberts of the same, fixing the boundaries of their adjacent holdings in the Hoose, now a part of Hoylake. In the course of this deed it is provided that "a good sufficient and able ditch and fender shall be made between the said North and South meadows." And further on, it is agreed that either of the parties shall have permission to cut a ditch "from the aforesaid fender" to so-and-so. In this case the use of the conjunction *and* between "ditch and fender" does not make it clear that they mean the same thing, but the later references will do this.

In a survey of the Manor of Bidston, in the possession of Robert De Grey Vyner, Esquire, dated 1665, the road running from Bidston to Moreton, and which crosses the little stream still known as 'The Fender,' is called 'Fender Wa[y],' while in a Court Roll of the same manor, dated early in this century, or the end of last—the writer is now speaking from memory—one of the tenants is summoned for not keeping his *fenders* or *ditches* clear of mud. The writer has also seen the word used later than this, when speaking of the Wallasey Pool: it was stated that under certain conditions of the tide the water 'backed up in the *fenders* or *ditches*.'

In all the above instances, with the possible exception of the second (Bidston Survey, 1665), the word is used as a common noun, but in any map of the district the stream running in a northerly direction between Woodchurch and Upton on the west, and Oxtan and Bidston on the east, is to-day called "The Fender," and everyone who knows the countryside about Hoylake, Moreton, and Wallasey also calls the other branch of the same stream

(which rises at the north of Grange Hill). "The Fender," though the Ordnance Surveyors, for some inscrutable reason, have invented the name Birket for it. So here we have the common noun crystallised into a proper one. Any other examples of the occurrence of the word or name will be welcomed by the writer. Also any suggestion as to its derivation.—
Yours, &c., HOLLY.

Liverpool.

[167] EDWARD THE FIRST IN CHESHIRE IN 1277.

The following itinerary of Edward the First when he visited this neighbourhood in 1277 on his invasion of Wales, may interest some of your readers. The particulars are gathered from the 46th Report of the Deputy-Keeper of the Public Records and Rymer's *Foedera*.

Chester	13th to 21st July
The camp near Basingwerk	26th to 27th July
Birkhened [Birkenhead]	Aug. 3rd to 5th
Stanlow [Stanlaw]	Aug. 6th
Walrescote [Wallerescote]	Aug. 8th to 9th
Ynys [Ince near Stanlaw]	Aug. 10th to 11th
Bromborough	Aug. 12th to 13th
Le Flint near Basingwerk	Aug. 16th
The camp near Basingwerk	Aug. 18th
Rhuddlan	Aug. 22nd to 25th
Chester	Sept. 2nd
Rhuddlan	Sept. 15th
Chester	Sept. 20th to 23rd
Rhuddlan	Oct. 1st to 8th

The King seems to have crossed the Dee direct from Bromborough to Flint, *via* Queens Ferry, and to have gone home direct from Rhuddlan *via* Shrewsbury, without touching Chester, and to have crossed the Dee at Queen's Ferry *en route* from Basingwerk to Birkenhead.—

Yours, &c.,
Lathom.

JAMES BROMLEY.

QUERIES.

[168] ASTON HALL CHARTERS, FRODSHAM.

There is a virgin stock of ancient documents which have for many centuries reposed among the muniments of the Aston family at Aston Hall. Many of the contributors to the *Sheaf* would be well pleased with the contents of some of the charters and rent rolls of the 13th, 14th, and 15th centuries—which, if well abstracted, would confer some obligation upon antiquaries, and much additional light would be thrown upon the interesting Rental of the Thorntons of Thornton-in-the-Moors which appeared in the *Sheaf* of 1896 (Nos. 56, 58, 62, 64, 66). An application for inspection would doubtless be

met with the courtesy it would deserve, particularly if coming from any gentleman in the neighbourhood of Frodsham. The early documents of the Astons themselves down to the 17th century would also supply numerous other names (such as those of witnesses), which would be of very great interest to many. X.

[169] THE COOKE FAMILY OF TARVIN.

Peter Cooke, of Tarvin, and Elinor Norman, of Kingsley, were married at the "Quakers' meeting-place at Newton," in Cheshire, 10 July, 1695, and came to Pennsylvania in 1713 from Northwich, Cheshire.

Can any of your readers tell me whether this Newton was the one by Overton, or the one by Middlewich?

I should also be glad to have any information as to the ancestry of Peter Cooke or Elinor Norman. A. C. M.

Swarthmore, U.S.A.

[170] DATE OF THE MAKING OF PARKGATE ROAD.

Will some kind reader of the *Sheaf* inform me when the above road was made, as on page 257 of Volume I. of the first series of the *Cheshire Sheaf* there is a description of the bounds of the city of Chester, and the Editor remarks that evidently at that time (1540) the present Parkgate-road was not made, the only road to Mollington being the present Saughall-road?

Chester.

W. C. T.

ORIGINAL DOCUMENTS.

[171] MARRIAGE REGISTERS OF ST. OSWALD'S CHESTER.

1587.

Thomas Gristle & Marget Le, May 6
Omfrey Brickill & Marget Watsonne, May 24
Wm. Alen & Elis. Hicooke, May 29
William Marten & Prselow Annion, June 7
Thomas Haule & Isabell Wattson, July 14
Thomas Hancooke & Jane Kerye, July 27
Edd. ap Dd. ap Rees & Ellen Ancooke, July 30
Anthenye Welshe & Marget Guile, Nov. 27
John Gybbon & Elen Higgenet, Jan. 13
John Morguile & Margerie Pecooke, Jan. 14
Arthure Chauntrell & Katherine [], Jan. 22
John Prenton & Ales Bykerataffe, Jan. 22
Thomas Mercer & Katherine Evans, Jan. 24
Richard Woods & Anne Moneley, Feb. 5

REPLY.

[172] THE SIEGE OF POOLE HALL IN 1644.

(See Query No. 163.)

So far as I can discover, there never was a *siege* of Poole Hall, though no doubt Mortimer's statement in his 'Hundred of Wirral' is correct, that it was plundered by Sir William Moreton. It is scarcely likely that anyone would take the trouble to garrison a house which was as strategically unimportant as Poole Hall. It commands no road, ford, or pass, and is at least a couple of miles from any position that it would be wise to hold, either for an invading or defending army. Birkenhead was an important point, covering as it did the ferries over the Mersey. Hooton was also a spot worth garrisoning, being close to the end of the Chester-road which ran to Eastham Ferry. These are the only two garrisons in Wirral, of which I have ever seen a mention, though there were probably outposts at Gayton and Shotwick to protect Gayton Ferry and Shotwick Ford.

Another fact that goes to support my contention is that James Poole, of Poole Hall, seems to have betaken himself to Chester at the outbreak of the war, and was in fact severely wounded there during a sortie against Christleton on January 18th, 1645, and carried a prisoner to Nantwich, where he died. He would hardly have left his own house, if it had been garrisoned.

In addition to this, I have before me, as I write, copies of the very interesting and voluminous petitions to the Parliament, and reports of the proceedings before the Committee for Sequestration, so far as these refer to the Poole family, and not the slightest reference is made to any siege of Poole Hall, or even to the sacking above-mentioned. There is an interesting reference, however, in Mistress Dorothy Poole's petition, dated 21 July, 1652, to a then recent military occupation. "In consequence," she writes, "of soldiers having been lately quartered" at Poole Hall, and the house not repaired during the time it had been "in the hands of the Commonwealth," it was much out of repair, and nearly ruined. Mistress Poole makes a very reasonable request in her petition, but at the foot of the document is the inextinguishable comment, "Wee cannot relieve ye Petitioner."

These papers are full of matter of the greatest value to all interested in this old

Cheshire house, and are well worthy of a place in this column.

With reference to the finding of arms in a pond at Poole in 1844, it is much more likely that the hiding of these is to be referred to the famous search writs of July, 1683. As many of your readers will remember, among Lord Killmorey's papers is a writ to Captain Needham (Sir Philip Egerton's trusty henchman) to search Sir James Poole's house "with diligence." It is not at all unlikely that the arms were thrown in the pond in order to thwart the efforts of the diligent Captain Needham, and for some reason or other never fished out until all was forgotten.—Yours, &c.,

WM. FERGUSON IRVINE.

Birkenhead.

MARCH 23, 1898.

NOTES.

[173] THE DEANS OF CHESTER.

III. WILLIAM CLIFF, 1547—1558.

(Continued from No. 159.)

It was under Cliff's decanate that the Cathedral was robbed in another way. A commission consisting of John Bird, Bishop of Chester, the Mayor, Thomas Smythe, Sir Lawrence Smyth, Knight, and Roger Hurleston was appointed in the last year of Edward's reign to take an inventory of the goods and ornaments of the churches of Chester. This inventory will be found printed in full in Dr. Morris' *Chester during the Plantagenet and Tudor periods*, pp. 150-154. From it we learn that certain of the handsomer copes were "delyvered unto ye kings ma^{tes} use," but that the remaining "goodes, copes, vestments, and other ornaments of the same Cathedrall Church were sold by the said Commissioners upon the apprecement thereof for vii xis iiid."

Serious charges are further on laid against the Dean and Chapter for selling part of their property, no doubt with the object of preventing its seizure. This action is termed by the Commissioners "embezzlement." They say that "there was a great bell in the Cathedral Church of Christe in Chester, whiche bell was taken doune and solde by the Dean and Chapter of the same Cathedrall Church the 4th May, 4 Ed. VI., for the somme of xxxiiii. li., and the said somme is alledged by them to be paid unto the Ministers of the said church for there

stypend." "Item the Dean and Chapter forsayd sold a crosse and ii. sencers of sylver ultimo die January 2 Ed. VI. for iiiij, which crosse and sensar then was belongyng to the same Cathedrall Church, and the money by them receaved ys affirmed by theym to be bestoed upon reparac'on of their howses. To answere for the saide bell, crosse, and sensars Nicol'us Bukoy, clerk, standeth bound of apperans before the King's honorable Counsaylors the ixth day of June next, and then to answere for and in the name of the said Dean and Chapter for the same."

Further on in the document appears:—
"Inventory of all the goodes, &c., to be kept safe and suerly by the Dean and Chapter, without imbecilment or alienacon until the King's Majesty's further pleasure be therein knowne.

Imprimis ii chalyses of sylvar gylt wt patt'nts to the same ponderantes xxxvii ounce.

- Item iii diaper tabell clothes.
— ii long Diaper towells.
— a pillo made of an olde tuncyle for the communion table.
— a carpet for the Dean stalle.
— a coverynge of dornixe fy...the pulpit.
— a covering for the co'munion table, the oon side of crymson velvet, the other side of grene satten and white—and in the middes a—of a olde dornix.
— iii carpet quoyashuns for the quere.
— a payre of organs.
— iii bells in the steple by the quere, and a klok.
— ii great bells in the new steple.
— cofers or chests.
— [tap]ete., hanging on the wall where the — was.
— all the boks now used in the Church.
per me Wm. Cliff, Decanum.
— Wm. Wall.
— Jefery Lloyd*
— Nicolaum Buksey.
— Joh'am lepyngte.

The decreased value of the Deanery through the rapacity of the Cottons was made up to Cliff by fresh appointments. On 11th June, 1548, he was collated to the Prebend of Hoxton in St. Paul's Cathedral, in exchange for the less valuable one of Twyford,† which he had held since 1526, and in 1552 he was made Rector of Standish, in Lancashire. He paid the first

fruits of the latter benefice 15th September, 1552.

Dean Cliff appears to have accepted the reactionary movement which set in on the accession of Queen Mary. The excesses of the reforming party during the latter years of King Edward's reign alienated a large number of its more moderate adherents. And Dean Cliff was probably a man of no very strong religious convictions. At any rate, he continued to hold his deanery during the whole of the Queen's reign, while the see was occupied by two such thorough going Romanists as George Cotes and Cuthbert Scott. The latter prelate obtained from Mary the disposition of the Prebends, which up to this time (4 and 5 Philip and Mary) had been filled by the nomination of the Crown*

During Cliff's decanate, John Whitby, John Wilmesley, Robert Percival, Thomas Runcorn, William Collingwood, Edward Gregory and (perhaps) Geoffrey Lloyd were appointed to vacant stalls in the Cathedral.

Cliff outlived Queen Mary by a few weeks, dying at London † about 7th December, 1558.

F. SANDERS.

[174] SEVENTEENTH CENTURY LOVE-LETTERS.
(See No. 129.)

The following letter is of a little earlier date than the one before published. It is written on foolscap, and addressed "for—Mrs Mary Hatton—att Quistie in—Hatton—These delivr—Haste," and there are the remains of a seal, similar to that on the preceding letter; also an endorsement "14 Decr 1653—Randolph," by Mistress Mary:—

"Madme,—Itt behoveth me humbly to beg ye forgiveness for a neglecte wch nought but sickness did or could cause: I am now bettring evrie daie & itt will helpe me to compleate my healtbe by writeing to you instantlie. Yor lett^{rs} alwayes please me so muche & so truly that you will not err so much as to thinke me rudely neglectfull. Give me leave to saye that noe man with an angell in his thoughts could see transgresse. There is no happinesse [happesse?] (butt ye verie prsence) that

* "Mary gave to ye Bishoprick in compensation for ye Rect. of Workington, the Rect. of St. Bees, and also the Rect. of Cartmell and Childwall, and ye gift or disposition of all the Prebends in ye Cathedrall Church of Chester."—Castrell, *Not. Cest.*, I., 3.

† Ormerod, 2nd ed., I., 266.

* This prebendary's name does not occur in the list in Ormerod.

† *Reg. Bonner.*

excelleth myne when in this com'union with you: There is some thinge stronger and weightier than yron that bindeth me to speake ye verie truthe to you in all things and in all seasons: else would I take speaking or writeing to be of littel accompte. Butt I accounte (sic) itt much, and nott wthstandinge ye paines of ye body methinkes I have a pleasure in soul att this minute beyonde the meres & bondes of all ye pleasures of life ytselfe: Yor deare lettr is more now than I can fully answer; but I shall answer itt fully att a bettr tyme. The little that I am wishfull to say, toucheth our future life. Truste not (as surely you will not) to the babelings of none. Yor owne innocency will defende you. And itt is a matter only betwixte my conscience & me, & belongeth to no man to judge of, far lesse to busy bodies of heartes too corrupted to iudge of o^rs righteouslie, & which gladly would have all to thinke of oth^rs as baddly as themselves, as though twould make what concienes they have the lighter. Truste fewe, hope well for all, butt I neede not tell you so old a story. You knowe all ye reste I would saye; for I told you in ye beginninge. That only is true & that yor owne goodnesse is strong enough to carry. My sist^r Megge & her maide will tell you the rest. And now I am too painefull to say more than this, namely how gladsome I feel for yor goodnesse tow^{rds} me & ye valour of yor defense against all ye worlde ye fleashe and ye devill. I gladly [bear] ev^{er}rything for you as you ever bear ev^{er}rything of mine for me & are all ready so greatly my helpe mete. Of what minde should I be if I did nott heartilly feel gratefullnesse tow^{rds} you for ye fullness & pow^r of so much love & affecc'on. Itt is without price, & no monie can buy itt, & att no market is itt to be sould: And so I remaine all waies

yor servante to ye ende
RANDOLPH HELSBY."

"ye mote house att
Helsby ye
14th of Dec^r. 1653."

Several other letters of this series also comprise some of those of the lady, as replies, but it will probably be a long time before access can be had to them.

T. HELSBY.

[175] ALEHOUSES IN WIRRAL IN 1619.

The following extract from the Calendar of State Papers (Dom: Ser: Add: 1586-1628, page 612) gives an interesting picture of the state of the Hundred of Wirral in James the First's

reign. The constant coming and going to Ireland gave the district many peculiar features, one of which was the abnormal number of inns and alehouses which the presence of so many travellers necessitated. Could any of your readers tell me what the Proclamation was to which allusion is here made? At this time most of the vessels for Ireland sailed from Hoylake and West Kirby, though some also went from Parkgate. An interesting article on Alehouses in Wirral in Elizabeth's time appeared in *Wirral Notes and Queries*, vol 1, page 80.—Yours truly,

Cloughton.

M. N. E.

May 25, 1619.

Letter from Sir Henry Bunbury and four others to the Council:—

The alehouse keepers and victuallers of Wirral Hundred, though reasoned with, refuse to enter bond to obey the proclamation, declaring that being on the sea coast, men of all ranks, nobles and others, flock to them, whom they could not restrain from their pleasures. The hundred is like an island, except the end next Chester, which is 14 miles broad, and the passengers for Ireland some times wait a quarter of a year together for a wind so that if there were twice as many of them as there are, they would not be too many sometimes; for passengers are obliged to go to country houses or to the neighbouring gentry. Their former recognisances are yearly taken in and returned, but we have ordered them to surcease till further directions from your Lordships.

ORIGINAL DOCUMENTS.

[176] MARRIAGE REGISTERS OF ST. OSWALD'S
CHESTER.

1588.

John Teler & Catherne Robinson, May 12
Wm. Kyrfoote & Doritie Gwynne, May 17
Harry Anion & Jane Heapie, May 28
Richard Halewall & Anne Mathew, June 2
Richard Banester & Maudlen Rattliffe, June 26
Harry Tyrer & Ales Wmson, July 14
James Ancocke & Maytrie Sankye, July 14
James Grafton & Anne Banester, July 22
Richar Howgreave & Elen Houghton, Aug. 4
John Looker & Isabell Cornes, Aug. 12
Richard Robert & Marget Eider, Sept. 2
Richard Cotingam & Jane Knowells, Sept. 30
Robert Mosse & Ales Picke, Oct. 20
John Robinsonne & Ales Blanne, Dec. 3
John Piggen & Jane Birtles, Dec. 9
Hughe Marten & Elizabeth Garfild, Dec. 24
Henrye Adleton & Anne Bosier, Jan. 4
Rowland Barnes & Anne Vernon, Jan. 5
John Smithe, *alias* Sheale, & Ales Garrat, Jan. 26

Wm. Benet & Ales Haustid (?), Jan. 26
 Rauffe Orton & Elizabeth Walker, Jan. 29
 Lawrence Littler & Elen Eaton, Feb. 11

REPLY.

[177] GENERAL VENABLES, GOVERNOR OF
 CHESTER CASTLE, 1660.

(See Query No. 162.)

Robert Venables, of Antrobus and Wincham, was eighteenth in direct descent from Gilbert Venables, Lord of Kinderton at the time of William the Conqueror. A full pedigree of the family is to be seen p. 658, Vol. I. of Helsby's edition of Ormerod, and a short account of General Venables, together with an autobiographical account of his second wife, is to be found in Volume 83 of the Cheetham Society's Transactions. An interesting reference is also to be found on page 233 of the first volume of the *Sheaf*. General Venables early took an active part in the Civil War, being governor of Tarvin in 1645. In 1654 he commanded the unfortunate expedition which captured Jamaica, and he was the following year thrown into the Tower by the Protector. He was soon released, however, and in 1660 was Governor of Chester Castle.

He married first, Elizabeth, daughter of Thomas Rudyard, of Rudyard, co. Stafford, by whom he had issue Thomas, who married Elizabeth, daughter of Thomas Lee, of Darnhall, co. Chester, and died *sine prole*; Frances, who married Thomas Lee, of Darnhall, Esq., and had issue; and Robert, John, and Peter, all who died without issue; and Anne, Mary, and Elizabeth, who were married. He married, secondly, Elizabeth, widow of Thomas Lee, of Darnhall, Esq., and daughter of Samuel Aldersey, Esq.

General Venables died in 1687, having settled his estates of Antrobus and Wincham on his grandson Robert, second son of Thomas Lee, of Darnhall, by his daughter Frances.

As to G. W. V's. second query there is no date given with reference to Thomas Venables, so it is not easy to answer the enquiry.

As to G. W. V's. third query I know of no family of Venables, of Bollin, co. York, though there was a well-known branch of the family settled at Bollin, co. Chester.—Yours &c.,

GENEALOGIST.

E

MARCH 30, 1898.

ORIGINAL DOCUMENTS.

[178] A CHESTER ORDINARY OF ARMS, 1629.

(Continued from No. 160).

167. GODDE. Argent on a chevron Azure five bezants.

SR. WA[L]TER LINNES KNT. Pale of six Argent and Azure, a bend gobony Or and Gules. Above the name over this shield is written "first maior of Chester."

108. DEDWOOD. Sable, two bars Argent, on a canton of the first a garb between four acorns Or.

109. GEE. Gules, a sword point upwards in bend Argent, hilt and pomel Or.

110. HAWARDEN. Quarterly Argent and Sable a cross patonce quarterly counterchanged, all within a bordure Ermine.

111. COTTINGHAM. Sable two roes counter-trippant [Argent].

112. BAMVILLE. Or, on a chief Gules three trefoils slipped of the first; in the fesse point a crescent of the second.

113. WEBSTER. Azure, on a bend engrailed between two demi-lions rampant Argent, a rose Gules between two boars' heads coupé Sable.

114. BELLINE. Argent, on a cross between four fleurs-de-lys [Gules], five lioncels rampant [of the first?].

115. DONCASTER. Gules, a square tower triple towered Argent masoned Sable.

116. LYLIE. Or, nine fleurs-de-lys 3, 3, 2 and 1 Azure, a canton Gules.

117. LETSHAWE. Quarterly Sable and Argent, four leopards' faces counterchanged.

118. JOHN HOPK. Argent, a chevron engrailed Sable between three Cornish choughs Sable.

119. RICHARD OFFELEY. Argent, on a cross coupé fleury Azure, between four Cornish choughs Sable, a lion passant Or.

120. AYVERS. Gules, a chevron Or between three bezants.

121. FISHER. Argent, on a chevron, between three demi-lions rampant Gules, as many bezants.

122. ROBINSON. Gules, a fret Ermine, on a chief Or three escallops of the second.

123. WAGSTAFFE. Argent, two bendlets engrailed Sable.

124. DARBY [Argent?] a chevron engrailed between three garbs Sable.

125. W[ILLIAM] JETT. Argent, on a cross Gules five fleurs-de-lys of the first; a crescent in dexter chief of the second.

126. SR JOHN ANNWAY E[NIGH]T. [Argent?] three escallops Sable.

127. WILLIAM LAYTON. Argent, on a bend Gules three escallops of the first.
128. SR JOHN SHAWKE KN[IGH]T. Argent, a chevron between three fusils ermine.
129. SR THO[MA]S DE HALLUM K[NIGH]T. Sable, a cross Ermine.
130. SR JOHN WARD K[NIGH]T. Sable, a cross patonce Or.
131. CROUGHTON DE. . . . Or, a lion rampant Gules, resting his sinister paw on the capital of a column issuant from the dexter base of the second.
132. BYCHELEY DE BYCHELEY. Per chevron Vert and Or, three branches of birch [P] counterchanged.
133. CANOVILE DE. . . . Gules, six pierced mullets 3, 2, and 1 Or.
134. BAYNE DE. . . . Azure, a chevron embattled counter embattled Or, between three martlets Argent.
135. BARLEY DE. . . . Argent, on a bend Gules three garbs Or.
136. BETTERLEY DE. . . . Argent, a fesse Gules between three torteauxes.
137. BOSLEY DE. . . . Argent, on a chevron between three cinquefoils Sable, as many fleurs-de-lys Or.
138. BOROYER AT[IA]S KNIPPERSLEY. Azure, three wooden spades handles upwards Argent with irons Or.
139. BROWNE DE. . . . Ermine a chief indented Gules
140. BRADBORNE DE. . . . Argent, three hurts, on a chief Gules as many cross-crosets fitchée Or.
141. CLAYTON DE THELWALL. Argent, a saltire between four escallops Gules.
142. CLAYTON DE CLAYTON. Gules, a fesse per fesse indented Sable and Argent, between three leopards' faces erased at the shoulders of the third.
143. SR RICHARD DE AMERIE K[NIGH]T. Argent, three bars nebulee Gules.
144. DE LA MORE. Gules, a maunch Argent.
- [179] MARRIAGE REGISTERS OF ST. OSWALD'S, CHESTER.
A.D., 1589.
- Robert Radley & Gwen Eddwards, April 2
Wm. Walley & Jane Haule, nupt. at Christleton, April 20
Richard Moneley & Ellen Davie, April 25
Richard Tylston & Katherine Johnes, April 28
Richard Fisher and Jane Lee, May 28
Thomas Brave and Marget Hogge, June 8
Eddward Button & Ellen Syddoll, June 8
Bartholomew Davie & Ales Prenton, June 11
John Hodgkyn & Ales Dodd, June 16
Kynrige Hansonne & Gwen Duker, June 30
Randle Bromle & Katherine Pike, June 30
John Egyker & Katherine Merten, July 9
John Woodhouse & Ellen Kyrkes, July 13

- Anthony Nicall & Elen Leonart, July 15
James Ormont & Jane Meler, July 27
John Houghton & Margerie P'len, *alias* Lea, Aug. 11
Harry Harestall & Ellen Rogerson, Aug. 20
John Shurlocke & Ales Boker (?), Aug. 24
Edd. Alderofte & Katherine Warmisham, Sept. 1
Thomas Gillam & Ales Hankye, Sept. 14
Wm. Pemberton & Jane Pemberton, Sept. 21
Robert Beeks & Marget Ducker, Oct. 23
Hughe Haiton & Margaret Collie, Nov. 2
Thomas Bykerstaffe & Marget Walker, Nov. 9
Wm. Huet & Anne Wmsonne, Dec. 7
Richard Haule & Anne Robinson, Dec. 14
John Allatt & Anne Nightgale, Jan. 10
John Leighe & Marget Downebell, Jan. 10
in prestatia Petri Warburton, Armig.
Georgii Warburton, Armig.
Petri Leigh, Armig.
Johis Warburton
Henrici Holcrofte
Richardi Heaton
cum aliis.
- Thomas Lawton & Werber Kent, Jan. 23
Thomas Benet & Anne Tuchburne, Feb. 5
William Scounce & Marget Bellingeam, Feb. 8
John Wicke & Marget Walley, Feb. 26

NOTES.

[180] 'SLANG' AS A FIELD NAME.

(See No. 155.)

I do not think that this is of quite such common occurrence as 'Holly' surmises, at all events in the Border counties; although, no doubt, colloquially many pieces of land are known as 'slangs' which really have other names. I have had the opportunity of running through the terrier of a large estate in Cheshire, containing the names of some thousands of fields, and find therein two instances only of its use, notwithstanding that the estate is intersected with ancient roads. Both these, however, conform to Canon Isaac Taylor's definition; one lying alongside a highway, the other alongside an old occupation road. On the Denbighshire side of the river Dee at Bangor Bridge lies a long narrow piece which is, I believe, marked 'Slang' on the tithe map, and which at the present time has a road running parallel for part of its length only. From the map it would appear to have been a suitable camping ground for gypsies. I am told that the name is in use for any long narrow piece of land in South Shropshire and also in Dorsetshire.

Chester.

E. G.

[181] THE REV. RICHARD WRIGHT, INCUMBENT OF BIDSTON, 1663—1668.

(See Nos. 39 and 82.)

In the last Volume of the Sheaf (1896), I stated in the articles above named, that it seemed probable that the Rev. Richard Wright (who, according to his own evidence, was Incumbent of Bidston for about 5 years previous to 1668 (No. 39) and apparently resigned the living very shortly afterwards) was identical with the Rev. Richard Wright who was subsequently Rector of St. Mary-on-the-Hill, Chester, Prebendary of Chester, and Rector of Malpas, and a distinguished member of the family of Wright of Nantwich (vide Mr. Hall's *Nantwich*).

The following extract from the Bishop's Visitation Book of 1691 confirms my supposition, and further makes it clear that he was also rector of Holy Trinity in Chester. It will be seen that the date of his receiving full orders, and being inducted to that living, coincides with the date at which he ceased to officiate at Bidston, and the date of his receiving deacon's orders agrees with the probable date of his institution to Bidston:—

HOLY TRINITY.

Richard Wright, Rector, there exhibited his letters. Priest by Robert Bishop of Bangor 29 Aug., 1669. Instituted to Holy Trinity, at presentation of Charles Earl of Derby, by Richard, Archbishop of York, 8 Sept., 1669. Deacon by George, Bishop of Chester 8 January 1663.

If my supposition be correct, it is interesting to notice that Mr. Wright was in deacon's orders all the time that he held the living of Bidston, a not uncommon occurrence, however, at this time.—Yours;

Birkenhead. WM. FERGUSON IRVINE.

[182] INSCRIPTION ON FONT AT WARBURTON CHURCH.

(See Query No. 138 and Reply No. 144.)

It may interest your readers to know that there is, or was, a few years ago, a conical wooden cover to this font, and carved on the four sides is the following:—1595—M.N. [or M.H.]—I.R.—H.H. Can any of your correspondents solve this enigma?—Yours, &c.,

Z.

REPLY.

[183] COOKE FAMILY, OF TARVIN.

The Quakers' 'Public Meeting Place' was at Newton (about a mile on the road from Frodsham to Kingsley). It is a little township

of some 500 acres. There can be no question about this Newton being the one referred to in the Certificate. When I last saw it (nearly 30 years ago) its Quaker Chapel was a farmhouse, or barn, or shippin to a farmhouse, and long had been so, for the sect became extinct in Frodsham Parish early this century; whilst the chapel burying-ground, containing several inscribed tombstones (*in situ*) was covered with cow-dung! It formed the farmyard Quaker marriages were often, if not invariably, entered in the Registers of the Parish Church of Frodsham. There were several Rutters, Pulfords, Helsbies, Haydocks, and one Tarbock, who were Quakers resident in the parish in the middle of the 17th century. T. HELSBY.

Bath.

QUERY.

[184] A CURIOUS ENTRY IN THE WALLASEY PARISH REGISTER.

Under date 1642, is the following curious entry among the burials:—"Elizabeth Smyth and May Johnson kild at ye Clynsse by a fall of a pinnacle on ye 24th of June were buried on ye 27th of June."

Can any readers suggest an explanation of 'ye Clynsse'? In Aughton, co. Lancaster, there is a field called *Clent* field, close to another called *Dam* field, just by the site of an old water mill (for which information I am indebted to Mr. G. C. Newstead, of Aughton), and it has occurred to me that *Clent* or *Clint* may be an old word for some part of a mill building, and though I cannot at the moment think of any water-mill that stood in Wallasey at the time, there may have been one on the pool, say at Seacombe, and the *Clint* or *Clints* may have been a portion of the building, and from it the pinnacle may have fallen. On the other hand Halliwell gives: '*Clints*, crevices among bare limestone rocks (North country).' There are, of course, no limestone rocks in Wallasey, but it might be used as referring to the clefts or steep gullies in the sandstone rocks on The Breck, or even at the Red Noses near the modern New Brighton; but even if this were so it is difficult to see where 'the pinnacle' would come from, unless the word is used as descriptive of loose points of stone standing on the edge of the rock, which might have fallen and killed the woman. Any suggestion would be welcome.

Yours,

Liverpool.

HOLLY.

APRIL 6, 1898.

NOTES.

[185] THE FIELD-NAME SLANG.
(See Nos. 155 and 180.)

Professor Skeat discusses this word in his *Etymological Dictionary*, and criticises Canon Taylor's explanation, again repeated in *The Sheaf*, No. 155. The professor, while taking exception to the Romany origin of this field-name, seems half-inclined to accept the gypsy encampment theory as a possible explanation of the name, saying "it is likely that 'a slang' (from the verb *sling* to cast) may have meant a cast, or a pitch; for both *cast* and *pitch* are used to mean a camping place, or a place where a travelling show is exhibited.

Again, Halliwell's definition of *slang* as 'a narrow strip of waste land by the roadside,' occurs in later dictionaries; and so Holland, in his *Cheshire Glossary*, says 'it is a long narrow tract of land; and the *slang* is a frequent field-name in the neighbourhood of Combermere.'

Having had the opportunity of examining old estate books and plans of farms on the Combermere estate, which, until quite recently, embraced about 9,000 acres in the townships of Wilkesley, Newhall, and Wrenbury-cum-Frith, I am able to state that out of 44 large farms, only two fields bear the name of *slang* in Wilkesley; two fields in Newhall are called *sling*; and no field in Wrenbury-cum-Frith bears either of those names. Particulars of those fields are as follows:—

'The Long Slang,' on Burley Dam Farm, 10ac. Oro. 29po., is an irregular shaped field (almost pear-shaped) far away from the road or lane.

'The Slang,' on Heywood Farm, 1ac. 2ro. 18po., is a narrow strip of land opposite the farmhouse; but not parallel to the narrow lane (or occupation lane) leading to the house, which is far away from Shropshire-lane, the nearest main road.

'The Sling,' on Ferney Bank Farm, 7ac. Oro. 4po., is very irregular in shape; at some distance from Key Lane (which has never been a main road) and not parallel to it.

The *Sling*, on Moor Hall Farm, 2ac. 3ro. 13po., is an irregular narrow strip, far away from road or buildings; one end of the field coming down to the river Weaver.

The evidence relating to '*Sling*' and '*Slang*' as field-names on the Combermere estate, is as follows:—

- (1) The name is not of frequent occurrence.
- (2) In only 2 out of 4 instances is the name applied to 'a long narrow tract of land.'
- (3) The fields so named are neither contiguous nor parallel to old roads or lanes.
- (4) The great disparity in area does not seem to further the gypsy-encampment theory in naming those fields.

In Sweet's *Student's Anglo-Saxon Dict.* there is a verb *Slingan*, to creep. May not the noun *sling*, and the later form, *slang* (derived therefrom by rule of vowel mutation), have been applied by the country-people of the neighbourhood as a field-name in the sense of an *intake* or *encroachment* from the waste, or as we should nowadays say, from the common land?

Here is an anecdote for those interested in field-names—a difficult subject indeed to trace, not only in the origin of the name, but even in boundary limits, since the removal of old hedgerows. I was walking over an old farm in Wrenbury a few weeks since. The farmer, who had lately purchased his farm, informed me he was going to alter the names of his fields—this field (a smooth pasture of fine turf), said he, I intend to call '*The Rough Field*!' So much for modern nomenclature in these days of change!

JAMES HALL.

Lindum House, Nantwich.

[186] SIR WILLIAM STANLEY, OF HOOTON.
(The first Baronet.)

The following documents throw light on the career of the first baronet of the family of the Hooton Stanleys. He was the great grandson as well as the namesake of the betrayer of Deventer, and the son of William Stanley and Mary, daughter of John Draycott, of Painley. He was born in September, 1628. William Stanley, the father, died 20 Feb., 1644, at the age of thirty-seven, and was buried at Eastham. His widow survived till about Michaelmas, 1649, and died in the same month in which her son attained his majority. It was perhaps fortunate for the family that its head was a minor during the latter years of the Civil War.

The Stanleys of Hooton were always attached to the Roman Catholic Faith, and the conformity of William Stanley at the time of his coming of age is noteworthy. It looks as if there were some connection between his action and the death of his mother, who perhaps had

prevented the defection in her lifetime. At any rate it was only temporary, as Stanley returned to his hereditary religion when the times made it safer. He married Charlotte, daughter of Richard, Viscount Molyneux, and was created a baronet 17 June, 1661. He was buried at Eastham 30 Sept., 1673, aged forty-five years.

WE THE DEPUTIE LEIUTETS and others of the Committee for Sequestrations within the Countie of Chester, do hereby certifie all whom it maie concern that William Stanley, late of Hooton in the said County, Esquire, died in or about the month of February 1643 [4].* and that William Stanley* his son and heir attained to the age of 21 years in or about the month of September last past & is a constant goer to the church and hearer of God's word &c.

Given under our hands the 24 daie of December 1649.

G. Booth
Tho. Stanley
Tho. Marbury
E. Hyde
H. Brooke.

WE THE MINISTER & CHURCHWARDENS of the p'ishe Church of EASTHAM in the co. of Chester

Doe hereby certifie etc. that William Stanley sone and heire of William Stanley, late of Hooton in the co. aforesaid, deceased, upon the Lord's daie vidl't the xj Nov: last did repaire to the P'ish Churohe aforesaid being his P'ish Church, & there did reverentlie & devoutlie joine wth the congregation in Divine praiers & Services and attentivelie heard the sermons preached by the said Minister both in the aforenoone & afternoone of the same daie & everie Lord's daie since hath constantlie frequented the said p'ish Church and also the Church of Bebington & joined in public praiers & divine services and attended the sermons both forenoons and afternoons.

Given xxist daie December, 1649.

JOHN WATSON, Minister.
HENRY WHITE } Church
THOMAS BARLOWE } Wardens.
M.A.

[187] A CHESTER TRIAL A HUNDRED YEARS AGO.

(See No. 42.)

In looking over Hanshall's *History of the County Palatine of Chester*, I came across the following passage on p. 651, which gives additional information respecting the execution of Brown and Price for robbing the Warrington Mail in 1796. A detailed account of the trial appeared in the last volume of the 'Sheaf.'

*In Wm. Stanley's petition which precedes these certificates, he states that his mother had died about Michaelmas 1649.

1796—April 30—Thomas Brown and James Price executed for robbing the Warrington Mail; they were hung in chains on Trafford Green, and remained there till 1820, when the pole was taken down, the place having previously been enclosed.—In the skull of Price a robin's nest was found.

X.Y.Z.

[188] A REMARKABLE ESCAPE AT SANDICROFT
• IN 1784.

The following story is published in the *Hawarden Parish Magazine* for September, 1896:—

On the 4th January, 1784, George Wainwright, blacksmith, of Pentrobin, went down Sandycroft coalpit in the morning to bleed the horses there, as being the only day on which they were not worked. Having done his business, and, landing at the pit's mouth, he put one foot out of the bucket on the treading board, by which means he lightened the bucket, which immediately hitched up on account of the rope being shortened by the frost that then happened, and so tossed him headlong down the pit. Providentially in that situation, with his head downwards, he had the good fortune to catch hold of the other rope at about 10 yards' depth, and grasped it so well that he did not slide down it above five yards more before he was able to maintain his hold, and so suspended himself by it, during which time he had the greatest presence of mind and undauntedness of heart (I heard him say he ever experienced). He then, in that situation, calls to the people that were above to fetch such a man of his acquaintance, in whom he had the greatest confidence, to land him, and directed them how to do it. But when he was landed and found himself safe his firmness gave way, and he burst into an exceeding great flood of tears, at his providential and rather miraculous escape. His mind was so agitated as to his last danger, as to make him take to his bed all that day, and was sometime after unwell. The only corporal hurt he received was the rubbing off the skin of one or two of his fingers by the rope.—N.B.: The pit was 120 yards deep."

'Old Hawarden' (extract from the Hawarden Registers, by the Rev. A. F. S. P. Jenkins).

CAPER.

[189] MARRIAGE REGISTERS OF ST. OSWALD'S,
CHESTER.

A.D. 1590.

Eddward Hornebee & Jane Leeche, May 13
William Nunsonne (?) & Anne Hammonnt, May 24
Richard Davie & Jane Ashton, May 31

Howell ap William & Margaret Verghe David,
June 7
Richard Bromley & Anne Tomsonne, June 9
Richard Smithe & Modelane Battliffe, June 22
Thomas Tylston & Ellen Wmson, July 18
Wm. Messam & Anne Gruffie, July 26
Thomas Johnson & Isable Massie, Sept. 3
John Albright & Jane Moneley, Sept. 13
Phillip Pearson & Annie Massie, Sept. 20
Robert Johnes & Jane Gruffie, Oct. 25
Richard Haddington & Ellen Teßler, Nov. 3
Arrat Watte & Elizabeth Williams, Nov. 8
John Moris & Elis. Adams, Nov. 8
Richard Fyme & Margaret Carre, Nov. 9
Rauff Johnsen & Ales Cotton, Nov. 9
Eddward Haule & Katherine Wmson, Nov. 26
James Hancocke & Marget Tellet, Dec. 13
John Carren & Marget Callow, Feb. 2
Richard Francis & Marget Hobbord, Feb. 12

REPLY.

[190] SIR TIMOTHY FETHERSTONHAUGH.
(See No. 164.)

The statement made in the *Sheaf* (3rd S. I., p. 47) that Sir Timothy Fetherstonhaugh (not Featherstonhaugh) was beheaded at Chester, 22 October, 1651, is quite correct. If W. B. D. will refer to the *Dictionary of National Biography* he will find a list of all the authorities on the subject. Fetherstonhaugh took part in the battle of Wigan Lane, 26 Aug. 1651, where he was taken prisoner, and after trial by Court Martial at Chester, he was beheaded in that city, despite his plea that he had quarter given him.

The following extract is from the *Somers' Tracts*, quoted in *Hanshall's Cheshire*, pp. 163-5.

Proceedings against JAMES STANLEY, Earl of DERBY, SIR TIMOTHY FETHERSTONHAUGH, and Captain JOHN BENBOW, before a Court Martial, for High Treason, 3 CHARLES II., A.D. 1651.

On Wednesday being the 1st of this instant month, the Earl of Derby was brought to his Trial, before the Court Martial holden at Chester, in the year of our Lord God, 1651.—By virtue of a Commission from his Excellency the Lord General Cromwell, grounded upon an Act of Parliament of the 12th of August last, intituled "An Act prohibiting correspondence with Charles Stuart, or his party, directed to Major-General Mitton &c." The said Court being assembled together, after silence proclaimed, the names of the officers were called over, where were present as followeth:—

A list of the Names of the Officers at a Court Martial holden at Chester, on the 1st of October, for Trial of the Earl of Derby, Sir Timothy Fetherstonhaugh, and Captain Benbow.

Colonel Humphry Mackleworth, President.

Major-Gen. Mitton	Samuel Smith
Colonel E. Duckenfield	John Downes
Colonel H. Bradshaw	Vincent Corbet
Colonel T. Croxton	Jehn Delves
Colonel G. Twistleton	John Griffith
Lieut.-Col. H. Birkenhead	Thomas Portington
Lieut.-Col. Simon Finch	Edward Aloock
Lieut.-Col. Newton	Ralph Pownall
CAPTAINS	Richard Grantham
James Stepford	Edward Stelfax

The SENTENCE of the Court against Sir Timothy Fetherstonhaugh was as follows:—

1. Resolved upon the question, "That Sir Timothy Fetherstonhaugh is likewise guilty of the breach of the said Act of Parliament of the 12th of August last past, & so of High Treason against the Commonwealth of England, & is therefore worthy of death."

2. Resolved, &c., "That the said Sir Timothy Fetherstonhaugh, as a Traitor to the Commonwealth of England, & as an abettor, encourager, & assister, of the declared traitor and enemy thereof, shall be put to death, by severing his head from his body, at some remarkable and convenient place in the City of Chester, upon Wednesday, the 22d of this instant October."

In WHITELOCK'S MEMORIALS, p. 486, he writes that he received letters on November 1, 1651, notifying that Sir Timothy Fetherston (*sic*) was executed in the Market-place, Chester, according to the sentence of the Court Martial, and used only a few prayers out of the Common Prayer Book.

Ormerod, generally so accurate, gives the date of the execution as Monday, 20 October, 1652. (*Helsby's Ormerod I.*, 247.) Mr. Fenwick in his *History of Chester*, page 226, says that Featherstonehaugh (*sic*) died by the hands of the public executioner in the Market-place in Chester on the first November following, and not on the 22nd October as sentenced. I should much like to know Mr. Fenwick's authority for this date. It is difficult to see how Whitelocke could receive letters in London announcing the execution on the same day that it took place.

F. SANDERS.

QUERY.

[191] BISHOP KEENE'S FAMILY.

Can any of your readers tell me what was the name of the wife of Bishop Keene, of Chester, and subsequently of Ely? Also where he lived before he came to Chester, and if possible where he was married.—Yours,

P. H. M.

Stockport.

APRIL 13, 1898.

REPLIES

[192] WITTON FREE GRAMMAR SCHOOL.

(See Query No. 135.)

In reply to the questions of 'Educationalist,' I beg to give him the following information, derived from a pamphlet on the school, known as Witton Grammar School, printed by order of the governors, and published by Henry Burgess, of Northwich. This pamphlet has been edited by Mr. John Weston, of Northwich, who has kindly forwarded me a copy in answer to Educationalist's query.

Witton Grammar School was founded in the reign of Queen Mary, A.D. 1557, by the Rev. John Deane, son of Laurence Deane, of Shurlach, in the parish of Davenham. According to the custom of the time the good man is spoken of as 'Sir' John Deane, 'Sir' being then the usual title of a priest. Deane was a prebendary of Lincoln, and Rector of St. Bartholomew's, Smithfield, in London, and therefore a man of considerable means, which he appears to have increased by the purchase of some of the lands of the recently dissolved abbey.

The deed of feoffment, by which the endowment of the school was made is entirely lost, but there is a copy in the British Museum [Harleian MSS., No. 2099, pp. 421-7] of which the following extract is a translation:—

"To all to whom this indenture . . . shall come, JOHN DEANE, clerk, rector of Saint Bartholomew the Great, near West Smithfield, London, sends greeting:—Know ye that I, for the good instruction of boys, within the township of Witton, near Northwich, in the County of Chester, have given to Richard Deane, of Shurlache, in the co. aforesaid, yeoman, John Deane, Richard Deane, & Roger Deane, sons of the aforesaid Richard Deane, Thomas Maisterson, of Wynington, gentleman, William Walley, of Herford . . . yeoman, Robert Winnington, of Northwich, gentleman, Philip Downes, of the same place, mercer, George Sudlowe, of the Crosse, yeoman, Hugh Lowe, of the Cross yeoman, Edmund Sudlowe, of Lostocke, yeoman, & John Winnington, kinsman & heir of Robert Winnington, of Byrohes:—the messuage & tenement called the sign of the Swan, & one garden in Foregate-street in the City of Chester, & one close of land in the same street, & all the shops, cellars, 'sollars,' &c. now in the holding of Peter Nyeholas & Alice, his wife:—& also those three messuages called the Saracen's Head, in Chester . . . & all

the gardens, cellars, 'sollars,' buildings &c. now in the holding of John Hankey &c. Know ye moreover, that I have given all mycroft lying on the Dee banks, in the suburbs of the city . . . in the holding of Thomas Ball, & lately belonging to the late college of St. John, & all those two-thirds of a salina, called a salt-house, with all its rights, in Northwich, in the holding of Thomas Bromfield, late chantry priest (canteriste) in the chapel of Witton . . . & all those my lands and tenements in Acton (Agden) in the holding of John Venables, & all those my lands . . . in Peover . . . in the holding of Edward Richardson, and also all that my messuage & tenement in Layton (Larton) Werrall . . . in the holding of Robert Warington formerly belonging to the monastery of Basingwerke, in the county of Flint . . . & have made Peter Paver, of Northwich, and Richard Wilbraham of Crosse, my attornies to deliver possession &c., &c. . . . in testimony whereof. I have set my seal, this 26th day of October, in the 4th & 5th years of Philip & Mary."

Soon after this endowment was effected, in 1563, the benevolent founder of the trust died, but not without fulfilling the intention expressed in the "Specyall Remembraunce" of his Statutes. His Will expresses his desire that his body should be buried "by the right side of the Chapel, late Mr. Blage's Chapel, now Sir Walter Maldmays's Chapel, within the choir of Great Saint Bartillmews, where I have lately made my grave, if I depart this world in the same parish with funeral expenses honest and not sumptuous, and bequeath to the poor householders in the parish where my body shall be buried 20s. also I bequeath to the poor householders in Norwich (Northwich), where I was born, five marks. Also I give and bequeath to the prisoners of Newgate, Ludgate, the King's Bench, and the Marshalsea, every house of them, vs., &c., &c. And lastly he charges his "four wiche houses," a tenement in Shorlache, and a croft of land in "Schoolmaster's Lane, in Northwich . . . with 10s. to be paid yearly, and distributed amongst the poor schollars of "my free school" and poor folk of the parish of Witton.

The Statutes drawn up by the founder for the government of the school are full of interest, and well deserve printing. Perhaps at some future time I may send you some extracts from them. The original parchment has been framed and fixed in the room of the school in which the governors hold their quarterly meetings. The large initial letter

contains Sir John Deane's portrait in his academic robes, with fur tippet and doctor's cap—his right hand supports a closed book, and from his left proceeds a scroll, which is carried overhead, and contains the legend, "*Miserere mei, deus, et averte faciem tuam a peccatis meis. Amen.*"

The old school house stood on the easterly side of the churchyard of Witton. It was a thatched, half-timber building of one storey, and contained two schoolrooms and a "chamber," which, when not required for the use of the master, was let off to others. Through the decay of the structure, there were from time to time extensive repairs required, new sills being once introduced underneath the old walls. At last, about the year 1760, the feoffees (largely assisted by the principal inhabitants) erected a substantial school-house, which afterwards became partially envired by the earlier extensions of the graveyard eastward.

The proposal to remove the building in 1866 was very liberally met by Archdeacon Greenall, whose sudden death prevented the execution of the design in its more imposing features. The building was in consequence carried out on a greatly reduced plan, and soon proved inadequate to the wants of the district. It was therefore enlarged in 1884.

The school is now in a flourishing condition, and is carried on in accordance with a scheme drawn up by the Endowed Schools Commission, approved by an order of Her Majesty in Council, in 1874. F. S.

[193] OLD CLOCKS IN CHESTER COUNTY.

(See Nos. 133, 154, & 158.)

The Nantwich clock-makers of the 18th century were—*John Talbot*, who died 1717; *Matthew Gleave*, a contemporary; *Gabriel Smith*, a little later; *James Green*, and *John Stanyer*, still later.

I have in my possession a good specimen of one of *John Talbot's* clocks, which remained at Wybunbury in the family of Hayes from the time of Queen Anne until I purchased it about ten years ago. But the oldest clock of Nantwich make that I have seen, and the only one of its kind, is preserved at the Musée de l'Hôtel de Cluny in Paris—a curious piece of mechanism, which has marked on it the *musical scale, days of the week, the months, and the 12 signs of the Zodiac.*

It is thus noticed in the catalogue of the museum: — "*Horloge - pendule' astronomique Anglaise dans sa cage en ébène surmontée d'orna-*

ments en cuivre exécutée par Joseph Naylor, Nantwich, dans le Chretien an. XVIIe siècle pendant le règne de Louis xiii." [1610—1643.]

I mentioned this clock in my *History of Nantwich*, p. 345 n., and there printed the maker's name *John* by mistake; but the above description, which I have had many years, imperfect as it is, will be of some interest to your correspondent 'Horloge.'

JAMES HALL.

Lindum House, Nantwich.

NOTE.

[194] A CHESTER MENTION OF THE GREAT PLAGUE OF LONDON, 1665.

Among the wills now lying at the Probate Court, Chester, is one made by a Sarah Tonge, of St. Giles, Cripplegate, in London, evidently just at the time when the Great Plague was at its height, as a reference to the preamble of the will shows. Though Sarah Tonge was of the Parish of Prestwich, near Manchester, still the fact that her will is at Chester makes it sufficiently local to be referred to within the column of *The Sheaf*.

14 July, 1665. I Sarah Tonge of the parish of Giles, Cripplegate, in the co. of Middlesex, spinster, being through the blessing of God both in health of body and of perfect disposing mind and memory yet knowing the uncertainty of man's life at all times, but especially in such a day as this wherein the hand of the Lord is stretched out upon the nations and death is looking in at all windows, therefore I do make and ordaine etc.

That the testatrix actually died from the plague does not appear, but as the will was proved in the following spring, at Chester, it looks as if such had been the case.—Yours,

GENEALOGIST.

ORIGINAL DOCUMENTS.

[195] A CHESTER ORDINARY OF ARMS, 1629. (Continued from No. 178).

145. DE LA MARE. Gules, two lions statant guardant in pale Argent collared Azure.
146. DONE. Argent, on a bend Sable three pheons of the first.
147. DUTTON . . . WARBURTON. Argent, a fesse [sic] between three cormorants Sable.
148. EMBRUGGE DE EMBRUGGE. Cheeky Argent and Sable, on a chief Or three laurel [?] leaves erect Vert.
149. ESTON DE ESTON. Gules, a lion rampant Or.

150. **EVEREYS DE . . .** Gules, a fesse and in chief three mullets Argent.
151. **HALTON DE HALTON.** Argent, on a fesse Sable three mullets Or; in chief a portcullis of the second.
152. **HAMPTON DE HAMPTON.** Gules, a fesse Argent; a label of five points Or.
153. **KANNE DE . . .** Azure, three bars Argent.
154. **WAUTON ALIA'S WARTON.** Argent, on a bend Sable, three round buckles Or.
155. **BYCHELEY DE BYCHELEY.** Argent, a chevron engrailed between three martlets Sable.
156. **WRIGHT DE BYCKLEY.** Azure, two bars and in chief three leopards' faces Argent.
157. **BLANKNEY DE CHESTER.** [Sable?] a chevron Ermine between three leopards' faces Argent.
158. **KETTLE DE HANDBRIDGE.** Or, a fer de moline Azure quarter-pierced of the field between four martlets Sable; on a chief of the second a fleur de lys between a decrescent to dexter and an increscent to sinister both irradiated on the outer edge Or.*
159. **FR: MARIA CORBET DE CAPENHURST.** Argent, three crows [?] sable.
160. **WOODWAET DE CHESTER.** Chequy Or and Gules, on a chief of the second a lion passant of the first.
161. **BURCHILLS DE . . .** Sable, three garbs Or.
162. **BIC[HARD] SPENCER DE CHESTER.** [Argent] on a chevron between three griffins' heads erased Sable as many roses of the first.
163. **BRETTE, QUARTERED BY WICHE.** Argent, on a chevron Gules, three trefoils slipped of the first.
164. **NEWTON OF NEWTON.** Argent, a lion rampant Sable charged on the shoulder with a cross pattée Or.
165. **COVENTRY OF MOLINGTON.** Sable, on a fesse between three crescents Or, an eagle displayed of the first.
166. **CONSTANTINE DE MOLINGTON.** Or, six fleurs-de-lys 3, 2 and 1 Or.
167. **CROWTON DE CROWTON.** Sable, a chevron between three mullets Argent.
168. **BARROW DE BARROWE.** Argent, three torteaux each charged with a fleur-de-lys of the first; on a chief Azure a bugle-horn stringed Or between two pheons of the first.
169. **WHICKSTIDE DE MAREBURY.** Sable, three martlets Argent.
170. **WHICKSTIDE DE WHICKSTIDE.** Argent, on a bend Azure, between three Cornish choughs Sable, a round buckle* between two hanks of cotton of the first.
171. **LEICESTER DE POOLE.** Azure, a fesse between three fleurs-de-lys Or; on the fesse a crescent of the second.
172. **BROSTER DE BOSLEY.** Sable, three antelopes' heads coupé Or.
173. **HAWES DE LYTLEY.** Sable, a chevron between three leopards' faces Or.
174. **LEIGH OF HUGHTRENTON.** Argent, a bend fusilly Sable.
175. **BROMFIELD DE CROSSE.** Sable, on a chevron Argent three branches of broom Vert; on a canton of the second a spear-head Gules.
176. **BRAYNE DE ASTON.** Argent, a fret Sable.
177. **DYBUMBERIE DE . . .** Argent, a greyhound courant Sable, collared of the first.
178. **MORE DE HASTINGTON.** Ermine, a fesse Gules between three moor-cocks Sable.
179. **BROMLEY DE HAMPTON.** Quarterly per fesse indented Gules and Or, a crescent in chief Azure.
180. **LECHE DE NANTWICHE.** Ermine, on a chief dancetté Gules an annulet between two ducal coronets Or.
181. **CROCKET DE NANTWICHE.** Argent, three Cornish choughs Sable.
182. **GITTENS, RECTOR ECCLESIAE DE MALPAS.** Gules, on a fesse engrailed between three goats' heads erased Argent as many ogresses.
183. **STOCKE DE STOCKE.** Per chevron Ermine and Vert, a chevron engrailed counterchanged.
184. **TORKENTON DE TORKENTON.** Sable, on a fesse Argent three leopards' faces Gules.
185. **COWPER DE CHESTER.** Argent, three martlets Gules, on a chief engrailed of the second as many annulets Or.
186. **THRONE DE CHESTER.** Chequy Argent and Sable, on a fesse Or three martlets of the second.
187. **MOLDESWORTH.** Argent, on a bend Sable three pheons of the first; a crescent in chief Sable.
188. **ELLIS DE OVERBLEIGH.** Ermine, a lion rampant Azure.
189. **PARKER DE CHESTER.** [Argent?] a chevron Sable between three stags' heads cabossed Gules; a crescent in chief Sable.
190. **OULTON DE CHESTER.** Quarterly Azure and Gules, over all a lion rampant Or.

* The two charges in the chief of this coat are very curious, and if they are not crescents as blazoned it is difficult to identify them.

* The charges on the bend are indistinctly drawn but appear to be as blazoned instead of the three garbs which usually appear in this coat.

191. WALLEY DE CHESTER. Argent, on a cross Sable five lionsels rampant Or.
 192. INCE DE CHESTER. Argent, three torteauxes between two bendlets Sable; a mullet in chief of the last.
 193. PARNELL. Gules, two chevronels Ermine, in chief two crescents Or.
 194. BINGLEY. Argent, two bars Sable, on a canton of the second a pheon of the first.
 195. WRIGHT DE CHESTER. Azure, a fesse chequy Argent and Gules, between three griffins' heads erased of the second.

[196] MARRIAGE REGISTERS OF ST. OSWALD'S, CHESTER.

1591.

John Proffit & Ellen W'm'son, June 13
 Hughe Shawe & Elizabeth Hoppwood, June 29
 John Maddooke & Anne Lecker, June 30
 Thomas Carington & Joane Kellie, July 10
 Bauffe Woodcooke & Doritie Dodd, July 21
 Roger Wilde & Anne Wrench, July 23
 Thomas Percivall & Ellen Wrenche, vid. July 24
 John Hancock & Luce Davie, Aug. 3
 Richard Jacson & Eliz. Livesaye, Aug. 28
 Jane (*sic*) Burton & Ales Ravenscroft, Sept. 18
 Eddward Bradshawe & Ellen Gill, Sept. 25
 John Ley & Ellen Bishenhead, Oct. 10
 John Crye & Katherine Cowley, Dec. 4
 William Butler & Anne Scarfe, Dec. 19
 George Thrushe & Brigitte Mastersonne, Jan. 8
 John Davies & Anne Tydstell, Jan. 19
 Richard Callie & Ellen Lucas, Jan. 30
 John Morris & Marget Johnson, Feb. 2
 Hughe Warton & Margaret Minshall, Feb. 2
 Hughe Richarson & Ellen Davie, Feb. 3

APRIL 20, 1898.

NOTES.

[197] ON NORMAN SURNAMES IN CHESHIRE.

Of old Norman names in England there have always been plenty. But of old Norman surnames, I find there were originally comparatively few that were not displaced soon after the Conquest by user, and by the custom of calling the lord after the name of his chief manor, or by the user of any other English name of a territory or building of which he was possessed, but never by formal adoption; or, in this case, rarely by baptismal, official, or other names. This scarcity of Norman surnames was partly owing to the majority of Norman lords, of all degrees, not having borne surnames at all at so early a date, and partly to the fact of the younger issue of those who did bear such surnames allowing the paternal surname to lapse in favour of the name of their English

inheritances, of which they were grantees of their parents or kinsmen at various times after the Conquest, and which local names in a few generations became fixed surnames. At this period the same custom obtained with coat-armour—unfortunately for the genealogists, a complete change of all the 'charges,' or the tinctures or metals; and, to render things more confusing, it was not always that families who bore similar arms and local names were necessarily related.

Within the Palatinate of Chester, the surnames of some of the genealogically best, and others of the best-known, houses of Normandy in all ages (before the English Conquest), survived this particular change that became so very frequent, by old-time user, here and elsewhere. But, as to the estates of the bearers, one half at least seem, as with all other such families in England—at all events, in Cheshire—to have been very early lost in matrimony, by sale, or by the old Norman custom—still, or lately, the law of Kent—of constantly 'gavelling' (dividing) their estates (which were never settled, in our sense of the word, at this period) among all their issue male more particularly, except in the case of the low Anglo-Saxon tenure of 'Borough-English,' where the lands (always of small acreage) descended to the youngest son, for a very good and a very indecent reason. And the worst of this subinfeudation was that, as a rule, the eldest son, or heir-at-law, as we have for some 600 years called him, was not always compensated by marriage with an heiress—a custom peculiarly Norman when infants were disposed of 'without disparagement.' For, although 'real' heiresses (not mere heiresses of that happy mesne, the 'golden') were far more numerous than ever they have been since, yet there were also many more infant males on sale, and also many more adult suitors—in the former case, in order that an orphan heir might escape wardship. Many, however, were heiresses of merely small manors of two or three hundred acres—'crofts,' as the Saxons called them, such as Briarcroft, Bearcroft, etc., wretched marshy and rushy soils, perhaps far from a decent market in those days, and flung at the original owners by knight or baron in return perhaps for arduous services, or as some romantic 'compensation.' But, often from these little crofts, by skilfully adding heiress to heiress in most generations, sprang up, at last, some of the most influential and wealthiest of houses of modern times—while their congeners of as great, or greater, original wealth

than the last, utterly decayed, by long degrees or small, or became territorially extinct by some sudden adversity.

However, the frittering away of large acreages by the old Norman custom was at length largely arrested, by the introduction, through a happy accident, of entails proper, in the reign of Edward I. — the earlier defective entails being easily cut. For, if the actual tenant-in-tail in possession had issue male—although such son died at his birth, uttering only the slightest cry in proof of having lived, the father could alienate his estate without creating a base fee; or he could at once give his estate to one or all of his heiresses. This state of things often led to law-suits. For example, if an old entail existed, and the tenant, years afterwards, settled upon his daughters and coheirresses (or, rather, 'coheirs,' in speaking of real estate) his property, and this was opposed by the heirs male of the settlor, who put in their claim against a fine attempted to be levied by the tenant-in-tail, the latter to oust their claim, would have to prove (and prove no doubt he sometimes did, by as hard swearing and subornation as such a state of real-property law offered) that he had a son who had died, and perhaps died immediately on his birth! As in many other things, secular and religious, then and now, the letter only of the entail was observed, and not its spirit. It was enough, if a son or sons lived, and died, the parent could then alienate the lands from those of his own male kindred who were first and foremost entitled to them by virtue of the entail.

The following list of Cheshire Norman surnames comprises a few only which occur to the writer, and to which some of the contributors of the *Sheaf* may possibly add a few others:—*Baskerville*, *Le Brescie*, or *Brescy* (Braasey, phonetically—being, like numerous other names, first spelled as pronounced in the 16th century). This, notwithstanding the later (?) prefix, may be, and very probably was, a local name in Normandy?—*Constantyne*, or *Conserdine* (Cotentin, in N.)—*Gamond* (Gamont, Gamon, unless—which is not probable—the latter is a corruption of Gamul).—*Le GrosVenour* (Grosvenor of Holme and Eaton; also ancient in Staffordshire).—*Launcelyn*, of Poulton-Launcelyn (Lanceley).—*Meenilwarin* (Mainwaring borne in all ranks, in Cheshire and of late generations in Staffordshire and Shropshire).—*Mascie* (Massey, Massie—evidently a local Norman, and not a personal, surname). *Mohaut*

(Malbeng, Malbone, Mohald, Mold and Maude—all old corruptions). *Auranges* (Orange, Oredge, Orred (?) etc.) *Percival*, a baptismal name, such as Cecil and Herbert, retained by user, or adopted, as a surname, being acquired from some paternal ancestor, precisely as of old was Jackson, commonly, for example, from 'Bill o' Tom o' Jack's'—William Thompson Jackson—a rude form confined, however, anciently, to no particular social grade, as it has been in more modern ages—through abhorrence of an old fashion—even down to the present in Lancashire. *Picot*, baptismal, *Pigot* (Pigott, etc.) *Perrotie*, *Pierette*, (Parrot) and *Perrin* (Perryn, Perin)—both in every shire humbler classes of name which perhaps came in, with many others of every description, on the revocation of the Edict of Nantes, or in the reign of Queen Elizabeth.—*Roussell* (Russell, Russel) very early Cheshire.—*Vaudray*, *Vaudrai* (?), (Vaudrey)—*Vernon*, *Garnon* (Vernon Castle, midway between Dieppe and Rouen, in Normandy)—*Venables*, not a personal surname, as hitherto singularly supposed by all antiquaries, and even by the early English scribes, who almost invariably gave it (as they did to Mascie) the prefix of 'Le' in all charters and rolls of Court. It is a territorial name in the very heart of Normandy; and the first English baron was nephew, it appears, of Hugh Lupus, first Earl of Chester of his line.—*Verdon* (Verdin, Verden, and possibly other corrupt spellings). This also is a high-class name, and bears also erroneously the prefix of 'Le'—like *Venables*, which latter was a name, as already hinted, confounded as a personal one, though not only by the prefix, but through its bearing the appearance of an official surname connected with Venery, instead rather, of the now obscure *manoir* of *Venables* itself being so connected. A similar blunder was made in reference to the Lancashire Norman surname of *Molineux*—a place of mills, anciently. In addition to these may be noted a few other, but extinct, Norman Cheshire names, such as *Bavand*—unless it be a corruption of Ab Evans? (Evansson)—the *E* (as still generally in French, and especially with us) being anciently and invariably in England pronounced A.—as *a* was curiously pronounced *o*, and *o* pron. *a*—as in *tossal*, then *tassel*, and as in 'Lone' or *Lane*, the name of an official of Halton Castle, 11th or 12th Cent., and ancestor of *Lane* of Staffordshire.—*Bellot*, perhaps 'Little Bell' or *Belle junior*—as *Ball* from 'Belle'?—*Dumville* (Dumbell, etc.).—*Corboil*? (Corbet, branched

from co. Salop.) *Gamull*.—*St. Pierre* (Sampierre, Sampier, Sampere, Sanpere, Sinpear, and even Sanspere!). It was well known in Normandy and early England for many generations.—*Starkey* may possibly be derived from an Isle of Stirks, or Stirk Isle, some small island (like Ely, formerly), *sed Queris*.

Among other still numerous Norman surnames to be found in almost every English, Scottish, Irish, and Welsh county, occur the surnames of Zouche, Seymour (St. Maur), Say, Seale, Glanville, Granville, Death (D'Eath), Bones (Bohun and Bohan), with all their 'corruptions,' including the personal name of Fortesque (strong shield). But the most beautiful of all Norman personal surnames stands the decayed one of Scudamore (Escu d'amour)—once borne by the Parliamentary barons Scudamore of Newton (?) or Norton Scudamore, in the 17th century, one of whom was then the English Ambassador in France—or, perhaps, according to the times, in some less important country.

P.S. — Some additional names: *Bamville* (Bamville, Banville) of Storeton. *Bellasis* of Sutton, as issue of the marriage with the heiress of Sutton, of Sutton—one of whom was co-founder of Brasenose, Oxon. (Lord Fauconberg, heir male in 1670 when he presented the Rev. James Ellesby to his rectory of Chiswick, Middlesex, which the latter resigned about 35 years after.) *Bussel* (Bushell). *D'Anyers* (Daniers, Danyers, Danyel, Daniel, of Daresbury). Sir Tho. Danyers, Knt. Banneret, was of Bradley, nr. Warrington; his heiress carried Clifton to the 1st Savage who entered Cheshire, circa 1400; her 2nd or 3rd husband was younger son of Legh of Adlington of the old line—the present representative being Crosse, of Crosse-hall, Liverpool, afterwards of Shawe Hill, Preston. The Savages (afterwards, Jac. 1 time, Earl Rivers) held Clifton *alias* Rock-Savage for 3 centuries—when it passed, about 1720-30, by distaff to General Cholmondeley (through Lord Barrymore's daughter? See Hist. Chesh.) *Delves*, D'Elves, d'Elves? Feutrelle (Fewtrell)? *Trevise*, (Travis). *Trussell* (Throssel, Trossel, etc.) Sir Wm. de Trussel, 1st Speaker of the House of Parliament, passed the sentence on the Despenchers, temp. Edw. II. They were originally of Marston-Trussel, co. Northampton.

T. HALSEY.

[198] THE REV. JOHN BARKER, INCUMBENT OF BIDSTON, 1698—1730.

The following note from the Bishop's Visitation for 1691, gives particulars not hitherto known of the Rev. John Barker. Mr. Barker must have been curate at Thornton, as his name does not appear in the list of Rectors for this period.

THORNTON.

John Barker, A.B., exhibited his letters, &c.

Deacon by Herbert, Bishop of Hereford, 26 Sept., 1681.

Priest by Nicholas, Bishop of Chester, 21 Dec., 1690.

Faculty to serve the cure there by the same Bishop the same day.

Mr. Barker appears to have settled finally at Bidston, where he had a numerous family, and resigned from old age in 1730. He was buried at Bidston in 1736 (*vide Wirral Notes and Queries*, Vol. II., page 10).—Yours truly,

WM. FERGUSON IRVINE.

QUERY.

[199] SAMUEL DAVIES, ORGANIST OF CHESTER CATHEDRAL, 1716.

Can any of your readers give me information about Mr. Davies, who, according to the Bishop's Visitation Book for that year, was organist and choirmaster of the Cathedral in 1716? He was married in 1701, and in the marriage licence he is described as 'grocer,' while at his death in 1737 he was called schoolmaster, and according to family tradition he was headmaster of the King's School. The truth, however, seems to be as stated above, that he was organist and choirmaster. The entry in the Bishop's Visitation Book for 1716 is as follows:—

— Davies, organista et magister puerorum.

Is there any publication which refers to the masters and scholars of the King's School?—

Yours, &c.,

GENEALOGIST.

ORIGINAL DOCUMENTS.

[200] MARRIAGE REGISTERS OF ST. OSWALD'S, CHESTER.
1592.

Robert Cooke & Joanne Mekynne, Mar. 28

John Title & Eliz Smithe, April 2

Eddward Clappam & Katherine Mounford, May 1

Thomas Kettle & Margaret Johnson, May 22

Richard Dannat & Elizabeth Croughton, June 18

Richard Smalshawe & Marget Pricket, July 26

John Gregorie & Anne Grimsdiche, Aug. 28
 John Benet & Jane Aakew, Sept. 16
 Wm. Haliwell & Katherine Heskye, Oct. 22
 Richard Mealer & Ellen Browne, Nov. 12
 Richard Johnes & Ellen Coyntrey, Nov. 21
 Robert Massie & Anne Hill, Dec. 3
 Richard Trivill & Margerie Chauntrell, Jan. 22
 Richard Gill & Anne Garnet, Feb. 11
 Robert Morie & Ellen Pearson, Feb. 11
 Laurence Warmisham & Katherine Hicson Feb. 21

APRIL 27, 1898.

ORIGINAL DOCUMENTS.

[201] RECUSANCY IN CHESHIRE IN 1580.

The following extracts from the recently printed Calendar of State papers is of considerable interest to Cestrians—the reference to the bishop being especially curious. The date is queried by the editor as being 1580, and if this be correct, the bishop referred to would be Chadderton, who took such an active part on the Royal Commission for suppressing Recusancy. It is rather a pity that the editor has omitted to specify which were the three personages into which the bishop had “recently admitted unworthy persons.”—Yours, &c.,

M. H. S.

[Cal. State papers—Domestic—Addenda. 1580-1625.]

[Page 35.]

1580 [P] 94. Names of twelve gentlemen and one lady in Cheshire whose houses are greatly infected with Popery, and not looked into, together with particulars of their families, etc., viz.:—Sir Ralph Brereton, George Massey, — Manley of Poulton, John Massey of Coddington, Richard Massey of Andford, — Bromley of Hampton post, Lady Egerton of Ridley, Sir Piers Leigh a justice, John Dutton of Dutton, Wm. Davenport of Broughall, — Massey of Sale, and Roland Dutton of Hatton. Also names of seven justices of peace not known to be of any religion and therefore suspected to be Papists, viz.:—Thos. Leigh of Highleigh, Thomas Leigh of Adlington, Sir Rich: Buckley, Wm. Glaseour, — Vernon of Haslington, John Poole sen. of Poole, Sir Rowland Stanley; also names of four other gentlemen suitable to be placed in their room, viz.: Thos Smyth, Thos Bunbury, Rich: Hurleston, and Thomas Venables. Also names of 3 personages fit for learned men, to wh: the now Bishop of Chester has admitted unworthy persons; and there are many more such personages. The curates in the diocese are mostly unlearned. The bishop frequents those infected with popery on pretence of seeking their reformation, but never yet reformed any.

[202] THE PARLIAMENTARY ELECTION, 1727.

The following extracts are from an interesting manuscript which has recently come into the possession of the Corporation of Birkenhead, and which is to be seen in the Reference Department of the Central Free Library. The Editors desire to express their appreciation of the kindness of the Library Committee in permitting copious extracts to be made from the original.

The manuscript is a contemporaneous copy of the Poll-Book for the whole of Cheshire in the Parliamentary election of 1727. The candidates were Sir Robert Salusbury Cotton, Bart., Charles Chelmondeley, Esq., and John Crewe, Esq.; and the result was—Cotton, 3,348; Cholmondeley, 2,820; and Crewe, 2,597.

It would be of course impossible to print all, or even a considerable portion of the manuscript, but the townships immediately surrounding Chester have a special interest for all dwellers in the old City, particularly as most of the voters in these townships there were really residents in the city, so the editors have decided to print these from time to time, and give to-day the list of voters for Boughton and Christleton. Where no place of residence is put against the name, it is meant that the voter was living in the township where his freehold was situated.

		Cotton.	Cholmondeley.	Crewe.
BOUGHTON.				
Thomas Davies [living at]	Christleton...	1		
Edward Hinks	Chester...	1		
Aaron Pointon	Chester...	1		
Peter Leadbeater	Chester...	1		
Richard Robinson	Hampton...		1	1
Robert Tea C'lk	Chester...	1	1	
John Spark	...		1	1
Thos. Hunt, Esq.	Chester...	1		
John Williams, Esq.	Chester...	1		
Thomas Madder, Esq.	Chester...	1	1	
Nathanl. Lancaster, Cl'k.	...	1	1	
Wm. Fleck	...	1		
Samuel Minshull, Esq.	Chester...	1		
Moses Pointon	Chester...	1		
Wm. Fisher	Waverham...		1	1
Oliver Patriok	...	1		
Thomas Jones	...	1	1	
George (or Jno) Morris [sic in original]	...		1	1
John Lamb	...		1	1
Thomas Filken	Hatton...	1		
Daniel Bromfield	...	1		
Joseph Golden	...	1		
George Dod	Handley...		1	1
Thoms. Tapley	...		1	1

CHRISTLETON.

Wm. Speed	Chester...	1	
Daniel Sellar	Barrow...	1	1
Thoms. Tilstone, Esq.	Chester...	1	1
Jno. Page	Chester...	1	
Thos. Partington, Gent.	Everald...	1	1
Thos. Griffith	...	1	
Nath. Norbury	Chester...	1	
Jno. Gough	...	1	1
Sam. Hodson	...	1	1
Joseph Preece	...	1	1
Wm. Ramsdale	...	1	1
Jno. Wittar	...	1	1

(To be continued.)

[203] MARRIAGE REGISTERS OF ST. OSWALDS,

CHESTER.

A.D. 1593.

Roger Carter & Jane Modesley, April 14
 Rauff Hicocke & Eliz Rider, April 22
 Edward Jameson & Ellen Johnson, May 1
 Randle Houghe & Ales Webster, May 25
 Bevis ap Thomas & Marget Plompton, May 27
 Thomas Flecher & Anne Orman, July 1
 Wm. Salusburie & Urselowe Gruff, July 15
 Thomas Wittill & Judithe Evans, July 29
 Richard Buxoie & Marget Pemberton, Sept. 22.
 Richard Angleser & Margaret Sparke, Oct. 2
 Peter Thurst & Ales Pickeringe, Oct. 21.
 Thomas Johnes & Sara Bavan, Oct. 28
 Paule Chauntrell & Ales Nicolsonne, Nov. 10
 Harry Haiton & Ales Wright, Nov. 16
 Roger Mathewe & Margerye Johnson, Dec. 10
 John Bavan & Elizabeth Picton, Jan. 15
 Richard Ireland & Ales Broster, Jan. 26

REPLIES.

[204] DATE OF MAKING OF PARKGATE ROAD.

(See No. 170.)

The origin of this road out of Chester, upon which Parkgate in its days of notoriety stamped its name, deserves more than a passing notice.

We are of the same opinion as the first Editor of the *Cheshire Sheaf*, that there was no Parkgate road in the year 1540, simply because there was no Parkgate. 'Leland,' in his day, who quaintly describes every place on the river Dee from Chester to West Kirby, makes no mention of Parkgate. He says, "ii miles and more lower, that is from Denwall, is Neston Rode, and ynward a mile into the land is Neston Village. About 3 miles lower is a place caulled the Redde Bank, and ther half a mile within land is a village caulled Thurstington." John Speed, a Cheshire man, who gave a splendid map of the Dee, has no Parkgate. Neither Camden, nor King and Webb, notice Parkgate. Again, we

have in 1690 the officers of the Prince of Orange on their way to Hoylake, dining with the Parson in Neston, staying there for two days and also shipping horses from the place, but not naming Parkgate.

Dr. Hume in his 'Sea Coasts of Cheshire,' gives 1700 as about the time that Parkgate commenced as a Packet Station. We read of two Irishmen in the year 1715 being gibbeted near to the Two Mills on the Parkgate-road. Again we have Bishop Gastrell in his visitation of Neston about the year 1717, who says "Some houses on the water side are called Park-Gates." We know that when Parkgate was built, there was little time devoted to dates, as the unique irregularity of the place bears testimony; but the oldest date we have been able to discover in Parkgate is 1708, on the Old White Lion, the licence of which lapsed within our recollection. It was perhaps one of the oldest of the hotels.

The roads of England in the year 1700 were in a deplorable state. Of that we have a graphic description in Pennant's journey from Chester to London in the year 1739; and of Dean Swift's contrary journey a little later.

Now there was doubtless a road of some sort between an important sea-port town like Great Neston and the City of Chester. When Parkgate became the Packet Station, and, as the Irish trade between Dublin and Chester grew in extent, which it did during the greater portion of the century, the road to Chester, in conjunction with the high roads generally, would be improved. We shew such improvement from the following advertisement. In the year 1754 a flying coach was advertised in these words:—"However incredible it may appear, this coach will actually (barring accidents) arrive in London in four days and a half from Manchester." Evidently an improvement in the roads from Pennant's time, which took six days to perform the same journey from Chester.

This evidence in support of our theory is, that the Parkgate-road was not once cut, but that it was gradually improved, perhaps, from the track of the pack-horse, until, at the beginning of this century, owing to the enlightenment of such men as Brindley and Macadam, it became one of the best highways in England. Early in this century, Parkgate ceased to be the Dublin Packet Station, but it afterwards became the most fashionable bathing-place in the North

of England, and held for some forty years that pre-eminence. It was then that the Parkgate-road out of Chester received greater notoriety than it had before; and that was at a time when Blackpool, and Southport, were as little thought of as was Parkgate, when Leland, the antiquary, passed it by.

How did Parkgate receive its name? The ordinary exits for fishing or other purposes from the beautiful Park-land of the Whitmores of Leighton Hall, that sloped gently down to the Dee shore, gave the name, as Bishop Gastrell said, Park-Gates. Our idea then is that about the year 1700 the first houses that were built by those gates took their name, from the 'Park Gates.' This is our theory of the origin of Parkgate and the Parkgate-road.

GEORGE GLEAVE.

[205] BISHOP KEENE'S WIFE.

(See No. 191.)

Dr. Keene married, in 1753, Mary, the only daughter of Launcelot Andrewes, of Edmonton, Middlesex, who brought him a considerable fortune. Mrs. Keene predeceased her husband in 1776. Thomas Gray, the poet, wrote the following couplet on her:—

Here lies Mrs. Keene, the she-bishop of Chester,
She had a bad face, which did sadly molest her.

I will try to ascertain the place of the marriage.

The Bishop was fellow of Caius College, Cambridge 1736, Fellow of Peterhouse 1739, Rector of Stanhope 1740, Master of Peterhouse 1748, Vice-Chancellor of Cambridge 1749-51, Bishop of Chester 1752, Bishop of Ely 1771.

F. S.

[206] BISHOP KEENE'S FAMILY.

(See No. 191.)

Rev. Edmund Keene, D.D., Bishop of Ely, m. 1752 Mary, daughter of Lancelot Andrews, Esq.; died 1781.

Bishop Keene was brother of Sir Benjamin Keene, K.B., Ambassador at Madrid. Sir Benjamin Keene came from Lynn, Norfolk.

(Burke's Landed Gentry.)

ANON.

[207] NEWTON QUAKERS' CHAPEL.

(See Nos. 169 and 183.)

The Quakers' Meeting-House mentioned in the *Cheshire Sheaf* of March 16th, No. 169, is the one at Newton-by-Frodsham. It is now used as a cottage, and the grave-yard is covered with gooseberry trees.—Yours, &c.,

Frodsham.

M. E. ASHLEY.

[208] GENERAL ROBERT VENABLES.

(See Nos. 162 and 177.)

Following on my reply about General Venables, I send you this week a copy of his will, the original of which is in the Probate Registry, White Friars. The document has been much stained with damp, and is in places nearly illegible. It does not however throw much fresh light on his family.—Yours

GENEALOGIST.

In the name of God Amen I ROBERT VENABLES of WINCHAM in the countie of Chester Esquire being aged and infirme in body and calling to mind the uncertaintie of life etc. do make my laste will and Testament etc.

First and before all I commit my soul into the hands of Almighty God my Heavenly Father etc., and I leave my bodie to the earth from whence it came to bee decently interred at the discretion of my executors hereinafter named (without pomp great solemnity or giving of mournings) etc.

And as for my goods etc.—

[Lands and personal estate already disposed by settlement or deed of gift except ready money.]

Messuage and tenement in Drakelow and Radheath called Billinge Green house now in holding of William Spencer husbandman "to go to my grandson Robert Lee of Wincham gent." etc.

Mentions—"brother Mr. Richard Ward"—"son Thomas Lee Esquire"—"Nathan: Lee and John Lee sons and Elizabeth Lee daughter of said son Thomas Lee."—"son Wm Ravenscroft Esquire and Elizabeth his wife"—"son Thomas Aldersey Esqre and Margaret his wife"—"son Mr George Huxley and Mary his wife"—"grandson Mr Robert Lee and Magdalene his wife"—"Nephew Theophylach [P] Blechyuden and his four sisters"—"grandson Thomas Parker"—"cozen Mr. Jehn Kendrick and his five sisters"—"cozen Mr. James Rudyard of de la Crosse"—"daughter Anne Parker."

"Also I give to the poore to be distributed by my exors. provided they trouble not my house the day of my funeral the sum of £10.

Mentions "deed of settlement dated 10 March in the 2nd[?] year of our Sovereign Lord the King that now is betwixt me the said Robert Venables and Thomas Lee of Darnhall Esq., Thomas Aldersey of Spurstow Esqre., James Rudyard of Rudyard and Dulen Cross Abbey co. Staff. Gent., and George Huxley of Brindley [P] co. Chester, gent. etc.

Lands on Stoke upon Terne in Salop."

Appoints dear and loving wife Elizabeth Venables and said Thomas Lee and Robert Lee executors.

16 July 1667 [P].

Proved by Thos. and Robt. Lee—with power reserved to Elizabeth Venables widow, 13 Oct. 1687.

MAY 4, 1898.

NOTES.

[209] THE ADAMS FAMILY, OF WOODCHURCH.

Among the many families of minor gentry and substantial yeomen who rose to positions of consideration in Cheshire during the reign of Queen Elizabeth, that of the Adams, of Woodchurch, was perhaps one of the most interesting. The writer has not been able to discover whence the Rev. Richard Adams sprang, who was the first of the family to fill the rectory of Woodchurch. He was instituted to the living in 1588, and held it until his death in 1615, and at some time between these dates he purchased the advowson from (according to Williamson) —, of Keele.

He had a large family by his wife Margaret, a daughter of — Lytler, possibly of Wallers-cote, to whom he was married at Woodchurch in 1592, and several of his sons distinguished themselves, his son Charles being rector of Woodchurch in 1643, and Randle rector of Wallasey, 1646. His son Charles, who married Isabel, daughter of Thomas Bennet, of Barnston, had six sons, four of whom seem to have taken orders—Richard, Peter, Thomas, and Charles.

Richard and Thomas were strong Puritans, and suffered ejection from their respective livings in 1662. According to the 'Dictionary of National Biography,' the Rev. Richard Adams studied first at Cambridge, where he graduated M.A. on the 26th March, 1644, entered Brasenose College, Oxford, 24th March, 1646, aged about 20, and graduated B.A. in 1648, and M.A. 1651. He became Fellow of Brasenose, but resigned in 1655, on being admitted to the Rectory of St. Mildred's, Bread-street. From this he retired as a Nonconformist in 1662, and became pastor of a small congregation in Southwark. His ecclesiastical views were Presbyterian; he was a practical preacher, and a devout, quiet man. He died on the 7th February, 1698, leaving a widow. He was the author of several works.

His brother, the Rev. Thomas Adams, entered Brasenose College in July, 1649; he became B.A. on 3rd February, 1652, and Fellow the same year. He was M.A. on 28th June, and lecturer-dean. After a distinguished career at college, he was ejected from his Fellowship for Nonconformity in 1662, and spent the remainder of his life

as chaplain in private families. He died on the 11th December, 1670. His learning, piety, good humour, and diligence are celebrated by Calamy.

Shortly after Thomas' death, his elder brother the Rev. Richard Adams printed one of his deceased brother's manuscripts, addressing it in the preface to the inhabitants of Woodchurch in Wirral Hundred in Cheshire. As this volume is exceedingly rare, the only copy that the writer has ever seen being the one in the British Museum, and as the preface contains several interesting local references, it may be worth while printing some extracts. The book is entitled "The Main Principles of the Christian Religion expounded in 107 articles by Thomas Adams, M.A., some time fellow of Brasenose College, Oxford, and late Chaplain to the Right Hon. Countess Dowager of Clare," and is dated 1675.

The title is rather misleading as the 107 articles are merely the 107 questions and answers which constitute the Shorter Catechism as prepared by the Westminster Assembly of Divines in 1644, the only original part of the work being the short expositions which follow each question and answer.

'Dear Countrymen and friends,' writes the Editor. 'While in my retired condition I was lately devising how I might do some good to the place of my Nativity, I had a strong apprehension from the affection many of you expressed to my Father's family, that some of the labours of my dear Brother Mr. Thomas Adams now with God, would be very acceptable to you, etc.

'Tis well known amongst you that my grandfather Mr. Richard Adams was Rector of your Church and then by his purchase Patron of the perpetual advowson, six of his line and name since all devoted to the Ministry of the Gospel viz: mine honoured father Mr. Charles Adams & uncle Mr. Randal Adams (yet I hope alive in Ireland) myself and three brothers Peter, Thomas, and Charles Adams, were born in the Parsonage House (Psal: 87, 5-6). My dear Mother (who also bore two other of my brothers viz: James and John, there too) the daughter of a worthy gent: was like wise born in your Parish. My Reverend Father and Uncle did some short time exercise their Ministry amongst you; and all my Brethren in the Ministry have preached an occasional sermon or more to you though none of us could be settled with you to spend ourselves and be spent amongst you. * * *

Others of their *plenty* have formerly given to the meaner sort of you *Milk* and *Bread* for the *body* and lately *means* for instructing the minds of yr. children in the Rudiments of learning now I do offer a Mite out of my Penury for your spiritual food etc. etc.*

This latter sentence is interesting in its reference to the Woodchurch Charities. The 'milk for the body' had been supplied by means of a cow charity (originally a bullock charity) founded by one James Goodacre, of Barnston, in 1525, which was augmented a couple of years later than the date of Richard Adams' preface by the gift of £50 to the township of Oxtan by the Rev. Richard Sherlock, rector of Winwick, for the purchase of 15 cows for the use of the poor of that township. 'The bread for the body' is still distributed, as a result of a gift in 1641 (or 6) of £50 for this purpose by Mr. Thomas Gleave (or Cleave), citizen of London, which was also augmented in 1670 by a similar amount from the Rev. Richard Sherlock. The picturesque bread shelves or stalls still hang in the Church of the Holy Cross at Woodchurch. 'The means for instructing the minds of the children in the rudiments of learning' were afforded in 1665 by the munificent bequest of £500 from William Gleave, Alderman of London, for the building and endowing of a free school in the parish. It is interesting to note that the Rev. Richard Adams eventually left his library of books to this school, and these, in Bishop Gastrell's time, numbered 394. They subsequently became greatly reduced in number, and were finally presented about thirty years ago to the then newly-founded Theological College of St. Aidan's, Birkenhead, where they are still to be seen.

The advowson of Woodchurch passed by will to Richard Adams, a merchant, of Dublin, who was son of the first, and uncle of the above mentioned, Rev. Richard, whose only daughter and heiress, Margaret Adams, brought it as her marriage portion to her husband, George Burches, whose son, the Rev. Hugh Burches, was presented to the living by his mother in 1673.

[210] JOHN WESLEY IN CHESTER.*

From an interesting account of the introduction of Methodism into the city and parts of the county of Chester, written by J. Janion, senior, we have the following:—

* See 'The Sheaf,' I. Series, Vol. III, pp. 115, 118, and 166.

The first visit of a Methodist preacher in this part of the country occurred about the year 1742 or 1743. Mr. Nelson preached his first sermon under a pear tree. In the year 1749 Mr. Wesley visited and preached at Alpraham. Methodism was introduced into the city of Chester about the year 1750."

Mr. Wesley in his journal gives the following account of his first visit to Chester, and gives also an account of the warfare in which he was there engaged some hundred and forty years ago:—

"Saturday, June 20, 1752. I rode to Chester, and preached at six in the accustomed place, a little without the gates, near St. John's Church. One single man, a poor ale-house keeper, seemed disgusted, spoke a harmless word, and then ran away with all speed. All the rest behaved with the utmost seriousness while I delivered 'The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ.' Sunday, 21st, I preached at seven, in a much larger house, which was just taken near St. Martin's Church, as eminent a part of the Town as Drury-lane is in London, or the Horse Fair was in Bristol. At church Mr. L—— preached a strong, plain, useful sermon upon the faith of Abraham. At one I began preaching again, on "We preach not ourselves but Christ Jesus the Lord." But the house not containing half the congregation, I was obliged to stand at the door on one side of a kind of square large enough to contain ten or twelve thousand people. I had, a few hours before, spoken to a captain of a vessel, with whom I proposed to sail for Dublin, and the wind being fair I knew not I should stay to preach another sermon in Chester. At four I preached in the square to a much larger congregation, among whom were abundance of gentry. One man screamed and hallooed as loud as he could, but none seconded or regarded him. The rest of the congregation were steadily serious from the beginning to the end.

Monday we walked round the Walls of the City, which are some-thing more than a mile and three quarters in circumference, but there are many vacant spaces within the Walls; many gardens, and a good deal of pasture ground; so that I believe Newcastle-upon-Tyne within the walls, contains at least a third more houses than Chester.

The greatest convenience here is what they call "The Rows," that is, covered galleries which run through the main streets on each side, from east to west, and from north to south; by which means one may walk both clean, and dry,

in any weather from one end of the city to the other. I preached at six in the evening in the square to a vast multitude, rich and poor. The far greater part the Gentry in particular, were seriously and deeply attentive, though a few of the rabble most of them drunk, laboured to make a disturbance. (Here Mr. Wesley took a journey to Bristol.) Continuing on Thursday, July 2nd, I reached Bilbrook and Chester.

Friday, the 3rd, I was saying in the morning to Mr. Parker, 'Considering the good which has been done there already, I wonder the people of Chester are so quiet,' He answered 'You must not expect they will be so always.' Accordingly, one of the first things I heard after I came into the city was that for two nights before the mob had been employed in pulling down the house where I had preached. I asked 'Were there no magistrates in the city?' Several answered me, 'We went to the Mayor after the first riot, and desired a warrant to bring the rioters before him, but he positively refused to grant any, or to take any information about it. So, being undisturbed, they assembled again the next night and finished their work. Saturday, 4th, I preached in our old room. Sunday, 5th, I stood at seven in the morning near the ruins of the house, and explained the principles and practice of that sect, which is everywhere spoken against. I preached again in the same place at one, and at four; and the whole congregation were quiet and serious.'

Old Trafford.

GEORGE GLEAVE.

REPLY.

[211] THE VICISSITUDES OF A CHESHIRE CLOCK.

(See Nos. 133, 154, 158 and 193.)

Chester, from time immemorial, has been a great centre for the making of clocks. To possess one, of what are now called grandfather's clocks, was the highest aim of many a thrifty couple about to begin the battle of life. In every village and hamlet of rural Cheshire these clocks are to be found, and are mostly prized heirlooms that have descended from father to son. There is a sterling nobility and genuine worth in an old Cheshire clock. Such an one we are proud to possess. It bears in legible letters, as though the maker was not ashamed of handiwork, 'Gabl. Smith, Chester.' The clock has stood out of its native county, and out of its rural element, for thirty years, yet it is still re-

flecting honour on Gabriel Smith, Chester, on whose history some of your readers may throw more light.

For forty years this old clock was in the possession of our immediate ancestor, and stood in an old house (the woodwork of which was mainly old ship timber) by the bridge in Great Neston. The clock's traditional history before that is that it was bought in Neston at the sale of one William Matthews.

While this old clock stood in Neston it was more than ordinarily useful. The Denwall collieries of the Stanley's were then in full operation, and by the wayfarers, and traffic managers that passed to and fro, many an anxious glance, either through the window or the open door, was hurriedly cast on this old grandfather's clock. G. G.

QUERY.

[212] "THE KNIGHTS OF KING ARTHUR'S ROUND TABLE."

It would be of great interest to me if some of your readers could inform me as to the origin of the club called "The Knights of King Arthur's Round Table," which was instituted and held at Mr. Thomas Haswell's house in Chester, about the year 1803. I should be glad also to have any notes about the club, and especially about Mr. Robert Walford, who was a brother of this order or society, and died May 4, 1801.—G. W. H.

Chester.

ORIGINAL DOCUMENTS.

[213] MARRIAGE REGISTERS OF ST. QSWALD'S, CHESTER. A.D. 1594.

Peter Flecher & Jane Golbyne, April 28
John Hynd & Anne Cornes, June 8
William Gyttem & Marget Pemberton, June 9
Rauff Secarson & Anne Bromley, June 15
David ap Evan & Jane Grise, June 16
Thomas Woodnett & Anne Heskie, June 16
Wm. Hande & Jane Harrison, June 30
Rauff Foulkes & Ales Watte, July 14
Wm. Coiter & Catherine Benet, July 28
Robert Benet & Elis. Witter, Aug 23
Edward Batho & Thomasin Loide, Aug. 8
Thomas Blundell & Jane Rymmor, Aug. 18
John Otie & Margett Lea, Aug. 18
Roger Werberton & Mary Bulkley, Sep. 15
Morris ap Bees & Wynifred Langfere, Sep. 30
Hughe Tylston & Ellen Hodgkyn, Oct. 6
Thomas Loe & Marget Carren, Oct. 20
Robert Hexam & Agne Sha, Nov. 30
Richard Ince & Anne Beamond, Jan. 15

Wm. Tottie & Jane Wolton, Feb. 9
 Thomas Hyne & Marie Willson, Feb. 24
 William Johnes & Jane Welshe, Mar. 2
 John Trafford & Anne Greege, Mar. 4
 Thomas Mercer & Catherine Smiths, Mar. 25

MAY 11, 1898.

ORIGINAL DOCUMENTS.

[214] A DISPUTE RELATING TO PEWS IN NESTON CHURCH IN 1711.

The following interesting petition from some of the inhabitants of Neston parish in 1711 is now among the episcopal archives in the Diocesan Registry at Chester, and as it throws some fresh light on the history of that ancient parish, it may be worthy of the permanence of print. The Bishop to whom the petition was addressed was Sir William Dawes, subsequently Archbishop of York. The Rev. Peter Morrey who is referred to in the document was vicar of Neston from 1692 until 1719; before going to Neston he had been rector at Thurstaon (vide 'Wirral Notes and Queries,' Vol. ii, Nos. 168 and 276). The whole question of pews in church is an interesting one, and the law relating to them is peculiar, so that any document referring to the first regular seating of a parish church is of value. It must always be borne in mind that pews in churches are things of comparatively recent date; three hundred years ago a church regularly pewed throughout was a very rare phenomenon.

Yours, &c.,
 Liverpool.

HOLLY.

To the Right Reverend Father in God, Wm. Lord Bishop of Chester.

The Humble petition of the several persons whose names are subscribed, Inhabitants in the severall Townships of Nesse, Great Neston, Little Neston, Willaston, Leighton, Thornton-Hough, and Raby, in the parish of Great Neston; in yr Lordship's Diocese of Chester:—

Sheweth,—That some of your Petitioners and their Ancestors, have for tyme Immemoriall, held severall antient Messuages and Tenements, in severall of the said Townships in the said parish by virtue of Leases from several persons of honour and Quality, owners of the Inheritance thereof for three Lives absolute, or a certaine terme of Yeares determinable upon three Lives, and have for the tyme aforesaid held used and enjoyed as Appurtennt. to their said severall

Messuages parts of severall formes or kneeling places, well known in the said church, without any disturbance interruption or alteration. And others of your Petitioners being seised in fee of antient messuages, in severall of the said Townships, in the said parish, they and their ancestors, and all those whose estates they now enjoy, have also for all the tyme aforesaid held, used and enjoyed as Appurtennt to their severall antient messuages part of severall other Forms or Kneeling places also well known in the said Church without any disturbance, interruption or alteration, save as is herein-after mentioned. And yr. Petitioners further humbly show unto yr. Lordship that the Revd. Mr. Murry present vicar of the said parish and some of the parishioners thereof, being desirous to alter the said Formes or Kneeling places, by converting them into seates or pews and thereby to render the said Church more uniform obtained a Commission out of your Lordship's Consistory Court for that purpose, directed to himself and fourteen more of the said parish as Commissioners to see the same performed and perfected, which hath been accordingly done, att the charge of Two Hundred Pounds or thereabouts, said by the said Commissioners to be expended in obtaining the said Commission and pewing the Church aforesaid; which summe hath been assessed on yr. petitioners and other parishioners of the said parish, to which assessments yr. petitioners have willingly payed their Shares and proportions, and doe not in the Least, nor would hereby be thought to murmur att, or complain off, the proceedings of the Commissioners in the uniformity of the Church aforesaid, saving in the cases and for the causes hereinafter sett forth, yr. Petitioners expecting that after the said Church was pewed and made uniform they should have had their several parts of pews soe newly erected, in or near the place where they formerly enjoyed their Antient formes, or kneeling places. But on the contrary the said Commissioners by colour of the said Commission have taken upon them to displace and remove yr. Petitioners, from the places where their said antient formes and kneeling places were, and to replace them in some of the newly erected pews, in places very distant and remote from their antient formes, and have taken upon them to appoint and bestow the said places belonging to yr. Petitioners and now improved into pews (at their owne proportionable expenses, as aforesaid) unto other persons att the will and pleasure of the said Commissioners wherein they have thought fitt to preferr diverse persons who had no antient right to any seates in the said church, and to conferr diverse of the better and larger seates on such who have been

taxed and paid butt very small sums, in the said assessm'ts. postponing others who have been assessed and paid much greater sumes, which actings and proceedings of the said Commissioners, yr. Petitioners begg leave humbly to represent to yr. Lordshipp as very injurious to yr. Petitioners and (as they are advised) contrary to law for that by the law of this land their kneeling places being appurtenant to their severall antient Messuages, and held and used for tyme immemoriall as such, they ought not, nor without their owne consents, can be legally displaced, from their said severall Freeholds, in the said church, and yr. Petitioners are also further advised that as to some of them who have only estates for lives or yeares determinable upon lives in the said parish, though they should assent (for conveniencyes sake) to accept of other seates, remote from their antient kneeling place, yett such consent or acceptance would not conclude their Landlords own'rs of the Inheritance of such antient messuages, whereby severall suites and animosities, are likely to arise in the said parish by reason of the premises

Your Petitioners therefore humbly pray yr Lordshipp, That they may be heard by their Councell, concerning the premises, att such tyme and place as yr Lordshipp shall appoint And that yr Lordshipp of yr accustomed Goodness, will please to give such directions thereupon as to Law, and Justice, shall Appertain, And as in Duty bound your Petitioners will ever pray etc.

I am (humbly) of opinion that the Petrs have just cause of complaint. R. COMBERBACH.

Inhabitants in NESSE.

Thomas Hancock	Daniel Barrow x
Samuel Charnock x	Danniell Briscoe x
Rodger Lee	Thomas Briscoe x
Nehemiah Hancock	

GREAT NESTON.

John Wilkison	Tho. Bedson
John Conney	Will. Littler
Robert Madaek x	William Yong
John Hickson	William Jonson
William Bolland	Joseph Buckley
Tho. Lake	James Ferguson
John Hancock	Eliz. Span for three seats
William Lightfut	William Falscha
Joseph Buckley	John Johnson for Great Neston.

LITTLE NESTON.

George Bedson x	Tho. Charnak x
Tho. Hancock	Andrew Potter
Tho. Fletcher x	John Lightfut x
Tho. Millner x	Tho. Charnack x
John Robison	Ralph Mason x
Jane Dall widow x	Widow Jones x

Esther Vernon
Will. Penkit x
John Bedson x
Will. Johnson x

Henery Troughon x
Will Briskow
Thomas Bedson
Widdow Lanson ?

WILLASTON.

Will. Forshall
John Hayes
John Wilson
Joseph Hayes
Thomas Briscoe x
Thomas Pool
John Woods
John Bennet
Samuell Kelehall
Samuell Soddon

Samuell Higgen
Martha Shankes
Thomas Spencer
Riest Euenes [Rice Evans]
Henry Deane
Mr. Sparck
William Fletcher
Thomas Perre

LEIGHTON.

John Johnson
John Potter

Esther Holland
John Fleether

THORNTON HOUGH.

William Vernon
George Walley x
Joseph Smith

Hanna Leene x
Margrett Worrowel x

BABY.

Tho. Johnson
Tho. Cooke
George Evens x
Thomas Sparke x

John Robinson
Samuel Pemberton
William Morers

[Endorsed]

Neston. Petition of the Inhabitants of the Parish of Neston concerning pews etc. 1711.

[215] THE PARLIAMENTARY ELECTION, 1727.

(Continued from No. 202).

	Cotton.	Cholmondeley.	Crews.
EATON.			
Sir Richard Grosvenor, Bart.	...	1	1
Thomas Grosvenor, Esq.	...	1	1
Robert Grosvenor, Esq.	...	1	1
Wm. Henbury	Namptwich...	1	1
FLOCKERS BROOK.			
Thomas Jarratt	Chester...	1	
GILDEN SUTTON.			
Richard Smith	...	1	1
Sam. Woodcock	...	1	1
James Croxon	Chester...	1	
Thomas Bursley	...	1	1
Jno. Denson, sen.	...	1	1
Thos. Woodcock	...	1	1
HOOLE			
Wm Coddington	...	1	
Rogr Cumberbache Esq	Chester...	1	
Richard Harley	Salop...	1	
Joseph Shone	...	1	1
Ralph Jiles	...	1	1
Thos Rathbone	Frankby...	1	
Thos Croughton	Chester...	1	1

HUXLEY			
John Bennion	...	1	1
Abram Gregory	Clutton...	1	
Robert Done	Wettenhall...	1	1
Richard Bruen	Tiverton...	1	
NEWTON PROPE CHESTER.			
Wm. Briscall	Chester...	1	
James Postinwait	Chester...	1	
Thomas Hassall	...	1	1
Wm. Burgess	...	1	1
John Lee, gent.	Chester...	1	
PICTON.			
Sam. Cowper	...	1	1
John Marsh	...	1	1
PULFORD.			
Wm. Bradshaw, Clerk	...	1	1
Thos. Edwards	...	1	1
Peter Hughes	...	1	1
Wm. Fox	...	1	1
Jno. Edwards	...	1	1
Jno. Holliwel	...	1	1
Jno. Crewen	...	1	1
Thos. Wright	...	1	1
Edward Williamson	...	1	
Wm. Pate	...	1	1
James Pritchett	...	1	1
Jno. Pergamey	...	1	1
Wm. Pergamey	...	1	1
UPTON.			
John Egerton, Esq.	Broxton ...	1	1
Wm. Brook, Esq.	Chester ...	1	1
Richard Johnson	...	1	1
John Hutchen	...	1	1
Wm. Helley	Chester ...	1	1
Robert Haywood, Gent.	...	1	1
James Bennett	Newton ...	1	1
WAVERTON.			
John Fletcher	...	1	1
Wm. Chalkin	...	1	1
Saml. Dod	Christleton...	1	1
Jno. Smith	Foulk Stapleford...	1	1
Joseph Dutton	...	1	1
Thomas Calkin	...	1	1
John Morat [P]	Oswestry ...	1	
Wm. Ashton	Burwardsley...	1	1
Jno. Williams	...	1	1
Samuel Punner (Picmier?)	Eccleston...	1	1
Richard Catherall	...	1	1
Ralph Rawlinson	...	1	1
Ralph Dod	Christleton...	1	
WREVIN.			
Peter Massey	Upton...	1	1

[216] INQUISITIO POST-MORTEM OF JOHN DE MOLES, 1417.

The following inquisition has some points of special interest, one being that the Moles appear to have held their property in Wallasey under the Prior of Birkenhead. Even at this early date, they seem to have given up living at Great Moels, and to have lived at

Wallasey, as is shewn by the proof of age of Henry Moles (the son mentioned in the following inquisition), which is printed in Ormerod (Helsby's edition), Vol ii., page 496, Note C.—Yours, &c., GENEALOGIST.

Welsh Records, Inquisitions p.m. 4 Hen. 5. No 4.

Inquisition taken at Chester in the cemetery (*in cimiterio*) of the Church of the Blessed Mary on the Hill in the City of Chester, before Henry de Ravenscroft Escheator of the King in the said county, on Thursday in the Morrow of the feast of St. Hilary, 4 Hen. 5, by the oath of Henry de Daveneport, Christopher del Hogh, John Launcelyn, Gilbert Glegge, Roger de Holes, William de Moles, Thomas de Waley, Thomas del Lee, Thomas Jankynson, Thomas Maynwarynge, John de Saynesbury & Richard Mawry, jurors, who say that

JOHN DE MOLES DIED SEISED in his demesne as of fee of the vill of Mykull Moles with the appurtes, which is held in capite of the King as Earl of Chester by knight service, and is worth per ann., clear £4.—Also of 3 messuages and 7 bovates of land with appurtes in Kyrkeby Waley which are held of the Prior of the Monastery of St. James of Byrkehed in socage and by the rent of 18d. by the year, and are worth per ann., clear 40s.

The said John likewise held the moiety of one bovate of land in Lyscare, which is worth per ann., clear, 22d., but of whom held the jurors know not.

Also 3 messuages and 4 bovates of land with appurtes in Tranemole, which are worth per ann., clear, 24s., and are held of the heirs of Walter Tranemole in socage.

Also one burgage with a curtilage in the City of Chester which is worth per ann., clear. 10s., but of whom held the jurors know not.

John de Moles died on Sunday next before the feast of St. Michael in Monte Tumba last past; Henry de Moles is his son and next heir and will be of the age of 5 years on the feast of the Purification of the Blessed Mary next coming.

[217] MARRIAGE REGISTERS OF ST. OSWALDS', CHESTER.

A.D. 1595.

Omfrey Probin & Sara Paintamye, May 4
Jeffrey Warton & Syslye Hallowed, May 25
Owyn Kynninge & Malte Elis, July 12
Christopher Dogan & Elizabeth Mears (?), Aug. 11.
Richard Joynson & Ales Done, Aug. 12
Wm. Morgain & Em. Vergh Richard, Aug. 16
John Dunstefelt & Ales Davemport, Aug. 17
Thomas Burchall & Ane Brassie, Aug. 23
George Vernom & Ales Garratt, Sept. 20
Robert Benet & Marget Ley, Sept. 21
Robert Cowes & Margarett Melse, Sept. 28
Peter Astbrooke & Margarett Massie, Sept. 19
John Normont & Ales Massie, Sept. 30

Thomas Woodes & Anne Burgers, Nov. 2
 Randle Farnoghe & Ales Minshall, Nov. 18
 Jane Terill & Margaret Johnson, Nov. 23
 David Houghe & Eliz. Bromley, Nov. 26
 Richard Haliwell & Jane Houghton, Dec. 6
 Randle Dutton & Katherine Large, Dec. 8
 Rauff Witter & Anne Wilkinsonne, Dec. 10
 Water Bill and Elen Canon, Dec. 14
 Thomas Carinton & Katherine Deinsonne, Dec. 14
 John Acksonne & Katherine Brid Dec. 27
 Robert Whitehead & Eliz. Looker, nupt. in Mr.
 Pemberton's House in St. Peter's P'ishe, Jan. 1
 John Hamnet & Jane Wmson, Jan. 24
 Richard Wildinge & Mode Alcocke, Jan. 31
 Thomas Manley & Ermine Manley, Feb. 1
 Symon Stoocken & Margaret Roberts, Feb. 8
 George Combes & Margott Welahe, Feb. 11
 Wm. Hexam & Ales Hurste, Feb. 18.

QUERY.

[218] THE MEANING OF THE PLACE-NAME
 HOOLE.

Can any of your readers suggest the meaning and derivation of Hoole, a suburb of Chester? It is a name which occurs several times in both Lancashire and Cheshire. Is it in any way connected with the place-name Hull?—Yours,
 M. H. S.

MAY 18, 1898.

NOTES.

[219] THE DEANS OF CHESTER.

(Continued from No. 178.)

IV.—RICHARD WALKER, 1558-1567.

Richard Walker (erroneously called Roger by some authorities), the fourth Dean of Chester, was born at Lichfield in, or about, the year 1501. The son of an artisan, he received the rudiments of his education at the School of St. John the Baptist in his native city. Here he attracted the notice of Rowland Lee, the bishop of the diocese, a man who played an important part in the history of the time. He it was who had married Henry VIII. and Anne Boleyn, and he retained the monarch's confidence and favour to the last. Henry made him President of Wales, and he governed that country with great prudence for nine years. As the last Bishop of Lichfield who included the county of Chester in his diocese, he is especially interesting to us.

It was probably through Lee's influence that young Walker was sent to Cambridge, where he

became a member of Jesus College. He took the degree of M.A., but did not proceed to the Divinity degrees. He was subsequently appointed master of Lichfield Grammar School. 'Seeing that he was a prudent man,' the Bishop took him into his immediate service, and eventually made him chief steward of his household, doubtless a position of great honour and emolument. On his ordination, his patron obtained for him, in 1540, the Rectory of West Kirby, which at that time was of course in the diocese of Lichfield. In 1542, he was also appointed Dean of the Collegiate Church of St. John the Baptist, Chester.

It will be remembered that up to the time of the erection of Chester as a new See in 1541, St. John's had been one of the Cathedral Churches of the old diocese. But from that date the bishop's chair was removed to St. Werburgh's. "The Church of St. Werburgh's," says Canon Cooper Scott, "was probably in a much better state of repair than St. John's and was better fitted for the purpose of a Cathedral Church than the somewhat dilapidated Church of Bishop Peter; it was moreover within the City Walls, and was therefore more free from the danger of injury in times of trouble. Again, the dissolution of the great Benedictine Monastery had left the grand church useless, with the exception of the south transept, used by the parishioners of St. Oswald's as their place of worship; and then it was a change—and that was something in its favour, as well as a little consolation to the late Abbot, now Dean, who had suffered so much from the spoliation of his revenues."*

"St. John's was a Collegiate Church with a dean and seven canons, secular clergy, like our parochial clergy; some of them had charge of parishes elsewhere, and some served the parish of St. John's; they lived round the church, and the lane now called Vicar's Lane bore the same name previous to the year 1470. The Vicar's house stood where the Rectory is now, the Dean's house was near the present Convent, the Bishop's house very much on the same spot as the present 'Dee Side Palace.' The petty canons had their houses in Vicar's-lane and in what is now the 'Park;' the Chapel of St. Ann stood at the end of Vicar's-lane, where the entrance gates to the Park are now; the Church of St. James was on the South side of St. John's. The people of the parish had a claim upon the church and worshipped in the

*Lectures on St. John's Church, pp. 24-25.

nave; they had free use of the bells on all occasions of festival or mourning granted to them in consideration of the part they had taken in rebuilding one of the towers; they were, however, forbidden to ring them so as to disturb the services in the Choir or Chantry Chapels.*

In the same year wherein he became Dean, Walker was also made Prebendary of Pipa Minor in Lichfield Cathedral. Besides this preferment he held successively the livings of Gotham and Leake in Nottinghamshire. As long as Bishop Lee lived he doubtless spent most of his time in the control of his household; but after that prelate's death in 1543, he may from time to time have personally discharged some of the duties of his various benefices.

In 1542 Walker procured a grant from the Crown to exempt St. John's College and parish from the jurisdiction of the Bishop of Chester, and place it again in the Diocese of Lichfield; but this grant, being contrary to the Act of 33 Henry VIII. cap. 31, was void and took no effect.†

In 1547, the first year of Edward VI., St. John's College shared the fate of countless similar foundations. It was dissolved, and the endowments left by pious founders for strictly religious purposes for the most part found their way into the pockets of the rapacious courtiers who ruled the country in the young King's name. Walker, a thoroughly typical Churchman of the time, did not, however, fare badly, receiving as a yearly pension fourteen pounds five shillings, a considerable sum in those days. The entry relating to him in the Certificate of the Commissioners who dissolved the College is as follows:—

"Bycharde Walker, of the age of xlvj. yeres, deane, hath for his styPend in the same Colledge, over and besydes one Cth. poundes in other places, xxxj. li. xiiij. s. ijd."‡

In the list of pensions and annuities occurs:—

"Ric'i Walker nup' decani colleg' s'ci Joh'is in civitate Cestr' p. annu. xiiij li. v s."§

To console him for the loss of his deanery, Walker was appointed, 5th August, 1547, to the Archdeaconry of Stafford. In the same year he leased his rectory of West Kirby, doubtless for

a good consideration, to Sir John Massey, of Puddington, for a long period. This lease was confirmed by the Bishop (John Bird), and by the Dean and Chapter. It impoverished the living for nearly a century, and led the Rector in 1633 to bring an unsuccessful suit against Sir William Massey, the successor of the original grantee.*

Walker contrived to steer his way successfully through all the troublous days of Edward and Mary, retaining his Archdeaconry, his Prebend, and his livings. Soon after the accession of Elizabeth he renewed his connection with Chester, being appointed to the Deanery, vacant by the death of Dean Cliff.

The new Dean's position cannot have been an easy one. He had to control the gradual changes in the mode of carrying on the services in his Cathedral. His chapter was certainly not unanimous, one of the prebendaries, Edward Gregory, having been deprived of his office. But another, and perhaps even more unpleasant duty devolved on Walker. He was obliged to take action against George Cotton, the son and heir of Sir Richard, with respect to the lands which the latter had illegally extorted from the Dean and Chapter. Walker opposed the grant on the grounds of the insufficiency of the rent, the manifest compulsion, and the act not having been that of the entire body. Upon this George Cotton, anxious to strengthen his insecure position, granted the greater part of these lands at two years' rent to several gentlemen of the county. This sagacious, though dishonest, movement greatly complicated matters, and the Dean died long before the protracted law suit was terminated. We shall hear of its progress in subsequent 'Notes.'

During Walker's decanate there were admitted as prebendaries John Piers (his successor in the deanery), Thomas Dun, John Hardyman,† Edward Hawford, and Robert Heblethwaite.

* Notitia Cest, I., 179.

† "He ran in with every variation in the mutable times of Henry VIII., Edward VI. and Mary, and appearing a zealous Protestant in the beginning of Queen Elizabeth's reign was by her made a Prebendary of Westminster, 1560; then very violently herding with the Puritans, he became their tool, to break down altars and to deface monuments, for which, on complaint, he was deprived by the Queen's commissioners for causes ecclesiastical, 1567." — Cowper's MSS. quoted by Ormerod.

* Ibid., pp. 21-2.

† Notitia Cest. I., 80.

‡ Ormerod, I., 314.

§ Ibid, 315.

Walker died in or near Lichfield in the autumn of 1567. In his will, which I have been unable to discover, he desired to be buried in the Cathedral of that city. The will is dated 4th September, and was proved 11th November.

ORIGINAL DOCUMENTS.

[220] MARRIAGE REGISTERS OF ST. OSWALD'S, CHESTER.

1596.

Edd. Nubie & Ellen Foxolle, Feb. 23
 Peter Raulinson & Elen Hodgkyn, Feb. 24
 John Prenton of the p'ishe of Backford & Margerie Trueman of the p'ishe of Dodleston weare married by licence from Mr. Chansler at the sute of Mr. Thomas Manley in the p'ishe of St. Oswalds & by the Vicar there after that the bands weare asked in bothe the p'ishes affore said.
 Edward Pemberton & Elen Savage, April 26
 Christopher Gill & Grace Brinson, May 24
 Randle Cromwell & Eliz. Carden, July 11
 Jeffrey White & Marget Massie, July 19
 Peter Daye & Elen Younge, July 21
 Thomas Howe & Isabell Walker, July 24
 John Meales & Anne Collie, Sept. 2
 John Greene & Katherine Hamnet, Sept. 4
 William Sadler & Eliz. Cleaton, Sept. 6
 Harry Sympton & Ciollie Whitfeelde, Sept. 8
 Bradford Throppe & Katherine Annion, Sept. 21
 Hughe Cotton & Eliz. Benet, Oct. 2
 Thomas Nicoll of Saughton & Ales Banester, Oct. 4
 Thomas Finchet & Margaret Cowley, Oct. 18
 Wm. Tealer & Katherine Tealer, Oct. 24
 Owen Hughes & Eliz. Windrowe, Oct. 24
 Benet ap Edd & Syalie Llewelyn, Nov. 8
 William Haliwell & Joane Toppinge, Dec. 16
 Richard Cowper & Elizabeth Lerge, Dec. 27
 Lawrence Birchall & Eliz. Tailor, Jan. 5
 Willia Davison & Elen Jaxon, Feb. 7

MAY 25, 1898.

NOTES.

[221] A BREACH OF PROMISE CASE IN 1637.

Your correspondent M. A. (see No. 186) writing concerning Sir William Stanley, of Hooton, who was created a baronet in 1661, says that his conformity with Protestantism in 1649 was noteworthy; and that the Stanleys of Hooton were always attached to the Roman Catholic faith. I think that M. A. is mistaken on this point, and I shall be able to show that at any rate the father of Sir William was also a conformist. How far this conformity was

real, and whether it was yielded in order to save his estates is, of course, a matter which is probably now incapable of proof; but I shall, at any rate be able to produce a sworn affidavit of Mr. Stanley's, in which he declares his conformity with the established religion.

This affidavit occurs among a large number of papers relating to an interesting case of breach of promise of marriage. They are preserved in the Bishop's Registry at Chester, and I am allowed access to them by the great kindness of Mr. John Gamon, the ever courteous and obliging Registrar.

The plaintiff in the case is Anne Stanley, a daughter of William Stanley of Hooton and Storeton, who died in 1612-3. He is buried at Eastham, where the inscription on his tomb informs us that his wife was Anne Herbert, by whom he left living one son and six daughters. The plaintiff Anne was one of the youngest of these, and the year after her father's death her brother (another William) succeeded at the age of about eight to the family estates by the death of their great grandfather, Sir Rowland, at the patriarchal age of ninety-six. The seven children were probably brought up in the old hall at Hooton, but under whose care I cannot say. Their mother does not appear to be alive at the time of this trial, but I have so far been unable to find the date of her death.

The defendant is Richard Hockenhull, a young man about thirty years old, son and heir of John Hockenhull of Prenton. The Hockenhulls of Prenton were a younger branch of the Hockenhulls of Hockenhull. In the 16th Century Henry Hockenhull had married Agnes, the daughter and heiress of Thomas Gleave of Prenton, and so founded a family which lasted in the male line to the end of last century.

Richard Hockenhull after promising marriage to Anne Stanley broke his engagement, and married another lady, Anne Spurstow, daughter of George Spurstow of Spurstow. Hence the action brought by the jilted Anne Stanley. The case was of course taken into the Bishop's Court and tried by his Chancellor. There are a large number of papers relating to this suit, and I am unable to arrange them in their proper order. I will first give some depositions made by the friends of the plaintiff.

MARY STANLEY, wife of William Stanley, aged 34 years, declares that she and Anne Hastie were present in the Hall of Hooton about Michaelmas last, when Mr. Richard Hockenhull did saye and seriously affirme that

after his returne out of Staffordshire (he being then to goe into Staffordshire) he would marry the articulate Mrs. Ann Stanley, or finish the marriage between them, or words to that effect. She further says that in Lent last, Mr. Hockenhull did in the presence of Mrs. Anne Stanley, herself, Dorothy Stanley, now wife of Roger Hurleston, Esq., and Anne Hastie, say and acknowledge that Mrs. Anne Stanley was his wife, and did salute her, and, she being then present, did salute him. She adds that they were taken and accounted for lawful man and wife amonge there acquaintance.

This witness was daughter of John Draycott, of Painley, and, of course, sister-in-law to the plaintiff.

WILLIAM STANLEY, aged 32, said that in Lent last Mr. Richard Hockenhull did confesse and acknowledge to him in the Hall of Hooton that he and Mrs. Anne Stanley were contracted each to other.

ANNE HASTIE, aged 30, said that several times, within the years and moneths articulate, Mr. Richard Hockenhull came to Hooton Hall as a suitor, as it was conceived, to Mrs. Anne Stanley, and professed love unto her and she to him likewise, and further saith that about three weeks or a fortnight before Whitsuntide last, she and her fellow-witness, Mr. William Coventrie, were present in a house in Spittle, when Mr. Richard Hockenhull, speaking to Mrs. Anne Stanley, who was also then present, said these words, or the like, in effect, "I, Richard, take thee, Anne, for my wedded wife, for better, for worse, in sickness, and in health, from this day forward." And afterwards Mr. Coventrie asked Mr. Hockenhull if hee was serious in what hee was aboute or what hee was doing; and then the said Mr. Coventrie gave a ringe to the said Mr. Hockenhull to make good the contract withall or to that effect. And then Mrs. Anne Stanley said to him, "I, Anne Stanley, take thee Richard Hockenhull to my wedded husband, for better for worse, in sickness and in health, from this day forwards," or words to that effect. Then she said to Mr. Hockenhull, "Doe you meane seriously, as I doe; if you doe, put the ringe upon my finger;" and thereupon Mr. Hockenhull did put the ringe which he had from Mr. Coventrie upon her finger.

The witness was also present with Mrs. Mary Stanley at Hooton in the previous Michaelmas, when Mr. Richard Hockenhull beinge about to goe into Staffordshire did say

to Mrs. Mary Stanley that at his returne out of Staffordshire hee would finishe all thinges concerninge the marriage betwixt him and Mrs. Anne Stanley, and that it should appeare, or he would make it appeare unto the world, or words to that effect; and further saith that in Lent last Mrs. Mary Stanley, Mrs. Dorotheie Stanley (now the wife of Roger Hurleston, Esq.), and herself were present at Hooton, when Mr. Hockenhull speakinge to Mrs. Anne Stanley said "I doe acknowledge, or I doe take you for my wife," and thereupon did salute her and she consented thereunto.

This witness signs her mark instead of her name. She was a confidential servant of the Stanley's, the wife of their cook, a prototype perhaps of Fielding's Mrs. Honour.

MICHAEL FITZWILLIAMS, aged 44, said that Mr. Hockenhull had visited Hooton Hall as a suitor of Mrs. Anne Stanley for the space of two or three years, and made love to her, "and hath had speeche and conference with her, and this deponent hath heard him several times sweare and vowe that hee would never marry any other woman but her, and saith about Whitsuntide last this deponent heareinge that the said Mr. Hockenhull and Mrs. Anne Stanley were contracted, this deponent tould him the said Mr. Hockenhull that hee might now call him brother in earnest since hee had married his sister in lawe, or to that effect, which words the said Mr. Hockenhull did not any way deny or contradicte; and further saith that upon the xxij^d day of April last this deponent as also his fellow witness Mr. William Coventrie were present when the said Mrs. Anne Stanley did challenge the said Mr. Richard Hockenhull to bee her husband, and said they were man and wife, and uttered the words of matrimony which she assumed they had before uttered each to other; and the said Mr. Hockenhull did not then deny the same."

The witness further deposed that among their neighbours and acquaintance, the parties in the suit were held to be lawful man and wife.

In answer to certain questions, Mr. Fitzwilliams testified that he was the husband of one of Anne Stanley's sisters; that he had heard that Mr. John Hockenhull had demanded £600 as the portion of Anne Stanley, whereas her portion was but £400* "readie money, or soe that she may have it when shee pleaseth"; that all his fellow witnesses, "except Mr. William

*This would probably be equal to £4,000 at the present time.

Stanley, Mr. William Coventrie, and Ellen Winstanley are popishe recusants, but saith this respondent was never indited, convicted, or excommunicated, as he believeth." He further said that "hee believeth that Mr. John Hockenhull is not pleased that the said Mr. Richard Hockenhull should marry with the said Mrs. Anne Stanley, neither doth give his consent thereto."

(To be continued.)

[222] THE SNELL FAMILY.

See Nos. 47, 55, 93, 113, and 118.

With reference to the series of articles on this subject which appeared in the *Sheaf* in 1896 the following extract from the Marriage Licence Act Book at the Diocesan Registry in Chester may be of interest.

7 July, 1674.

Licence to the ministers of Christleton, St. John's, and St. Oswald's, to marry George Snell of Guilden Sutton & Margaret Browne of Glassehouse in the Parishes of St. Oswald's.

If this was Archdeacon Snell's son, it effectually disposes of the theory that the goldsmith of that name, whose will was printed in the 1896 *Sheaf*, and the Archdeacon's son were one and the same, as the date of the probate of the will is 1663.

Yours &c.,

WM. FERGUSON IRVINE.

REPLY.

(See No. 218.)

[223] THE MEANING OF THE PLACE-NAME "HOOLE."

M. H. S. asks whether the name "Hoole" has any connection with the place-name Hull? I should say, by no means. I have no doubt that "Hoole" was the Saxon, or, perhaps, the corrupt Saxon, way of pronouncing *Hole*. Up to the last generation, the uneducated Cheshire man would be sure to pronounce *Hole*, *Hoool*, or *Hoole*, just the same as the Saxons would pronounce *whole*, *hoool*. Thus, so far, for the pronunciation (a corrupt one) for *hole*. By extension of the significance of the word *hole* we get *hollow*, and when this is applied to land formation, we get to such applications as, for instance, "Newton Hollows," adjoining *Hoole*. Thus *Hoole* probably really means that low-lying land in the suburb of Chester which is called by this name. In contradistinction, we have the high land, adjoining, called Up-town

(high town), Upton. At an early period a family bore the local name of "Hole," as Roger de, or del, Hole.

WILLIAM H. BRADFORD.

Great Saughall.

ORIGINAL DOCUMENTS.

[224] MARRIAGE REGISTERS OF ST. OSWALD'S, CHESTER. 1597.

Thomas Eaton & Elen Corman, April 25
James Blundell & Ellen Stevenson, May 8
John Middleton & Anne Goodicar, May 9
Harry Littler & Katherine Bradhurst, May 18
Robert Tottie & Jane Johnson, June 4
Omfrey Dale & Grace Davies, June 12
Rowland Calken & Elen Payne, June 23
Thomas Hatton & Elizabeth Dennis, June 23
John Biston & Elen Ormston, June 24
John Cranke & Margaret ———, June 24
Wm. Skelington & Luce Soounce, July 3
Richard Robin & Elen Cowper, July 17
Thomas Wolam of Stoke Pische &
Margerie Cotton of the same, Aug. 13
Richard Cowdooke & Margaret Otie, Sept. 29
Richard Flecher & Eliz. Trafford, Oct. 4
Hughe Thorneley & Katherine Cotter, Oct. 9
John Picton and Anne Leese, Oct. 22
John Buxcie & Jane Cattro, Nov. 16
Harry Akerley & Eliza. Garrat, Nov. 27
Wm. Kyrfoote & Anne Crofoote, Dec. 10
Robert Smithe & Katherine Tylston, Dec. 18
Thomas Bryne & Catherine Worall, Jan. 21
William Huntington & Jane Hallowed, Feb. 26
Randle Bavan & Ales Fitton, married by Doctor George Lloyd,* the banes beinge but twyse asked & without licence, Feb. 27

JUNE 1, 1898.

NOTES.

[225] LEABOWE CASTLE AND RACE COURSE.

In the short space that can be given to this subject, it will only be possible to give the briefest summary of the information available with reference to this interesting house, and it will be impossible to quote the authority for all the statements, but your readers must believe that every effort has been made to verify them.

* Dr. George Lloyd became in 1605 Bishop of Chester. At the date of this wedding he was Rector of Heswall and, I believe, Divinity Reader at Chester Cathedral.

It is quite probable that a building stood on this site at the time of the Norman Conquest. One might even indulge in a flight of the imagination and suggest that, that "foreigner" of whom Domesday Book tells us, finding that the rocky slopes of Wallasey were not good grazing ground for his cattle, first came down and built his farm standing on the rich grass-grown Leasowes, and this being a venturesome step in those unsettled times, he reared a tower, after the fashion of his Norman rulers, into which he and his might run and be safe, when the untamed Welsh came swarming from across the Dee on one of their fierce marauding raids.

It is more than likely, if our foreign friend *did* build, as has been suggested, that he built on an old site. One which for centuries—back into the dim past of British history—before our English forefathers came here at all, had been a spot round which many a tribal skirmish had raged. A spot on which, when after the fatal battle of Chester, the conquering English came in like a flood, making all Wirral theirs, they met with that stubborn resistance of despair from the handful of Britons who remained, a resistance which forced them to at least tolerate a British remnant, and thus gained for this rocky corner of the Wirral Peninsula the name of Wallasey—the Welshman's island. For if one looks at the map, or, better still, makes a careful survey from the roof of the tower, it will be noticed what an important strategic position it is whereon the Castle stands. Wallasey parish is a triangle, on two sides of which is the sea and river, while on the third, it is protected by the Wallasey Pool, which runs more than two-thirds of the way, and nearly the whole of the remaining third must, in comparatively recent times, have been an impassable morass even in summer, the only land approach being along the narrow strip of meadow between the sea and the morass called The Leasowes (or Pastures), and this would be completely dominated by a fort on the spot on which the Castle now stands.

But to leave the region of speculation. We get occasional slight glimpses of the Hall and its occupants during the time of the Edwards, from ancient records of the county, but that is all; and it is not until we reach such a comparatively late date as the reign of Queen Elizabeth, that we get any solid information, and then we find it in the hands of the almost princely family of Derby.

Ferdinando, the fifth Earl, is traditionally said to have been the builder of the older portion of the present house, that is, of the octagonal tower which forms the centre of the group; but as he only reigned for some six months, he must have built it in his father's lifetime. He died in 1596, "not without suspicion of poisoning," as the old chronicler says. If anyone wishes to read a weird and gruesome account of death by poison and its physical results, it may be found in a bundle of papers among the Harleian MSS. at the British Museum, entitled 'Depositions relating to the Supposed Poisoning of Ferdinando, late Earl of Derby.'

In Ormerod's account of Leasowe Castle, it is stated that somewhere in the upper part of the Tower is the date 1593, cut in stone, and the writer has made diligent search for this, but so far without success.

On Earl Ferdinando's death, the property passed to his daughters, but his brother William—popularly known as the "Wandering Earl,"—returning from a sojourn in foreign lands, challenged their title in a lengthy lawsuit, which dragged on for many years, during which, in 1598, the Castle passed by sale into the hands of the Egertons of Oulton, who owned it until about a hundred years ago, when it was sold to a Mr. Boodé, whose daughter carried it by marriage to the late Sir Edward Cust, Bart., the grandfather of the late owner. Sir Edward Cust added largely to the house, and lived there for many years.

Ferdinando is said to have built the Tower as a sort of hunting-box for racing and hawking. Whether this be so or not, it is certain, from Webb's account that in 1622 (the Castle being by this time in possession of the Egertons) the flat meadows to the east of the Castle were used as a race course, or, as Webb has it, "where lie those fair sands or plains upon the shore of the sea which for the fitness for such a purpose allure the gentlemen and others oft to appoint great matches and venture no small sums in trying the swiftness of their horses."

There is a tradition that during the life time of William, Lord Derby, James the First attended the races here, but there is not the slightest ground for the story, and it is probably untrue. The old picture, which used to be shewn to visitors at the Castle of King James at some races, has no certain connection with Cheshire at all.

The races seem to have fallen into disuse during the Commonwealth, but were revived in the reign of Charles II. and during that of his successor they flourished exceedingly. At a meeting held in the autumn of 1682, the ill-fated Duke of Monmouth was present. He was in Chester on the 10th of September—a Sunday—when he stood godfather to the daughter of the Mayor, Mr. George Mainwaring, and the following day went to Wallasey, where he was joined on the Tuesday by a large party from Chester. The first plate, value £60, was won by the Duke, riding his own horse—it may be added, however, that in a contemporary account it is suggested by an eyewitness that the other competitors did not press their horses as much as they might have done, out of deference to the Duke, in fact that the win was what moderns would call “a put up job.” This may explain why, when the Duke offered to lay £1,000 to blank—odds not stated—on his horse, nobody would take it up! After the races the Duke had two footraces with a Mr. Cutts, of Cambridgeshire, the first one stripped, the other run in boots and spurs, both of which he won.

Early in the next century the value of the stakes run for greatly increased, in fact it is said that the Wallasey Stake was the most considerable in the kingdom at that time. After Sir Richard Grosvenor's death in 1732, however, the races were discontinued, though “The Wallasey Stakes” continued to be run at Newmarket for several years after this. Races of a smaller kind took place at Wallasey as late as 1770.

HOLLY.

[226] A BREACH OF PROMISE CASE IN 1637.
(Continued from No. 221.)

DOROTHY HURLESTON, aged 25, states that about a week or fortnight after midsummer last, she, having been told by her sister Anne that she was contracted to Richard Hockenull, and she having shown her a ring wherewith she said they were contracted, “did at the entreatie of the said Mrs. Anne Stanley enquire of her fellow witness William Coventry concerninge the said contract, and desyred him to tell her the passages thereof, whereupon hee tould this deponent, and swore by God they were as sure man and wife by contract, as hee and his wife were, saveinge beddinge or to that effect.” She further deposes that “in Lent last this deponent and her fellow witness Mrs. Mary Stanley and Anne Hastie were present in the Hall of Hooton when the articulate Mr. Richard Hockenull

did take the said Mrs. Anne Stanley by the hand and did then saie, ‘I doe acknowledge you for my wife,’ and did then salute her . . . and she did salute him. She also deposes “that they have lived together as man and wife, as she believeth, and for lawful man and wife are accounted and taken amongst there acquaintance and familiar friends as shee beleeveth,” and that “about Michaelmas last when the articulate Mr. Richard Hockenull was about to goe into Staffordshire this deponent heard him saye to Mrs. Anne Stanley that one Sir James Baylie was to goe to the Earle of Essex into Staffordshire to take some lands from the Earl, and that hee would take part with him and hee and she would live upon the increase or revenues of her meanes till it pleased God to dispose of his father or to that effect.”

WILLIAM COVENTRY, of the parish of West Kirby, aged 32 years, deposed that Mr. Richard Hockenull did for some years go as suitor to Mrs. Anne Stanley, and did profess much love unto her. He was present in a house in Spittle, “but ye certaine time hee doth not remember when the articulate Mr. Richard Hockenull and Mrs. Anne Stanley beinge then present, the said Mrs. Anne Stanley said that the said Mr. Richard Hockenull said that hee would marry noe woman but her, whereupon this deponent haveing a ringe upon his finger, the said Mr. Hockenull desyred this deponent to give him that ring, and this deponent tould him hee would give him that ringe upon condicon that hee would marry her, the said Mrs. Anne Stanley, and then she said Mr. Hockenull tooke the said ringe, and then after some words had passed which this deponent doth not nowe remember (saveinge that the said Mr. Hockenull then said ‘till this day fortnight’) the said Mr. Hockenull put the said ringe upon her finger, but whether he was serious or in jest or noe, hee cannot depose, but saith the said Mrs. Anne Stanley hath the said ringe in keepinge, as he believeth.”

He states that he is a gentleman, and that he married a sister of the plaintiff, and that he has heard that some of Anne Stanley's friends or kinsfolkes did promise Mr. Hockenull £600 in marriage with her, which promise they now refuse to perform, which portion Mr. Hockenull's estate doth well deserve as he verily believeth; that he has heard that her portion is now £400. He states that ‘on Sunday last’ he was at his parish church and did heare

divine service and sermon there, and doth usually frequent his parish church upon Sundaies and other festival daies."

The Coventry family were long settled in the parish of West Kirby on the Newhouse estate, which they sold in the middle of the 17th century to Mr. Thomas Bennett, by whom it was bequeathed to the parish for charitable purposes.

(To be continued.)

ORIGINAL DOCUMENTS.

[227] MARRIAGE REGISTERS OF ST. OSWALD'S, CHESTER. 1598.

John Nicoll & Katherine Leonert, April 18
Thomas Lee & Elizabeth Thomson, May 3
Rauffe Grange & Jane Powell, May 16
Thomas Worall & Ales Robinsounne, June 11
William Green, oobler, & Jane Stronngeintharme,
June 19
John Rennaldes & Anne Normansell, June 23
James Downam & Marget Hynd, June 29
Wm. Rider & M'gerie Creughton, July 29
Nicollas Croghan & Margett Williams' July 30
John Earbie and Ales Rider, August 6
Robert ap Richard & Katherine Moneley, August 13
John Merige & Joane Broome, August 21
Henrye Crosbie & Mary Tealer, August 24
Richard Tailor & Elizabeth Tailor, August 24
John Barnes & Marget Leeming, August 24
Thomas Jenson & Anne Harford, Sept. 3
John Walshman & Ellen Chambers, Sept. 14
Wm. Knowles & Eliz. Knowles, Oct. 17
Phillip Capper & Margaret Alen, Oct. 21
Randle Gruff & Katherine Davie, Nov. 3
John Madooke & Grace Hoghton, Nov. 11
Thomas Dagett & Doritie Bradsha, Nov. 19
John Robinson & Jane Dodd, Nov. 20
Michael Johnes & Elen Hodgson, Nov. 26
John Hicson & Marget Hollant, Dec. 17
Peter Drinkwater & Sara Lea, married by Dr.
Lloyd the banes being but asked the 17 Dec.
John Blanchet & Anne Chauntrell, Dec. 18
John Maddooke & Margaret Wright, Jan. 14
Thomas Dicus & Dowse Jones, Jan. 28
Randle Haule & Mandelyn Ince, Feb. 4
Wm. Beaford & Elizabeth Fernes, Feb. 4
John Hughesonne & Jane Hakes, Feb. 6
Wm. Semer & Eliz. Hore als. Smithe, Feb. 9
Hughe (?) Caveley & Elenor Alen, Feb. 10
Rees Ap. Harry & Eliz. Widenburie, Feb. 17
John Wade, butcher, & Elen Shingleton, Feb. 20
Robert Seville & Elis Garfield, Feb. 26
Harry Kenige & Battriehe (?) Stonne (?), Mar. 4

JUNE 8, 1898.

NOTES.

[228] EPITAPHS ON CHESTER CATHEDRAL CHORISTERS.

In the *Chester Observer* of May 14th is an interesting communication from Mr. W. E. Phillips, about Thomas Millington, including what purported to be 'The epitaph on his tomb.' The *Courant* of May 25th contains some lines on 'William Haswell,' and the correspondent, Mr. William Haswell, of the Kaleyards, states they are written by one of the sisters of the late Mr. Philip Stapleton Humberston. If Mr. Phillips is correct about the epitaph, on Thomas Millington's tomb, and Mr. Haswell, that Miss Humberston wrote the poem on William Haswell, then I am afraid there must be a mistake somewhere, for I have a small book entitled *Local Rhymes by 'John'* (comprising characteristic epitaphs and other pieces)—London—printed by Edward Brewster, Hand Court, Upper Thames-street, 1839. The following explains how it came to be published. "Preface. Through the partiality of successive editors of the *Chester Chronicle*, all these pieces* have appeared in different numbers of that journal. They are printed collectively in compliance with the wish of a few good-natured Cestrians to possess a copy in their present form.—JOHN."

It contains nineteen pieces of poetry, fifteen of them are called 'epitaphs,' on local and other persons, among whom are mentioned, 'Mr. Thomas Millington, many years a chorister in Chester Cathedral,' 'Master Haswell,' 'John Adams, sometime Sacristan (*vulgo* sexton) of Chester Cathedral,' and 'Mr. Benjamin Linney, late of the Cathedral Choir,' whose 'epitaph' I append to this letter.

In the *Cheshire Sheaf*, First Series, Vol. I., page 170, will be found under the heading, 'Old Chester Characters—Sammy Grice.' The following epitaph was written upon poor Sammy in June, 1822, under the signature of 'John.' Then follows the poem (which is in the book referred to above) and at the foot these remarks: "John, the author of this and other similar epitaphs on prominent local characters of that day, was John Venables, a native of Chester, and one of

* Except those on Simpson and Grimaldi, which appeared in the *Morning Chronicle* and Sunday papers.

the sons of Mr. Samuel Venables, for many years master of the Blue Coat Hospital at Chester.—Editor." The Editor was the late Thomas Hughes, F.S.A., and I think he was a good authority about the identity of the anonymous poet.

Will Mr. Phillips kindly say where Thomas Millington's tomb is, and if the 'epitaph' he sent is actually inscribed thereon as noted by him, and with Mr. Haswell give his reason for attributing the lines on 'William Haswell' to Miss Humberston, for I find there are a few slight differences in some of the words, and the addition of one line in 'Thomas Millington's epitaph, "A pattern he to all the choral race," not in my book. In the epitaph on "Master Haswell," there are two lines in my copy, not included in the verses sent by Mr. Haswell viz.

"For his soul refin'd, and splendid powers,
Were far too good for this world of ours:"

Also there is a little variation in some of the words in other lines, but substantially, both "Epitaphs" are similar to those in the book referred to. This may be accounted for, by "John" revising the poems and epitaphs, previous to publishing them in book form, altering in a small way, the compositions from what they were, when first sent, at different times, to the "Chester Chronicle," and other newspapers.

IX.—MR. BENJAMIN LINNEY,
late of the Cathedral Choir.

He's gone! and hark, yon melancholy bell
To all the city doth the tidings tell,
In lengthened wailings, seeming to proclaim
The modest chorister's familiar name :—
Ben!—Ben!—Ben!—Ben!
Ne'er will be heard his powerful bass again
Ben—Ben—Ben—Ben!
In solo, duo, trio, or "Amen,"
As some have heard, for years a score and ten,
Ben—Ben—Ben—Ben!
With aspect grave, arrayed in surplice fair,
He daily went to morn and evening prayer,
Where oft we've seen him waiting to begin
Awhile the little bells were chiming in :—
Ben-Lin, Ben-Lin, Ben-Lin, Ben-Lin, Ben-Lin.
But past, for ever, from the sacred scene
He'll rest, ad lib, beneath a hillock green.
Ye Tenors, Counters, and Sopranos too,
Who knew the man, and know this praise is due,
No longer envious of his skill and powers,
Forget not Linney in your festive hours,
But in a solemn dirge remember then
The social virtues of the mighty BEN!

Yours obediently,

W. W. TASKER.

Hurstfield, Hoole-road, 19th May, 1898.

[229] NORTHWICH FREE GRAMMAR SCHOOL.
(See No. 192.)

In my Note on the above School, I mentioned that the curious statutes of the founder were well worth printing. I now append them :—

I SIR JOHN DEANE PREST one of ye Sones of Laurence Deane, late of Shurlache, in the Parisshe of Davenham, in the Countie of Chester, Prebendary in Lincolne, and Person of Great Saint Bartholomewes, neare Smythfeilde, in London, flounder of the free Grammer School at Northwyche, in the countie of Chester aforesaid, erected in the Name of Ihesus, at the feaste of Sainte Michell tharchaungell, in the yere of our Lomo God a thousande fivie hundrethe fyftyte and aightte—florasmoche as Goddes glorye, his honour, and the welth publyke is advaunced and mainteyned by no meanes more then by virtuose educacon and bringinge upp of youth under suche as be lerned and vertuose scole maisters, whoose good examples maie as well enstruote them to lyve well, as their doctrine and lerninge may furnysshie their mindes with knowledge and connyng—Have thought it good not onlye to erecte the said free Grammer Scoole and to provide a reasonable and a competente stypende for the scoole maister of the same, and that in the respecte of the zeale that I have to Goddes glorye, and for the love that I beare to my native countrey, but also for that nothinge can endure and contyneue longe in good ordre, without laws and statutes, do ordeyne, make, and appoynte certeyne orders, rules, statutes, and lawes to be observed and kepte for ever, as well of the feoffees, as also of the scole maister and scollers of the said free scole. And the rather bycause that in procees of tyme suche might happen to be rulers or teachers as eyther thrughe a singularytre or ets negligence wolde not observe such good customes, ordres, statutes, and lawes, as their predecessors have used, And as are used in the great scoles to the great hynderance of the scollers.

THE QUALITIES of the Scolemaister.

INPRIMIS, I do ordeyne and will that the Scolemaister be lerned, sobre, discrete, and unmarried, such a one hath taken degrees in the Universitie of Oxforde or Cambridge, ondefamed and of th' age of thirtie yeres at least, te th' ende that experience maie appeare in his conversacon and lyffe, and that moore obedyence maie be used towards hym for the same

THE ELECTOURS or Chosers of the Scolemaister.

ALSO BECAUSE ffrendahipp or ignoraunce might be an occasion that oftentimes the scoollers might be frustrate of suche a Scolemaister as is aforesaid, I will that the ffeoffees and certeyn honeste men of the Parysahe of Wytton aforesaid shall presente suche one, as theye procure and electe, before his admission into the scoole to the Bishopp of Chester, and to the Scolemaister their for the tyme beinge to be examyned of them, and to be founde and thought mete for that vocacon as well for discession as for lernynge. And so beyinge by them founde, then to be admytted and placed in the scoole.

THE ORDRE of th' Admission of the Scholemaister.

ALSO I WILL that the scolemaister of Chester, with the ffeoffees and th' other honest men of the Parishe of Wytton, as aforesaid shall admitte hym, shall bringe hym to the schole, And then and their shall reade their Ordres, rules, lawes, and statutes to hym, lettinge hym understande his chardges, and what is required at his handes. And shall shewe hym the commodities of the scoole, and his lodgings their. And the landes and houses apperteynyng to the scoole, wheare they lye, and in whose handes and occupacon they are, And what interest and yerres the tenantes and occupiers have in them. And for their paynes in this doinge, they shall receyve flortye shillinges emoungest them, at the placinge of every scolemaister in such lawfull sorte as is aforesaide, at the hands of the churchwardens.

(To be continued.)

[230] A HESWALL SLANDER CASE IN 1533.

Among the various suits that were brought before the Chancellor's Court in the 16th century, none were more common than those relating to defamation of character. Cheshire men, as seen through these ancient records, which still lie at the Bishop's Registry, appear to have been a terribly litigious lot, the smallest quarrel between neighbours in which 'actionable' language was used by either party served as an excuse for an appeal to that particular arm of the law (clerical as it was at that time), which dealt with matters of slander and defamation.

It is not easy to identify the two litigants in the following case, though the defamed man was almost certainly the squire of Gayton, and his assailant was probably a blood relation, as there were

several branches of the family of Glegg settled in the neighbourhood of Heswall at this time.

One would like to know the cause of all the trouble. Perchance the Squire had exercised some power of which he was possessed as lord of the manor, and seized Henry Glegg's sheep and impounded them. Whatever he had done, however, seems to have effectually aroused his namesake's wrath, though the actual words of abuse of which John Glegg complained sound rather lukewarm to modern ears, and lack that high colour and rugged force which we are accustomed to connect with village arguments.

It is curious to notice that the quarrel arose during the Feast of St. Peter, and as Heswall Church is said to be dedicated to St. Peter, the annual wake and fair of the parish would probably be held then, and all the countryside would be present, which latter fact may have added gravity to the slanderous speech. It will be observed that Richard Goodacre defines the time as in the autumn, which is difficult to reconcile with the other evidence, since the Feast of St. Peter is observed on the 29th June; the actual words, however, are *tempore autumnali*, which may mean *harvest time*, and this would agree with the date well enough.

The document, which is all in Latin except the words of abuse, and these probably were too much for the Registrar's classical knowledge, is as follows:—

Depositions of witnesses in a cause of difference between JOHN GLEGG plaintiff & HENRY GLEGG defendant taken 16 October 1533.

RICHARD WYLYNSON, of the Parish of Haselwalle, living there & having dwelt there since his birth aged about 40 years & upwards, etc., says he knows both parties, etc.

To the 3d question he says he heard Henry Glegg say "Dicon Wylkynson what saist thoue by yonder false knaf that hath pynnyd our shepe," to which he replied "what false knaf" & he said "yonder John Glegg." They were standing in the middle of Haselwalle town during the Feast of St. Peter last. He says that there were present William Robertson, Henry Milner, William Hancock and others.

JOHN ANYON of Haselwalle aged 22 etc. says he was standing at the time somewhere between the houses of William Hancock and John Lenaker & he heard Henry Glegg say to Richard Wylkynson, "Wylkynson what saist thoue by yonder false—that hath pynnyd our shepe," to which Wylkynson replied "which false—" to whom the said Henry replied "Yonder John Glegg."

URIAN PRENTON of Hasilwelle aged 40 etc. heard Henry Glegg call John Glegg "a false skennyng knaf that hath pynynd our shepe."

RICHARD GOODIGAR of Hasilwelle aged 34 says he heard nothing, but he admits he heard Richard Wylkynson "a far off standyng in Haselwelle with Henry Glegg say to hym 'prove it,' 'prove it,' but what was their contention he cannot tell," & he says it was on a certain Friday afternoon in the autumn about the time of sun setting.

Yours &c.,

W.F.I.

Birkenhead.

[231] THE SNELL FAMILY.
(See No. 222.)

Following on my note on this subject, I find, on reference to the Wallasey Register, that the Archdeacon's son George was baptised there in 1631, as will be seen from the following extracts. The date of his baptism finally disposes of the theory of his identity with the goldsmith, as in the goldsmith's will, he alludes to an Indenture to which he was party, dated 1639, in which year the Archdeacon's son was only eight years old.

If the marriage licence printed in my last communication be that of the Archdeacon's son, it probably refers to a second marriage, as in 1674 he would be 43 years of age—an unusually late age at which to marry at this time:—

WALLASEY REGISTER.

Margaret Snell, christened 6 Oct., 1622.

Katherine Snell, christened 7 Sept., 1624.

Lydia Snell, daughter of George Snell, christened 11 Aug., 1625.

Dovie Snell, daughter of George Snell, christened 30 July, 1627.

Edward and Mary Snell, twins, children of George Snell, christened 12 Nov., 1628. [Both buried before 1630.]

Ellin Snell, daughter of George Snell, Doctor in Divinity, christened March 30, 1630.

George Snell, son of George Snell, Doctor in Divinity, christened Nov. 18, 1631.

WM. FERGUSON IRVINE.

[232] MARRIAGE REGISTERS OF ST. OSWALD'S,
CHESTER.
1599.

Thomas Evans & Maudelen Byngley, April 19

John Picke & M'get Perkins, May 7

John Peoford & Anne Stonds, May 20

John Gunston & Alice Burstun, June 19

Richard Barloe & Katherine Ap. Richard, July 1

Germane Cocokone & Alice Huntington, July 7

Thomas Flymmye (P) & Gwen Johnes, Sept. 23

John Dea & Jane Davies, Oct. 14

John Bythell & Ellen Stlater, Oct. 24

Antonye Warmisham & Frances Hill, Nov. 12

Thomas Cowley & Elen Moneley, Nov. 25

Richard Byrde & Susanna Crosse, Dec. 4

William Quaille & Ales Prichard, Dec. 16

Nicollas Ince & Ellen Spencer, Feb. 3

John Hoowe & Elizabeth Fitch, Feb. 6

JUNE 15, 1898.

NOTES.

[233] MR. E. W. COX'S ARTICLE ON THE ANTI-
QUITIES OF STORETON.

(See Nos. 106, 112, 115, & 117.)

In Vol. I of the present series of the *Sheaf*, is a very interesting article by Mr. E. W. Cox, on the Antiquities of Storeton, in which he mentions the Stanleys of Storeton and Hooton. May I remind its many readers that Stourton, or Storeton, came into the possession of the Stanleys by what used to be called a "stollen marriage." Some thirty years ago someone discovered a record of it in the Palatine Plea Rolls, and it is mentioned in the new edition of Ormerod's Cheshire, 1882. Stanley was, I should say, a younger son of the House of Staneley, or Stonelegh of Stonelegh, within the borders of Staffordshire, near the Cheshire 'lyme,' or boundary. According to Seacombe, or Secombe (a Cheshire-man himself, by his name), who early last century wrote a History of the House of Stanley, the Stanleys, *circa temp.* Hen. II., were really called Audeleghs, from their sole manor of that name. But, about the reign mentioned, the then lord of Audley exchanged it, with his brother, for the manor of Stanley, which lies in the same neighbourhood. From Audley descended all known to be of that name—after the exchange a very celebrated line of men; at least two or three of them in various generations were distinguished for their military skill and enterprise. These Stanleys, however (after the exchange), first made their name known in the person of one of their younger sons, of Storeton, towards the end of the 14th century, and by his marriage with the very great heiress of the Lancashire Lathams, of Latham, he and his descendants also acquired that manor and many others, including Knowsley, on the extinction of the elder line of the Knowsleys of Knowsley, who were a presumed branch of the Lathams. The early Latham history presents another example of the acquisition of

far more than ordinary manorial dignity by a younger brother, or son, in the person of Torbok, or Torbock, of Torbock (Thorbeck, in Dutch Holland), *alias* Tarbock, near Huyton. For, there existed, soon after the Conquest, two brothers, one of whom, the elder, acquired the name of Latham, and the other the name of Torbok, from their respective chief manors. The Torbocks, however, survived the extinction of the Lathams for some 300 years—the last heir male dying a couple of generations since at Dovecote, Knotty Ash, near Liverpool—his ancestor of the 17th century having, by well-known family tradition, conveyed nearly all his estates to Molyneux of Sefton, in satisfaction of a gaming debt; and according to the late Rector Ashton, of Huyton, all the successive lords Sefton, up to Torbock of Dovecote's time, took the precaution of purchasing the Torbock signatures to all dispositions of at least parts of the Torbock estate—probably because of the existence of some old entail? Thus the Knowsley Stanleys—descendants of these Lathams—gave the same peculiar lustre to all of their name, as did the great bastard of Egerton of Ridley to all the Egertons.

But, to return from this digression to the first Cheshire Stanley of Storeton. He it was who bolted with Bamville of Storeton's daughter and heir; and as Bamville was Hereditary Chief Forester of the Forest of Wirral, the office (held by grand Serjeanty) passed to the Stanleys, lords of Storeton, and subsequently of Hooton. And thus, between heirs and heiresses, like most other families of any antiquity, they managed to have a pretty long reign; and no doubt their deserts as enterprising suitors, and suitees, endeared them to each other, until the fatal disease of gambling, which no professional infallibility could stave off, terminated their race in favour of a flourishing mercantile family. But the "Biddlemoor men" (Biddulph Moor, near Stanley or Stoneley), whose supposed Paynim patriarch was contemporary with their neighbour, Stanley the First of Cheshire, still exist—though they are greatly decayed in numbers and physique, compared with what they were half a century since.

All this Stanley-history reminds one of a little-known story of much later date, in which one of the culprits was a descendant of that Stanley-Bamville marriage, but was of the junior line of Knowsley. About the middle of last century there dwelt an elderly family named Smith, who were of considerable estate, and resided at South, or North, Weald, in Essex. It was, even as late as Elizabeth's reign, a very

unusual name for a person occupying their worldly position; but originally, they were probably of some other family, and acquired the name from trade rather than from marriage—as did a younger son of the Torbocks who lived in Newcastle-under-Lyme in the reign of Hen. VIII. 'Tho. Smith *alias* Torbok,' and Tho. Torboke *alias* Smythe, whose last descendant, Mr. Smith of the same town, (who bore the arms of Torbock differenced), died a few years ago. Our Mr. Smith, however, of Weald Hall, had in the reign of Geo. II. and Geo. III. two beautiful daughters, who ultimately became his co-heiresses. He had also, at this fatal time, two young friends, in the persons of Mr. Barry, and Lord Strange son and heir apparent of Lord Derby. Mr. Barry was of a family originally Norman, surnamed de Barry, from a now well-known port in South Wales, and of whom is said to have come Gildas, the great Monk and antiquary of the 12th or 13th century. Mr. Barry's father? was Earl of Barrymore in Ireland. The story, as I first heard it related so far back in my Essex days that I half forget it, was probably precisely the same as the one long afterwards related to me in town and Cheshire. Lord Strange, it seems, in the first instance, became sensibly well-affected towards one of Smith of Weald's two daughters, and one fine morning the pair were missing. The two friends were at the time guests of old Mr. Smith, who, when he heard from Mr. Barry the latter's "suspicious," confirmed by a note left by the lady, became highly enraged, and besought Mr. Barry to follow the leave-taking couple in hot haste to Gretna. "Follow them" he did—with the other sister! And after a wild post chase, in a post-chaise, the second couple just arrived at the hospitable and Rev. Blacksmith's altar in time to take part in a double solemnisation of holy matrimony—the Smith's 'forged' bonds, of which the two other Smiths, his clients, never lived to regret—whatever the parental Smith may have thought of the matter. But, "after the Mayor's mare is stolen, shut 'Pepper' Gate"! To say the least, they were a pair of pretty little brides, and there still exists, in Cheshire, the extremely small satin shoe of one of them; which is not only some attestation of their beauty, but of the skill and taste of another Smith—her Shoe-Smith.

There was, however, an early branch, if not the original stock, of these Smiths, which was settled, in the later days of Queen Elizabeth, on the borders of Epping Forest, some miles away from Weald. For generations, all the daughters of this branch, or stock, were of the

same beautiful type—this latter family only becoming extinct about 100 years ago by the death of Thomas Smith, Esq., on the Continent—leaving a tall, married daughter and heiress, accounted a “matchless beauty,” whose “classical features bore the expression of those of an angel” — though, doubtless, there is variety even in paradise. This branch claimed to descend from one of the Cheshire family of Smith, the field of whose coat (as emblazoned, with others, in the 17th century, on some of the windows of their old Epping dwelling), bore three Fleur-de-lis — though there was no descent of any of the two families recorded in, at all events, the extant Essex Visitations in the present College of Arms.

T. HELSBY.

[234] THE ANCIENT BOUNDARY OF WIRRAL AND BROXTON HUNDREDS.

In a paper read before the Chester Archaeological Society some years ago on ‘Notes on the Domesday Survey so far as it relates to Wirral’ (*Chester Arch. Journal*, vol. v., part 1. p. 72), I pointed out that the Hundred of Wirral at the time of the Conquest included the townships of Wervin, Picton, Mickle Trafford, and Guilden Sutton, and therefore that the river Gowy formed the eastern boundary of the Hundred almost as far south as the Tarvin-road, the eastern and southern limits of Guilden Sutton being also those of the Hundred. In the map which was published with this paper, the townships of Upton and Hoole however were excluded, thus making the boundary between Wirral and Broxton a very broken and irregular one. In doing this, I followed Mr. Beaumont in assigning the first Upton mentioned under Wirral Hundred, and held by Earl Hugh, to Upton in Overchurch. Mr. Helsby in his edition of Ormerod, however, points out that the reference should probably be to Upton by Chester; and if we adopt this suggestion, the Hundred boundary is much straightened, and the division of Wirral and Broxton at once assumes a reasonable shape. Everything seems to point to this being the correct solution, as the Optone in dispute occurs in Domesday Book bracketed with Stanney, a neighbouring township, while Upton in Overchurch is accounted for later on in the survey, where it appears in its proper grouping along with its neighbours Saughall-Massey, Landican, Upton, Thingwall, and Knocktorum.

In the paper alluded to above, I tried to explain away the second Upton by suggesting that the copyist at Winchester mistook the

letter *s* in Oxtone for *p*, and so entered Optone, when really Ostone had been in the original draft. It was, however, very soon pointed out to me that the similarity of the letters *s* and *p* dates from a later period than this, and that at the time of the survey the letters were radically different in appearance. It is with pleasure, therefore, that I adopt this new explanation, for which I am indebted to Mr. Helsby.

The only difficulty that now remains is that there is yet another Opetone, entered under Broxton Hundred, also belonging to the Earl, and as a possible explanation I would suggest that the Upton of Domesday lay in the two Hundreds, that which we now know as Upton by Chester being the part in Wirral, while the Upton in Broxton was that land which is now Hoole township. Little is known of the early history of Hoole, but it is a significant fact (bearing in mind that the Upton in Broxton belonged to Earl Hugh) that it has descended in a precisely similar manner as Mickle Trafford has done, another of the manors of the great Earl.

As a further proof that Upton by Chester was included in the Hundred of Wirral at an early date, may be mentioned the fact that in the earliest allusion to Moston in the Chartulary of St. Werburgh, it is entered under Wirral Hundred.

Yours,

Birkenhead.

WM. FERGUSSON IRVINE.

QUERY.

[235]

POWNALL FAMILY.

A lady of Chicago enquires for information concerning one of her own English ancestors, who emigrated with Sir W. Penn's settlers in 1682. The records give the clue to the Pownalls of the neighbourhood of Northwich in the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries, and the registers of Witton, and Great Budworth give a long record of the family. The emigrant, George Pownall, having become a member of the Society of Friends, caused by this estrangement a hiatus in the family story. Can your friendly columns unlock the secret by revealing any notes of Quaker births about the year 1670, and earlier?

Northwich.

JORN WESTON.

ORIGINAL DOCUMENTS.

[236] MARRIAGE REGISTERS OF ST. OSWALD'S,
CHESTER.

1600.

Thurstan Yellis & Jane Glecke, April 29
 Wm. Hilson & Marget Hilson, July 13
 Richard Janson & Marget Parre, July 27
 John White, schoolmaister to the bishop of
 Chester*, & Bridget Earwood, September 7
 John Johnson & Jane Kenioghe, Nov. 1
 Wm. Fisher & Jane Warmisham, Nov. 11
 Robert Harrison & Elizabeth Salusbery, Nov. 30
 Joseph Phasakerley & Jane Robinson, Feb. 15

JUNE 22, 1898.

NOTES.

[237] VARIA.

In No. 137 is a reference to the orthography of the title and surname, of *Clark*. The more modern phonetical spelling (*temp. Eliz. and Jac. I.*) is noticed, after the ancient pronunciation—Clark; as in Serjeant—Sarjeant so pronounced, and properly so, by many, chiefly the more illiterate.

Marbury (No. 139) is stated to be in Cheshire; but I think it is just within the borders of Shropshire. It is not Marbury near Northwich. But, see *Ormerod*, iii, 459. Perhaps a small part of it may run into Cheshire.

Drinkwater (Nos. 138 and 144.) This was the surname of an old yeoman family, well known many generations since in and about Thelwall (nr. Warrington). Some mention of the name occurs in Mr. Earwaker's "Local Gleanings, Nos. 284 and 306."

Duncalfe (No. 151) an ancient yeoman family once of the Mobberley neighbourhood, the representation of which was claimed by a Mr. Duncalf, of Oldham, in Lancashire—as I am reminded, by this will. I was casually informed of this when residing in London over 45 years ago, by the late Capt. James Greaves, of Mere Cottage, Mere, Cheshire.

Thyckens (No. 130, Chester Coats, 20). I remember, as a curious local name, seeing, on the Cheshire Plea Rolls of a very early date, 'del Thykwythines' (John o'th' Thickwithies), ancestor of the family of Thicknesse?—represented by a clergyman of the name, I am under the

impression, once residing in or near Wigan, or in or near the Staffordshire pot and coal district.

Tittle (No. 200). Tickle, a surname which is still pronounced 'Tittle' by the rural million—who are not millionaires, and by some who are.

Fender (No. 166). I suggest that this term is a contraction of 'defender,' by way of 'boundary.' The term is not confined to the shield of a fire-place, but still appears also in the character of a 'buffer'—a large, heavy, rope-knitted bundle—for the defence of the sides of vessels, usually in mooring or hauling into dock.

Clocks (No. 158). Many years since, with other 17th and 18th Century Cheshire and Essex oaken pieces of elaborately and curiously carved heraldic furniture, I had a tall, narrow, carven-cased 8-day (or 14-day?) clock—which was always an object of superstition to the Essex servants. It bore, on its brazen dial, the name of its maker (either of Northwich, or Nantwich), and a movable circular figure of the moon, which recorded her usual phases. An alarum was attached of a startling character; and the old article also chimed the hours and half-hours, I well remember, on very sweet bells, helped by a vigorous drummer. Two or three dummy soldiers followed, who would fain make you believe that the bell music was all their own. One day, a few hours before its intended removal from the old house (which the trustee and lessee of it had sold, with five acres of curious old gardens, to the builders), in which house it had stood almost since it was created a clock, it sounded its last chimes, for mid-day, and immediately dropped in a heap on the grand-staircase 1st landing! It had certainly for a long period been very badly infested with the worms. The oaken pins (there was not a nail in it) had given way, and metal and woodwork lay together in a mass of irretrievable ruin, amid a small cloud of wood-dust that flew up, like spirits, from its mortal sides, when the crash came. I had the fragments packed into a large hamper, but restoration was in vain. All clock-architects looked gravely on, and would gladly have "restored" it by putting in three-fourths of deeply-dyed new wood, and about a third of their modern soft-brass work, and steel pinions and wheels. So it died a natural death; which was the only consolation I had over its 'public' funeral. For, I gave it to a taverner for mine host of "The Flower de luces" in the Forest of Epping.

*Dr. Richard Vaughan, Bishop of Chester, 1597-1605.

In the same doomed house several other curious things had occurred. But here I can only record one or two, such as the dropping from its fastenings of a small old oil portrait, representing the great-grandfather of the husband of the last heiress of this property. The portrait, with others, was hung high up, on each side of the clock; and on the day of the lady's death it unaccountably fell, and alighting on the back of a huge oaken chair beneath, the frame was too badly broken to be repaired. Another ghostly incident occurred at the very moment of her death. The house itself had for many generations a "spiritual" reputation, in a measure confirmed, in a 17th century household book, by an extraordinary record of changes of servants. Other portraits, too, had fallen within a few minutes of their owners' deaths; but these latter breakages were in a Cheshire house, in the last half of the 18th century.

T. H.

[238] NORTHWICH OR WITTON GRAMMAR SCHOOL.

(Continued from No. 229).

THE REMOVING of the Scholemaister and the causes whie.

ALSO EVEN AS the continuance of a scholemaister that dooth his Duetie, tendereth the profyte of his scholers and maketh them prouppere as well in maners as in lernynge is profytable and commendable and nothinge more is:—Soo lykewyse is it the greatest hinderaunce and discommoditie to the scholers to have a scholemaister negligent in his office or doth not profyte the scholers, dissolute in maners, a drunke, a horemaister, or intangled with other occupacons repugnaunt to his vocacon. A dyser or a common gamster, I will therfor that if enny such chaunce their to be placed, That those which have or shal have auctoritie to place and admytte hym, shall lykewyse after examynacon and due prooffe their of made, have auctoritie to remove hym.

THE WARNYNG yt shall be geven to the Scholemaister and that he geve also.

ALSO I WILL that the feoffees and th'others as aforesaid, being disposed to remove the scholemaister uppon juste occasion as aforesaid shall gyve to hym warnynge half a yere to provide for hymselfe, And lykewise if hee be disposed to departe he shall gyve to theym openlye in the church on the sondaie or summe festyval daie warnynge their of half a yere before his

departure. If a shorter tyme will not serve booth the parties more conveniently, And if hee neglect to gyve the said warnynge, I will that their shalbe stayed in hands of the feoffees, that have at that tyme the colleccion of the rentes, of his wageis fourtye shillings, which I will shalbe gyven to fourtye poore people of the saide Parisshe of Wytton.

THE ABSENCE of the Scholemaister.

ALSO BECAUSE nothinge that is perpetuall is plesant, I will that the Scholemaister shal have liberty once in everye yere Thirtie daies together to be absent to recreate hymselfe, requiringe Licence therefore at handes off the feoffees, Soo it be for reasonable occasions and urgent busynes, Hee alwaies providinge that his schollers loose no tyme in his absence but that they be occupied, and exercysed at their bookes till his returne, at his chardges, uppon which consideracons the said feoffees shall graunt hym licence as aforesaid.

WHAT AUCTHOURES are to be redde in the Schoole.

AS TOUCHING, in this scoole, what shall be taught of the maister and lerned of scollers, it passeth my wytte to devyse and determyne in perticuler, But in general to speake, and somewhat to saie my mynd, I will they were taught allwaies the good litterature both laten and greeke, and good aucthoours such as have the veraie Roman eloquence, joynd wyth wysdome especyally Christayne Aucthoours, that wrote their wysdome with cleane and chaste laten eyther in verse or in prose, for myne entente is by ffoundinge of this schoole speciallye to encrease knowledge and worshippe of God and our Lorde Jhesu CHRISTE, And good Christian lyffe and maners of the children. And for that entente I wyll the children lerne the Chatechisma, and then the accidence and grammer set out by King Henrye th'eight or sume other, if enny can be better for the purpose to induce children more specelye to laten speeche; And then *Institution Christiani hominis*, that lerned Erasmus made, and then *Copia* of the same Erasmus, *Coloquia Erasmi*, Ovidius *Methamorphoseus*, Terence, Mantuan, Tullye, Horace Saluste, Virgill, and such other as shalbe thought moost convenient to the purpose unto true Laten Speeche, All barbery, all corrupcion and ffylthynges and such abusion which the blinde worlde brought in, I utterlye abanysshe and exclude out of this Schoole, and chardge the maister, that he teache alwai that is beste, and reade to them suche aucthoours as have with wysdome joynd the pure chaste eloquence.

THE ADMISSION of the Schollers.

Also I WILL that the schoolemaister admytte no scholler into the schoole under the age of Syxe yeres, and that the schoolemaister reade the statutes, orders, rules, and lawes belonging to the schollers at th'admission of everye scholler, which their friends presentinge theym, and hearinge shall undertake and promise to see perfourmed by the children by them presented; which doon the schoolemaister shall admytte hym and wryte his name in a rolle of parchement. And for th'admission and entringe of eny scholler in the rolle to receyve and take iiijd. onste for ever, of everye of theym. And, if their parentes or friendes will not paye the same willinglye, I will then their children be refused and unreceyved till such tyme that it be payedd.

THE SCHOOLMAISTER'S *stypende or wageis and vayles.*

Also I WILL that the Schoolemaister shal have yerely twelve poundes standing, besides his vayles. And that hee shall receyve and have it quarterly by iiijlb a quarter at thandes of the feoffees and churchwardens of Wytton for the tyme beinge which vayles is iiijd. onely at th'admission of every scholler. And on the firste Thursdaie after the begynnyng of schoole after Christmas of every scholler a penny commonlye caulled a cock-pennye.

THE CORRECCON and causes of *expulcon* of the Schollers.

Also I WILL that all the scollers of what estate condicon or degree soever they be, shall submytte themselves to due correcon of the scholemaister which at their enteraunce shalbe promysed as well by their freindes as by themselves, which correccon shalbe alwaies referred to the discrecion of the Schoolemaister, and not to the opynyon and mynd of the schollers. And for disobedyence and resistance theirow, they shalbe expelled the schoole for ever, unlesse their freindes be earnest sutors to the schoolemaister and can prevayll with hym, And yet in such sorte that their humble obedyence at their returne shall recompence their fourmer stubbornnes. But [observ]eing the great inconvenience and enormytie that dooth aryse by wilfull persons and ignoraunt, who can suffer their children through dissolutenesse and over-moche libtie shuld commytte offenses worthy greatt punishment to their shame and undoinge then to have them corrected by the discrecion of the scholemaister accordinge to the qualytie,

quantitie, and gravitie of their offences, And upon complaynt of the children, their parentes doo seeme to moleste and disquiet the scholemaister against reason and ordre, I will that all such men's children after due proffe of such follye and fondnesse of the parentes herein shalbe utterlye expelled from the scole for ever, unles they shalbe hable to prove that the correccon doon was unreasonable, And that to be provedd before and to the feoffees of the schole and overseers for the tyme beinge.

(To be continued.)

[239] MARRIAGE REGISTERS OF ST. OSWALD'S CHESTER.

1601.

Edward Man & Anne Johnson, May 3
Richard Scatterall & M'garet Gydden, July 14
Hughe Thomas & Ales Cowper, July 20
Richard Mullis & Margaret Quail, Aug. 27
John Hyne & Elis. Witophe, Aug. 30
Thomas Crosse & Jane Ithell, Sept. 27
Rauff Jump & M'get Wade, in Saughton Chappell Sept. 29
John Wilkinson & Elis. Ashon (?), Oct. 19
Thomas Kempe & M'gerye Powell, Oct. 25
John Knee & M'gery Stevenson, Nov. 1
Robert Hyde & Jane Bradnall, Nov. 9
Peter Starkie & Margaret Piske, Nov. 22
Jevan John & Jane Johnes, Nov. 22
Rondle Dicaas & Ales Cooke, Nov. 29
John Blynstoone & Margery Ashmoe, Jan. 24
Edward Waryn & Elizabeth Wilkynson, Feb. 10
Thomas Lovelady & Ellen Pillinton, Feb. 15

JUNE 29, 1898.

NOTES.

[240] NORMAN SURNAMES IN CHESHIRE.

(See No. 197).

The following may be added to the already given list of names borne anciently, or of modern introduction, in this county. *D'Arcole* (Arkle), *D'Ameris* (Emery, etc.), *Beaumont* (or Beaumonde—Beaumont, Adam de), *Blounde* (Blount, Blunt), *Boleyne* (Boulogne—Bullen, etc.), *Jolicoeur*, *Sauvage* (Savage), *Toronde* (which may come either from the French, or the old British—but, as a surname, much more probably from the former), *Warrenne* (Warren).

Early Yorkshire, Lincolnshire, Lancashire, Warwickshire, Staffordshire, Middlesex, and Cambridgeshire surnames, anciently, and some of them at present, in Cheshire.

Cottingham (a fine manor and collegiate church, so named, near Hull), *Doncaster*, *La Scelles* (Lascelles), William and John de Lascelles, Edward II. and III.—probably derived from a garland of flowers, but, by some, from a ring—a thumb ring perhaps with an old legend attached. They seemed to have followed each other, as Seneschals of Halton Castle—then still a possession of perhaps the most powerful Baron in England, Lacy, Earl of Lincoln (or his heirs general, if the same Earl—the last—who was buried in St. Paul's Cathedral, and left his Town house, inn, hostel, or mansion-house, called Lincoln's Inn, to the lawyers.) *Vavasour*, of Halton, also Seneschal, temp. Edward III., as was most probably, at a much earlier date, the de, or rather del *Londs* (Lone, Lane, temp. Edward III., co. Staff.)—from a lane or road, as there is no original evidence of their existence as the holders of any great fief, or of any other considerable estate, if any at all, in Cheshire, where the heralds make them to have first appeared soon after the Conquest; but it is not altogether improbable, from name and other circumstances, that they were Normans, though not rightly placed on the Roll of Battle Abbey—an invention perhaps of the 16th or 17th century Herald, by way of gratuity for the preservation of Charles the 2d's neck by the admirable Jane Lane, who, a century after, was emulated by the equally charming Flora Macdonald, the deliverer of another gallant Stuart adventurer.) *Pickering* (Pickering of the Vale of Pickering). *Skipton*, temp. Edw. III. *Liversage*. All of these (and perhaps even the Lanes) were most probably Yorkshire followers of the Lacies, who were lords of the Honour or Fee of Pomfret (Pontefract) and its castle, and other gigantic possessions in that large county of once wild and waste lands—like its then marshy, moorish, and waste neighbour, Lancashire, West Derby Hundred being the choicest.

Holland, out of Lancashire; originally acquired the name from their manor of Holland in Lincolnshire, and curiously enough, were grantees of one or both of the Lancashire manors of Up-Holland and Down-Holland. And not improbably, *Hellesby*, for instance, may have been, in the same way, a 12th century migration from Bellesby, a large barony in Lincolnshire (bearing the same arms, with metal and tincture reversed), one at least of its dependencies being held originally by the Albanies, counts of Arundel, who, when that earldom or county was afterwards held by the Fitz-Alans, temp. Ric. I. were also Lords of the Fee of Dunham-o'th'Hill,

co. Chester, of which Hellesby manor was then feudally held. But many of these Lincolnshire names were those of younger sons who doubtless came into Cheshire originally by reason of the suzerainty of Randle de Blunderville, then count of Chester and Lincoln—the latter county after A.D. 1232, passing to the Lacies, in whose retinue others of these "foreigners" would migrate—such, perhaps, as *Lyndesey*, of the barony or honour or fee of Lindsay, co. Lincoln, one of whose branches, like the Hamiltons, settled in Scotland. Other names of modern date, such as Welsby and Humbers-ton also came out of Lincolnshire.

Out of Lancashire migrated *Catheral* (Cathedral, etc.), *Hesketh*, and *Hulton*, or *Hilton*, the Saxon for the 'town by the hill' (precisely as Helsby is the Danish).

From Warwickshire, early Henry III. came of a great house of many branches, *Arden* (Ardern) to marry *Alvanley*; and *Coventry*, who in 1206 was represented by Walter de Coventry, who, as Seneschal of the Earl of Chester, renounced all claim to the advowson of Horsington Church, co. Lincoln, which Walter de Bellesby (*alias* Belesby, etc.) had quit-claimed to G. Fitz-Peter, Earl of Essex. (See Mr. Taylor, in the Chester Archaeological Journal for this year). Wm. de Albany, apparently of a younger line of the original Arundels, had also executed a grant to Walter de B. the year preceeding.

T. H.

(To be continued.)

[241] A BREACH OF PROMISE CASE IN 1637.

(Continued from No. 226.)

WILLIAM STANLEY in answer to certain questions testified that he heard divine service at Easthame Church upon Thursday last being Ascension day, and doth usually goe to church upon Sundaies and other festivall daies. He said that all his fellowe witnesses except himselfe, Mr. Willm. Coventrie, and Eline Winstanley are popishe recusants.

ELLEN WINSTANLEY of Eastham parish, aged 22 years, said "that aboute a fortnight before Whitsontide last the articulate Mr. Richard Hookenhull, Mr. Willm. Coventrie, Edward Hastie, Mrs. Anne Stanley, Anne Hastie, and herself being all at a tenant's house of Mr. Stanley's of Hooton, situate in Spittle, the said Mr. Coventrie wished the said Edward Hastie and herself to leave the roome where the rest were, which they did, and afterwards cominge to them againe the said Mr. Coventrie did give a pointe from the

said Mr. Hockenhull his cloaths to the said Edward Hastie, and wished him to weare it in honor of the weddinge or marriage betwixt the said Mr. Hockenhull and Mrs. Anne Stanley, which the said Edward Hastie did accept and weare accordingly, and then this deponent desyred one of those points from the said Mr. Hockenhull that shee might in like manner weare in honor of there marriage, and then the said Mr. Hockenhull did give this deponent an other of his points which shee did accept and weare accordingly, and saith since that time this deponent hath seene and knownen them to bee severall times in private together and saith they have since that time lived and layne together as lawfull man and wife, as she believes, and for lawfull man and wife are commonly accounted, reputed, and taken amongst their friends and neighbours, as shee believeth." She said, moreover, "that before that time the said Mr. Hockenhull did severall times make love to the said Mrs. Anne Stanley, and came to her as a suitor in the way of love and marriage, as she believeth, and saith the same day the said Mrs. Anne Stanley shewed this deponent a ringe upon her finger, which shee had not worne before to that deponent's knowledge, and tould that deponent that was the ringe with which the said Mr. Hockenhull and shee were contracted."

EDWARD HASTIE of the Parish of Eastham, aged 34, testified that "about a fortnight before Whitesontide last, the articulate Mr. Richard Hockenhull, Mr. Willm. Coventrie, Mrs. Anne Stanley, this deponent and his wife Anne Hastie, and his fellow witness Elen Winstanley of Hooton, beinge at a tenaunt's house of Mr. Willm. Stanley, of Hooton, situate in Spittle, the said Mr. Hockenhull, Mr. Coventrie, and Mrs. Anne Stanley, or some of them wished this deponent and the said Elen Winstanley to leave the roome where they were, which they did and afterwards came into the roome againe, and their she said Mr. Coventrie gave unto this deponent a pointe from the said Mr. Hockenhull his doublett and badd this deponent were it in honor or in favor of the said Mr. Hockenhull and Mrs. Anne Stanley there weddinge or marriage which this deponent accordingly did wear in his hatt; and then the said Mr. Hockenhull said to the said Ellen Winstanley, 'Thou shalt have one to' or words to that effectt, and then did give her one of the said points, which she did accept and weare it, since which time they have been accounted to bee man and wife

amongst there friends and acquaintance as hee beleeveth." Many times before the Mr. Hockenhull did make love and was a suitor to the said Mrs. Anne Stanley in the way of marriage as was conceived.

In answer to interrogatories, he said that he was cook to Mr. Stanley; that he was worth ten pounds and upwards his debts paid; that he was a popish recusant; and that about two years since his wife, Anne Hastie being troubled with melancholie as it was conceived, did take some phisicke for the same.

The reference to the giving of the points is very interesting. The word, very familiar to readers of Shakespeare, is defined as "a lace, string, &c., with a tag used for fastening articles of dress, especially the hose to the jacket or doublet."

(To be continued.)

[242] NORTHWICH, OR WITTON, GRAMMAR SCHOOL.

(Continued from No. 238.)

THE PREFERMENT of the founders kynred and schollers.

Also I WILL that my kynsfolke, whearsoever they dwell comyng to this schoole shalbe freely taught, And that if their be enny of theym hable and meete to teach or comparable to those, which may be gettin when the place is voide, that they shalbe preferred. And for lack of theym I will that such as have been in the parissh or brought upp in this schoole, and after hable and meete for this funcon, shalhave the preferment thereof before others.

OLDE ORDERS and customes to be observed.

Also TO TE'NDE that the schollers have not an evill opynyon of the schoolemaister, nor the schoolemaister shulde not myslyke the schollers doinge for requiringe of customes and ordres, I will that uppon Thursdaies and Saturdaies in th' afternoones and uppon hollydaies they reffreshe themselves. And that a weeke before Christynmas and Easter accordinge to the olde custome, they barre and keepe forth of the schoole, the schoolemaister in suche sorte as others scollers doe in greet schooles: — And that as well in the vacacons as the daies aforesayed, they use their bowes and arrowes onelye. And eschewe all bowling, cardinge, dysyng, quytinge, and all other unlawfull gaumes, uppon payne of extreame punysshment, to be done by the schoolemaister. And that every scholler have and use in the churche his prymer, wherin is conteynd the vij psalmes, the psalmes of the passion, and suche like.

FOR PRAYER and observings of tyme.

ALSO I WILL that the schollers come to the schole by vij. of the clock in the mornynge and goo to dyner at xj. and after dyner returne at one of the clock and departe home at v^{ve} of the clock. And that theye thrise a daie serve God within the schoole, Rendering Hym thanks for His goodness doon to theym, craving His specyall grace that they may profyte in vertuose lernynge to His honour and glorye, praying for the soule of their founder by name, and for the soules of his father and mother and all Christian soules, and onste every week, that is to saie, on the ffrydaye, to saie the seven penitencyall psalmes, with the latynye suffrags and collecta, And every seconde ffrydaye the psalms of the passion, with the psalme of mercy and *de profundis*, with a collect at th'end thereof, And onste a yere (that is to saie) upon JHESUS daie in th' afternone (In whose name this schoole is erected) in the parishe church aforesayed to saie the *Derige* and *Commendacons*.

WHEN theis Estatutes shalbe redde.

ALSO I WILL that theis Estatutes be redde in the Churche at every feast before the breaking upp of the schoole to all the schollers, to th'intent the schollers maie the better theirby remembre their duetie in the tyme of their absence, And that the Schoolemaister do gyve them an exhortacon in the schoole before they breake upp schoole, howe they shall ordre themselves till their returne, At which tyme I will that foure of the ffeoffees and the churchewardayns be present To th'intent they maie gyve warninge to such schollers, as they shall see to offende against the said exortacon or against enny of theis estatutes.

(To be continued).

[243] MARRIAGE REGISTERS OF ST. OSWALDS' CHESTER.

1602.

Thomas Egerton & Jane Danport, April 7
Cristopher Walmsley & Margaret Lewis, April 11
Raffe Davies & Alles Garfeyld, May 26
Richard Prescott & Ellen Calister, married by Sir John Tomson, May 23
Thomas Byrd & Widdowe Sekersonne where married by Sir John Tomson, June 1
Mr. John Vaughann* & Mrs. Catheryne Calvey were married in Churcheneathe Chappell by Mr. Byllens,† June 1

* Probably a son of Dr. Richard Vaughan, then Bishop of Chester.

† Perhaps Rev. Thomas Billinge, Rector of West Kirby, 1603-1631.

John Pendleton & Elizabeth Powell, June 6
Robert Gyle & Elizabeth Huyt, June 6
Robert Huyt & Ellen Denson, June 6
Robert Barton & Elizabeth Richardssonne, June 13
Thomas Runkhorne & Mary Moores, June 28
Thomas Quayntrey & Ellen [], July 4
Richard Rennalds & Katheryne Taylior, Aug. 1
Robert Floyed & Jone Garrett, Aug. 8
Robert Trolooke & Ales Cowley, Sept. 6
Robert Woods & Katheryne Lee, Sept. 27
Robert Lytherland & Prudence Byngley, Sept. 20
Peter Jenkyn & Katheryne Wyce, Oct. 10
Thomas Weston & Elizabeth Halle, Oct. 11
Thomas Wittle & Jane Bankes, Nov. 14
William Hunt & Jane Burye, Dec. 26
Mr. William Aldersay & Jane Sefton, Dec. 30
Arthure Bolland and Martha Rennalds, Jan. 10
Hugh Moteram & Katheryne Warmisham, Feb. 8
George Blynstane & Ellen Blundell, Feb. 27
Raffe Alexander & Margaret Capper, Mar. 4
Lewys Williams & Sybill David, Mar. 5

JULY 6, 1898.

NOTES.

[244] NORMAN SURNAMES IN CHESHIRE.

(Continued from No. 240.)

Tottenham, another early name in Cheshire, seems to have come out of Middlesex. The Wilbrahams appear to have come from Wilbraham, in Cambridgeshire, to marry one of the Cheshire Vernons, temp. Henry III. The only lines now in existence of this family, issued from a younger branch, settled in the 16th century in Nantwich; and of these the Delamere Wilbrahams are the stock, and by the extinction of the elder House (of Woodhey) became heirs male of the family—the Latham Wilbrahams being of the junior branch of Rode. The Stanleys were of Staffordshire; but there was also a distinct family of the same name, which was of no apparent relationship to the others—who were of Stoneley, in East Cheshire. Possibly, however, they were of the same male blood.

MISCELLANEOUS male branches of a few of the Cheshire houses, of more ramifications than ordinary, by the early gavelling of the inheritance of the elder lines. The earliest *Mesnilwarvyns* (Mainwarings), *Venables* and *Vernons* threw out branches of their respective names too numerous to mention. The *Leycesters* may be noted as a male branch of the Mainwarings, and probably derived their name from Leicesters, or the county of the same (adjoining Lincolnshire), from some estate or great office they

had there. The Warburtons came out of the eminent house of Dutton, from which also came many other early branches. The *Cholmondeleys* sprang from a younger son of the Malpasses, co.-barons of Malpas, by marriage, whose elder surviving line and heirs male are the *Egertons*, of Egerton and Oulton. The Malpasses also threw off many other male minor branches of the various names of the manors and townships surrounding, and also a family named "*Le Little*," and one *Richardson*.

To come a little nearer to Chester, the *Actons*, *Eltons*, *Lees* or *Leas*, *Chorletons*, *Hapsfords*, and probably *Woodhouses*, and *Torfotes* (de la Tor-foot), and some shorter lines, were all male branches of the *Hellesbies* of the 13th and 14th centuries, from subinfeudations of the fief of the elder house. One branch of Acton of Acton, in Delamere, became extinct in Cheshire in 1700. This was Acton of Alderley. The grandfather of Acton, the vendor to the Stanleys, was father-in-law of a Mainwaring of Bromborough, and nephew of Bradshawe of Marple, the 'Regicide' Judge of Charles I. These Actons were one of the most interesting of the minor lines of this county. There still stands in Over Alderley, near the remains of their hall, an aged relic of the reign of Edward III. or Richard II. in the shape of a large, dark, gloomy, old barn and shippon, of dark oak, in excellent preservation, though it can scarcely be less than five centuries since it was erected: it is probably one of the oldest in England. It was most likely built soon after the heiresses of the Alderleys carried a fourth of that large manor and other outlying estates to Adam de Acton, a younger son of one of the two lines of Acton of Acton, in Delamere Forest. But the largest barn, of solid, light-coloured oak, and one of the oldest and finest in Cheshire, is the great old barn at Arley Hall, built by the Warburtons of Warburton and Arley some 400 years since, about Richard III.'s time, on the ending of the Wars of the Roses, when few erections in places near the highways of the world would escape damage from the partizans of the Red Rose or the White.

All the *Tattons*, who bore, and bear, perhaps the most beautiful armorials in all Cheshire, most probably in the male line came out of the baronial House of Mascie, of Dunham Mascie, as did all the very numerous younger houses of Mascie, Massey, or Massie, in this shire, many of whose junior branches, in their turn, founded houses elsewhere—including a flourishing one in Ireland, whither went, in the sixteenth and

seventeenth centuries, also cadets of the Rowleys and Butters, and Hattons and Warburtons, and many others of Cheshire, just as, at a much earlier date, they settled in North Wales, and in all ages spread out into every English county.

So, probably among others, sprang the *Knutesfordes* or *Knutsfords*, of Knutsford, from either the *Mascies* or the *Tattons*. There is remaining in the choir of the fine Collegiate Church of Great Malvern, co. Worcester, a remarkably handsome, massive, altar-tomb of the reign of Elizabeth, undoubtedly to one of these Knutsfords, for there is no other place of the name in existence. The effigies are those of the handsomest pair, perhaps, in all England in their day—the husband particularly so, with his magnificent physique, in plate armour. The inscription points to the original having been a squire Knutesford, lord of some manorial place in the neighbourhood, and perhaps the last descendant of a marriage of a younger Knutsford of Knutsford with some local heiress. But, I confess the discovery as much surprised me (some 12 years ago), as did, some years since, a memorial of Charles II.'s time, in the old Church of St. Clement, at Hastings—which records the decease of Thomas Delves, Esq., one of the Barons of the Cinque Ports—a post which was then something approaching in importance that of a Baron of the Chester Exchequer,—the latter office often farmed out either to the needy, or grasping of all ancient days.

(To be continued).

[245] A BREACH OF PROMISE CASE IN 1637.

(Continued from No. 241.)

ANNE STANLEY testified that aboute three yeares and a halfe since, being then free from any marriage or contracte with anyone, and likewise the said Richard Hockenhull as she verlie believeth being then also free from any marriage contracte, and they being soe free, the said Rickard Hockenhull did dyvers tymes repaire to Hooton where she the said Ann Stanley lived and professed much love unto her in way of marriage, and after divers treaties of love and marriage to be had and solemnized betwixt them from that tyme or thereabouts until they were contracted which was aboute a fortnight before Whitsuntide was a twelvemonth happening in the yeare of our Lord God 1636 last past, and saith that aboute the same tyme the said Richard Hockenhull and the said Ann Stanley beeing then free from all former contracts as aforesaid did contracte marriage together betwixt themselves by the

wordes following or the like in effecte viz. the said Mr. Hockenhull about a fortnight before Whitsuntide in anno 1636 aforesaid speaking to the said Ann Stanley being then presente said as followeth vizt., 'I Richard take thee Ann for my wedded wife for better for worse, in sickness and in health from this day forwards,' and then said 'till this day fortnight,' whereupon one William Coventrie then present asked the said Richard Hockenhull if hee was serious in what he was aboute, or what hee was doing or to that effect, and then the said William Coventrie gave a ringe to the said Richard Hockenhull, saying 'I give this ringe to thee, Dicke, meaning the said Richard Hockenhull, upon condition that you give itt my sister Ann Stanley, to take her to your wife,' and the said Richard said 'I doe,' and the said Richard Hockenhull upon those terms accepted and tooke the said ringe, and then the said Ann Stanley for her parte, speaking to the said Richard Hockenhull said 'I Ann Stanley take thee, Richard Hockenhull for or to my wedded husband for better for worse, in sickness and in health from this day forward, and then the said Ann Stanley said unto the said Richard Hockenhull, 'do you meane seriouslie and trulie as I doe, and if you doe, put the ringe upon my finger,' and thereupon the saide Richard Hockenhull replied and said, 'I doe,' and putt the said ringe upon the said Ann Stanley's finger, and further saith that the promises were so done in a house in Spittle in the day tyme and afternoone of the same day being then presente with the said Richard Hockenhull and the said Ann Stanley, the said William Coventrie, and Ann Hastie yet saith that shortlie before the said contracte soe had and made, one Edward Hastie and Ellen Winstanley were in companie with the said Mr. Hockenhull, Mrs. Ann Stanley, Mr. Coventrie and Ann Hastie and were required to goe out of the roome where the persons aforesaid were by the said William Coventrie for a little space, and then they should or might come in againe, whose went out of the said roome, yett staydd neare the said roome, ut credit, for the said Edward Hastie and Ellen Winstanley immediately after the said contracte was had and done as aforesaid returned againe into the same roome at which tyme the said Mr. Coventrie took a poynte from the said Mr. Hockenhull his Clothes and gave it to the said Edward Hastie, and bade him weare itt in honour of the said Richard Hockenhull and the said Ann Stanley's marriage or

wedding, whose retained the same and then the said Ellen Winstanley desired a poynte of the said Richard Hockenhull to weare in honour of the said weddinge or marriage and the said Richard Hockenhull pulde one from his breeches and gave it her which shee received, and both the said parties did weare the said poynte accordingly, and alsoe saith that in Lent last the said Mr. Hockenhull did in the presence of the said Ann Stanley, Marie Stanley, Dorothea Stanley now wife to Mr. Roger Hurlston, and the said Ann Hastie say unto the said Ann Stanley, 'I acknowledge you for my wife,' and thereupon kissed the said Ann Stanley, who accepted the same, and kissed each other as man and wife, and soe were and are accompted, reputed, and taken ut credit and the said Ann Stanley saith that the said Richard Hockenhull after the said contracte or matrimonie soe had and made as aforesaid betwixt the said Mr. Hockenhull and the said Ann Stanley with an intent to consummate and corroborate the said marriage hath had the carnall use of the body of the said Ann Stanley, but not before, and before the said Ann Stanley consented to the same, the said Ann asked him whether hee did acknowledge the said contracte, and the said Ann to be his wife, and thereupon the said Richard Hockenhull said 'I doe, for I would not offere that wronge unto you for all Cheshire or Worrall.' And the said Ann Stanley saith and affirmeth that aboute three weeks after Midsomer in the year of our Lord God 1634 last past the said Richard Hockenhull having before bene a suiter unto the said Ann Stanley promised and swore unto the said Ann Stanley hee would marrie her and noe other woman and wished that hee might never prosper in any thinge that hee tooke in hand (say father or friends what they would) if hee did not marrie the said Ann Stanley or to that effect.

(To be Continued).

[246] MARRIAGE REGISTERS OF ST. OSWALD'S,
CHESHIRE.

1603.

Robert Braynes & Alles Fysher, May 22
William Johnson & Elizabeth Sands, May 30
William Carley & Anne Davis, June 6
Roger Davies & Elizabeth Man, June 12
Hugh Stafford & Sicely Freboddy, July 10
John Forsahew & Jane Luffkyn, Sept. 11
William Richardson & Ktheryne Hyggynson,
Sept. 13
Richard Gregory & Lowry Brenton, [F] Oct. 16
Thomas Allerton & Alles Lurtinge, Oct. 16

John Lufkyn & Jane Morris, Nov. 28
 Thomas Dean & Anne Gryce, Dec. 26
 Nicholas Sheale & Alles Banyon, Jan. 22
 William Swyft & Elizabeth Martyndale, Feb. 1
 John Teylor & Elisabeth Wilkynson, Feb. 2
 Raffe Crumpe & Catheryne Kyrkes, Feb. 4

JULY 13, 1898.

NOTES.

[247] NORMAN SURNAMES IN CHESHIRE.

(Continued from No. 244.)

The *Kingsleghs* of Kingsley may also be noted as a considerable example of an early Cheshire family that threw out scarcely a solitary male line, on the extinction of the elder stock, by its merger in as many as some half-dozen co-heiresses, at the latter end of the 13th century. The Heir male was then to be found only in some rather hazy younger line, of which there were (as usual with families) several. These were cousins of the last lord of Kingsley Fee—the descendant, in the male line, of the first Hereditary Chief Forester of the Forest of Mara and Mondrem (Delamere). He is called a nephew of Hugh Lupus, first Count of Chester, of his race, and one of the numerous Barons of Normandy. Of these cousins, the only one in evidence who managed to swim was John de Kyngeslegh, an opulent Squire of the Nantwich neighbourhood, temp. Hen. IV., who had much to do, as owner, if not actual worker, of some of the salt-pits. A long and interesting rent-roll of his, *pence me*, descended, with various other records, to the writer's great-grandfather, shews this John's numerous possessions in Nantwich—and of course in many other places. The minor baronage of the Palatinate county had no more powerful member than the lord of the Fee of Kingsley. But, by distaff, as usual, its power was dissolved, after about two centuries seisin. Then Le Roters, Dones, Cholmondeleys, and Gerrards, and perhaps another or two, swallowed the whole of it. The last two had but small inheritances—the former of them one good manor or part of a manor; and the Gerards a place of coal within their uncle's barony of Hawarden, in Flint. But, from this time forth, these heiresses were the 'making' of all the families they married into—at least, they gave them a great start. The Butters had a Fourth of the Fee, together with the Hall, as of the eldest co-heir; but they began to dwindle, almost from the first, and, as a House, expired in A.D. 1700, finally ruined by a vicious Royalist widow, whose

young son's estate had to bear a fine almost equal to that levied upon the very rich Earl Rivers! They, like the Cholmondeleys, were a male branch of the House of Malpass.

The *Dones*, with certain lands, took the Mas or Forestership, with its beautiful old badge of office, a hunting horn. The Gerards got Crewood, in Kingsley, and other and more extensive lands. The chief families all around the 36 miles' circuit of Delamere Forest and its Liberties were also Hereditary Foresters: such were the Grosvenours of Budworth-le-Frith and those of Holme. Which branch of the two was elder is not known, as both first appear in the middle of the 12th century. The Bostokes, and their kinsmen the Hellesbies, were also Hereditary Foresters; so also were the Ardens, the Egertons, and ever so many others whose manorial estates bordered on old Mara and Mondrem. And it was an important post at a time when the deer, no less than the poachers of all ranks, committed great ravages and no doubt provoked much of the poaching. Their havoc among the standing corn was immense, particularly in Acton, where the King, as Earl of Chester (Richard II.?) levied an annual relief for the tenants, which still exists, although the Forest was (with the exception of some 2,000 acres between Willington and Kelsall), disafforested early this century. Herds of deer used to bound over the high oaken Forest palings, trample down and eat the green corn, on their way to the then limpid river Weaver, which bounds Acton on the east. These incursions often led to feuds of generations' standing; and by the traditions of one family still existing, and recently in a great measure confirmed by old legal evidence, manslaughter and murders were the result, and monks and friars, and abbots and priors, and parsons and priests were with and among the lay animals who made fees for the vicar and rector. They were death-fees. There are one or two very curious and inexplicable superstitions associated with these fierce feuds in connection with a family who also bore the name of their younger lines of kinsmen, the Actons, and whose head slew a monk of Vale Royal in the forest. The story goes that the dying monk was reproached by his slayer as a shaven-pated rascal; when with superhuman strength, the victim lifted up himself on his hands, and solemnly cursed all the heirs of his antagonist 'with eternal baldness;' and what is more, it took effect in a very remarkable manner; for never, for numerous successive generations, did an elder, or elder-surviving, son succeed to

the inheritance but he grew bald before 30 years of age (but oftener at 25, and even at 20) while all his brothers were unaffected by "the curse"; but, if one of these went bald, he was sure to succeed as heir-apparent! Nearly 50 years ago the tradition was confirmed, and vouched for by the personal observation of one who was the grandson of one victim and the grandfather of another.

Thus, however, passed away the chief estate of the Kingsley's. But from one or other of the younger lines, an ancient family of the name, in a southerly county, claimed descent, apparently on the strength of a 17th Century altar-tomb in a church, bearing a similar coat; and early in the 18th Century the College of Arms permitted the enrolment of a pedigree, which, unfortunately, had a fatal gap of several generations between, I think, the 15th Century and the 14th. And as the name was one common to other manors and townships in several other counties, the college 'authorities' committed a great mistake in confirming a descent upon evidence so weak. Had the Heralds known, perhaps, or remembered, that coats, belonging to entirely different families of the same common name, were often very similar—except in some change of tinctures or metals, which on an old altar-tomb would be discoloured and worn—it is impossible to believe that they would have passed the enrolment or registration. At the same time, knowing the wide extent to which Cheshire families in those steamless days migrated into remote counties, it is by no means improbable that, as a fact, though helplessly weak, the pedigree is correct in the surmise.

T. H.

ORIGINAL DOCUMENTS.

[248] MARRIAGE REGISTERS OF ST. OSWALD'S, CHESTER.

1604.

Richard Brownett & Ellyn Rowlynson, April 8
 Thomas Ploume & Margery Kenricks, April 21
 William Fletcher & Margaret Trafford, May 8
 Thomas Baule & Moode Lee, May 8
 John Fox & Elisabeth Crumpe, June 12
 John Harrison & Ellen Crumpe, July 8
 Nicolas Cingley & Grace Conger, August 1
 William Thorpe & Elisabeth Baule, Aug. 5
 John Seale & Elisabeth Cowdocks, Aug. 5
 Nicholas Myller & Margaret Yate, Sept. 3
 William Myllner & Alles Davie, Nov. 11
 Edmund Mathewe & Jane Grymsdich, Dec. 2
 Richard Janian & Elisabeth Wodburne, Jan. 20
 Richard Yelson & Elisabeth Jaynson, Jan. 21
 Hugh ap Evan & Anne Baule, Feb. 3
 Humfray Walliner & Elisabeth Bebington, Feb. 12

NOTES.

[248a] A MILTON RELIC: CHESHIRE ASSOCIATIONS.

Thanks to the courtesy of one who claims to be a collateral descendant of Milton—a descendant from Milton's brother Christopher—there now lies before us (says the *Daily News*) an authentic Milton relic. It is a little tortoise-shell case, some four inches long, 1½ in. broad, and half an inch deep or thick, containing tablets, three ivory leaves, and a pair of dividers; other contents—a pencil and a pen and three other things—having been lost. At the bottom, which is of steel, there is a nearly circular raised part, which was used by the poet for sealing his letters. Presumably the poet bought it, or was presented with it, perhaps, by one of the best of fathers, or that mother whose well-known charity began no doubt at home, though it did not end there; perhaps by Mistress Mary Powell, before or after their relationship was so sadly overclouded, or by the Lady Margaret Ley, the honoured Margaret of his courtly sonnet; but one might go on for ever conjecturing donors—before his blindness became complete, which it did in 1652, when he was about 43 years old. It is a dainty little article, just such as Milton's refined taste must have approved and appreciated. And we may picture him with it often in his hands in his Aldersgate and Barbican days, or when resident at Whitehall. To think that these tablets may once have had written on them from time to time notes on the many subjects that occupied his quick and versatile mind in the busiest and intensest period of his life—on the prelates and their arrogancies, or that burning question of divorce, on the freedom of the Press, on education, on some political matter which the Secretary for Foreign Tongues was to handle in his choicest Latin, or, what is yet more interesting to imagine, on the great poetic design which he was fondly cherishing in the midst of all those other claims upon his time and attention, which, however against the grain, he did not think himself free to neglect or ignore; for, to quote his own memorable words, "were it (what he felt called on to do) the meanest under-service, if God by His Secretary Conscience enjoin it, it were sad for me if I should draw back; for me especially, now, when all men offer their aid to help, ease and lighten the difficult labours of the Church, to whose service, by the intention of my parents and friends, I was destined of a child and in mine own resolutions." But subsequent owners

generations ago, rubbed out all traces of 'commentaries' that would have so profoundly interested us, and possibly enabled us to see some masterpiece, or some part of a masterpiece, in the making. The tablets are pretty well clean now, except that the hand of time has slightly discoloured them. On one is written '1727,' the year in which Milton's widow died, but it may have been written long after that event; and on another 'Mr. Richard Lovekin' seems legible, followed by what we take to be 'alias Cock.' Who Mr. Richard Lovekin was we learn from an affidavit that providentially has accompanied, and still accompanies, this interesting souvenir of one of the greatest Englishmen. This document runs thus:

I, Richard Lovekin, of Nantwich [now Nantwich], in the county of Chester, do affirm and will make oath if need be, that a tortoise-shell case containing a pen, pencil, three leaves of ivory, and a pair of dividers, and a fish-skin case in which is contained ivory leaves [this fish-skin case does not appear to be extant], late in my possession, and now the property of Josh Massie, were given me by my aunt Mrs. Milton, widow of Poet Milton, some time before her death, who informed me that both of the cases above-mentioned belonged to her deceased husband Mr. Milton, and that he used the raised oval at the bottom of the tortoise-shell case as a seal; also that he did intend to have his own coat of arms engraved on it. In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand this first day of October [originally 'September,' but the September is crossed out], A.D. 1742.—RICHARD LOVEKIN.

So this tortoise-shell case can be traced back to Milton's third wife, Elizabeth, *née* Minshall, who we know belonged to a Cheshire family living at Wistaston, a village lying some two or three miles east of Nantwich—between Nantwich and Crewe. To Nantwich she retired shortly after the poet's death in 1674, and there spent the 50 years and more that she survived him. From some of Milton's biographers she has received scant courtesy or rather scant justice; but, for all that, she seems to have been a kindly and an intelligent woman, though, probably enough, not fondly loved by her stepdaughters or her nephews-in-law. Her intelligence is vindicated by Aubrey's account of his conversations with her, and her wifely kindness by the nuncupative will and certain evidence—the evidence of her two maidservants—given in support of it. His 'Betty'—so the poet called her—seems to have carefully tended him, to have 'made much' of him, in his growing infirmities, and in particular,

to have prepared for him such dishes as his delicate appetite found palatable; and, as the document before us shews, she kept by her till near the end of her own long life some memorials of a union—it lasted eleven years—which will certainly preserve her name as long as English literature is loved and studied.

JULY 20, 1898.

NOTES.

[249] A BREACH OF PROMISE CASE IN 1637.

(Continued from No. 245.)

And the said Ann Stanley further saeth that there hath beene and is within the parishes of Woodchurch and Eastham in the countie of Chester and in other parishes and places neare adjoining a publike voyce and fame, ut credit, that the said Richard Hockenhull and Ann Stanley had contracted matrimonie together and that they afterwards consummated and confirmed the said contracte or matrimonie soe had and made betwixt them by mutuall cohabitation and carnall copulation then following. And the saith Ann Stanley affirmeth that before the said matrimonie or contracte and since shee hath given or delivered or caused to be given or delivered to the said Richard Hockenhull in token of her true love, affection, and marriage had betwixt them the several things or goods, with gould and silver and rings mentioned in a schedule annexed to an allegacon articulate exhibited in this cause on the behalfe of the said Ann Stanley att least the said Richard Hockenhull hath taken the same from her as his owne by reason of the said contracte. And the said Ann Stanley saith that they were worth fourscore and tenn pounds att the least. And alsoe the said Ann Stanley affirmeth and saith that the said Mr. Hockenhull and the said Ann Stanley are man and wife, ut credit, and for such are to be pronounced, ut credit, and also saith that the said Richard Hockenhull bath beene and is of the parische of Woodchurch and diocese of Chester and by reason of the promisses subjecte to the jurisdiction of this court, ut credit. And further the said Ann Stanley affirmeth that the said Mr. Richard Hockenhull being in the hall of Hooton about Michaelmas last and being then aboute to go into Staffordshire as hee affirmed did say unto the said Mrs. Ann Stanley that att his returne out of Staffordshire hee would finish the marriage betwixt him and the said Mrs. Ann Stanley and further said that

should appeare to the world or hee would make itt appeare to the world, or to that effect, being then presents as she believeth Mrs. Marie Stanley and the said Ann Hastie

In another deposition, Ann Stanley declares that she "is the daughter of William Stanley, late of Hooton, Esquire, being one of the ancient houses in Cheshire, and that her mother was the daughter of Sir Edward Harbarte Knights, sonne of the Earle of Pembroke deceased."

The following is the schedule referred to as containing the list of presents given by Ann Stanley to Richard Hookenhull:—

Imprimis, delivered by the said Mrs Ann Stanley, of Houlton, th' elder, untoe the said Mr. Richard Hookenhull, of Prenton, certaine goods in token of her love unto him, and a marriage betweene them vidt. a peece of xs. to line a beaver hatt.

Item, fiftie shillings to buy a coate, and x shillings to pay the Taylor, and for buttons and silke as hee pretended.

Item, three pounds for a broad cloth Suite.

Item, foure pounds for a beaver hatt.

Item, for a stuffe Suite foure pounds four shillings.

Item, a Gould Ring, which was worth about nyne shillings.

Item, a silver Tobacoo box and ramar worth one or two and twentie shillings.

Item, bands, halfe shirts, other shirts, night Caps, boot hose, Stockings, handkercheifes, cuffs which could be worth noe lesse then seaven or eight pounds.

Item, shooes Roses, a horse Rose, Ribands, gloves, tobacoo, combe, lookinge glasse, spurs, and a wrought skarfe and the stuffe which did belong to the same was worth xs. before making.

Item, a beaver hatt which cost iij li. and xs. for feathers all of which were delivered unto the said Richard Hookenhull.

Item, six pounds in money hee borrowed of the said Ann Stanley, which upon request shee lent him.

Item, fortie shillings hee sent for at the horse course att Wallasey when my lord Savill's horse lost.

Item, the said Richard Hookenhull was thrise att holly well (Holywell) with the said Ann Stanley att which said tymes hee had each tyme xs., and hee the said Richard Hookenhull had at sev'rall tymes xs., . . . xs. and vs. which she cannot number, and what money hee pleased hee hath taken out of her deske, and out of her hands and pocketts by force or otherwise.

Item. delivered by the said Ann Stanley untoe the said Richard Hookenhull three yards and a quarter of white damaske for a doublett and a watch which cost foure pounds and on all tymes hee hath

beene in her Companie att Chester and other places hee hath continually had of her money to discharge his expenses.

Item, a Ring which was valued to be worth iij or iij li. hee the said Richard Hookenhull had delivered him by the said Ann Stanley and a purse which cost xs. and Inkhorne and two other purses, a forke with a silver haffe, knife, a silver scale, an amber and aggatt bracelett.

Item, white wine, sugar, nuttmeggs, chickens, and barberies. Eggs were delivered unto him when he was sick, and marmolett, all which cost money.

Item, delivered unto the said Richard Hookenhull by the said Ann Stanley, when his mare did run at the Roodye money for to pay the Ryder, and an earring beside other trifles.

[250] NORTHWICH OR WITTON GRAMMAR SCHOOL.

(Continued from No. 229.)

THE ELECTION of the feoffees.

Also BECAUSE all men be mortal And that throughe the lack of the numbre of them, feoffees beinge deade, there might happen summe disorder not onlye in the schoole, but also the landes and tenements hereunto gyven by the founder aforesaid might fall to sume ruyne and decaie, or the schoole house wante suche furnytur as apperteyneth. Therefore I will that as often as iij of the feoffees be deade, the reste of the feoffees, survivinge within one quarter of a yere, shall assemble themselves on the schoolehouse aforesaid And shall not onlye then and their elect and choose iij others of the founders next kynsfolke to be feoffees in the steed and place of the other iij feoffees before dead, if there be then so manye of his kynsfolke alyve, And if not, then to choose feure of the mooste honeste, sage, and discreetest persons beings Inhabytants of the parisshe of Wynton aforesaid, And specyally suche as wilhave a vigilant Iye and beare a good scale to the mayntenance and contynuanne of this free Grammer Schoole, but shall then and their also enfee the floure, so by them chosen, in all the landes, and tenementes gyven to the schoole aforesaid, to th' use lymtyd by the founder, In such sorte as they themselves be enfeoffed by the feoffment of the founder,— And this ordre and elecion to be contynuedd for ever.

WHO SHALL receyve the rents yerely and paie the wages and chardges.

Also I WILL that ij of the feoffees onely shall recyve and paye all maner of rentes, wages, and chardges concerning the premysses, And thei of shall yelde accountt every yere

uppon JHESUS even, to the rest of the ffeoffees, and to the churchwardeyns of Wytton aforesaid for the tyme beinge, and those ij to receave and paie the said rents and chardges for ij yeares and then to be removed from the busyness therof, and other two of the ffeoffees, to be chosen in their stedes by the eleccion of the rest of the ffeoffees and of the said Churchwardens for the tyme being.

A SPECIALL REMEMBRANCE.

AND BE IT remembryd and knownen to all the inhabitants of the Parisshe of Wytton, that I the said Sir John Deane, by my last wyll and testament remeanyn in writing, have geven to the poore householders in the same Parisshe fyve marks, to be paid wth in one quartr. of a yeare next after my deceasse.

ALSO I HAVE geven and provyded in my said last Wyll, that of th'issues and profitte of my Wychehouses in Northwiche, and of other my landes in Shorlache and Budworth there shalbe yearly for evr geven, distribute, and bestowed, amongst the poore scolers and poere folke of this my ffeescole and parisshe of Wytton, tenne shillings, in the vigyll or even of the birthe of our Lord God, the one half thereof amongst the said poore scolers, and the other half thereof amongst the saide poore folke. AND thus I byd you all farewell and desire you all to pray for me.

*By me Sir John Deane, person of great Ste.
Bartholomeus in London.*

This autograph seems to have been appended to the statutes in consequence of a desire expressed by the founder in the following letter, which "was found at the bottom of the school-chest in the "year 1708, by J. Partington, ball: ffeoffee."

After my hertie commendacions, whereas I am crediblie informed by the reporte of Mr. John Maisterton, and Phillipp Downis yor. neighbours and parissioners that their is contencon emongest you about the nominatinge and choysinge of a scole mayster in youre towne, I have thought good, as one to whome, methinks, the thinge beinge by me founded apperteyneth, to require and will you, that in your contencon you have some regard to my meanyng in the foundacon, And therewithall to dispose the same uppon some vertuose, lerned, and hable man for that purpose, leavinge yor. affecons assyde, And bynde yor. eleccion simplie uppon the statutes of the same scole, which were not devised without the godlye and discrete advise of the learned. And the same statutes hanginge in

the scole were openlye redde in yor. church at my last beinge their,—Th'effecte whereof in this parte is that he shalbe chosen and admytted by the Bysshopp of Chester for the tyme beinge, or els by the scole maister of the free scole in the cite of Chester foresaid, which ordre me thinks you shulde not brake,—The premisses well weyed and consideredd. I prais you send me upp the statuts hither to London, to th'intent I maye set my hande to them in confyрмаcon. And in the meane tyme, those that you have, to hange theym upp in the scole. further you shall understande my meaning and will is that [two] ffeoffees [shall be] chosen to receyve the rentes of the landes and shall [give accounte] yerelye for the same, to the other ffeoffees and to the [churchwardens] of Wytton for the tyme beinge. And that those two [bayliff ffe] offees, together with the churchwardens foresaid, [shall, from ty]me to tyme yerely, surveye the reparacons necessary [to be done] And make delaracon theirot to the reste of the ffeoffees; [And be] sides theis, myn entent and meaning is—that this my letter [shalbe re]dde in yor church to th'ende yor hoole parisshe maie know [myne entent] in the same And thus I bydd you hertelye farewell:—the xxxth daie of August, 1561, from

Yor loving freind Sr JOHN DEANE,
person of great Seynt Bartylmews.

QUERY.

[251] OLD CLOCKS IN CHESTER.
(See Nos. 133, 154, and 158).

I have a so-called 'grandfather clock.' The case is of dark brown oak, and stands 7 feet high. It is a thirty-hour clock, and has a brass face with a silvered dial, and one finger only. Each hour is divided into four parts, and at the points marking the half-hours are fleurs de lys. There is an opening at the bottom for the dial shewing the day of the month. The name of the maker is 'Jno. Hough, Knutsford.'

The clock was formerly the property of the Rev. Joseph Eaton, M.A., Precentor of Chester Cathedral, rector of St. Michael's, &c., and a Fellow of the Society of Antiquaries. A well-known Cestrian of the first half of this century, he succeeded his father as rector of St. Michael's in 1796, and died in 1850. Can Mr. Irvine give me the date of the clock and some account of the maker?

HENRY TAYLOR.

[252] MARRIAGE REGISTERS OF ST. OSWALD'S,
CHESTER, 1605.

William Tyrer and Ellen Burges, April 21
Nicholas Copeland and Ales Bankes, April 28
John Wright and Ann Davie, May 9
Griffith ab Eythell and Ellen Corker, May 12
Richard Hughson and Katherin Coventrey, May 20
Raffe Celler and Anne Lie (?), May 23
Thomas Howe and Ales Hill, June 30
Guili Candey and Anna Bennet, July 1
Peter Barber and Rose Skonoe, July 20
John Lache and Jane Quirke, Oct. 5
Nicholas Cooke and Lowry Gregory, Oct. 19
Hugh Whitby and Ales Robinson, Oct. 22
Thomas Thomasson and Jane Kelsoe, Nov. 19
Peter Yonge and Elisabeth Nicall, Dec. 3
Thomas Hough and Anne Rowe, Dec. 22
William Cooke and Elizabeth Janion, Jan. 7
Hector Gybbons and Ann Dean, Jan. 20
George Lidlton (?) and Margaret Griffith, Jan. 27

JULY 27, 1898.

NOTES.

[253] LORD AUDLEY AND HIS FOUR ESQUIRES
AT THE BATTLE OF POICTIERS.
(See 1st Series, Nos. 1065 and 1072).

The prominent part taken by Lord Audley and his four Cheshire Esquires at the great battle of Poitiers, is fully related in the pages of Froissart, where ample testimony is borne to their gallant bearing and invincible courage on that remarkable day. They occupy a leading position in the annals of that period. Subsequently, their respective services were recognised and commemorated by their statues, carved in stone, being erected at Doddington Hall. As, however, there is only a brief allusion to them in Ormerod's work, the following account, transcribed from the second volume of *Nooks and Corners of Old France*, by the Rev. G. Musgrave (1867), pp. 336, 360-2, may not be altogether unacceptable to your readers.

"A description of six stone statues yet in existence in the porch of the so-called 'Castellet' at Doddington, representing Edward the (Black) Prince, Lord James Audley and the four esquires," the details of which were "furnished by Edward Delves Broughton, Esq., of Wistaston Hall, Cheshire, a lineal descendant of Sir John Delves, one of the esquires of the Lord Audley, in the battle of Poitiers."

THE STATUES IN THE CASTELLET IN DODDINGTON PARK.

The part of the castle in which these statues stand was originally a portion of the old hall

built by Johannes Delves in the 14th century. When the old hall was taken down, these were removed, with some stonework, to this castellet, and there placed—two under the porch, viz., Edward, 'the Black Prince,' and Lord Audley; the other four (the esquires of Lord Audley) standing at the corners, two facing the front, and one facing each side. The names of the esquires were Sir Robert Fullethurst, Sir John Delves (above mentioned), Sir Thomas Dutton, and Sir John Hawkstone. In the statues of the four esquires there is nothing by which they can be distinguished from one another at the present time; and no one knows when they were first put up. They are remembered as they stand, beginning at the one on the left side from the entrance.

DESCRIPTION OF THE STATUES.

1. *Edward, the Black Prince.* This stands on the left as you enter the Porch. It is about seven feet in height. The head is perfect, but the features of the face are gone. His helmet is on, and a plume upon it, and by the side of the figure is the plume carved in the stone; the left leg is wanting; and the right leg seems to have been joined about the knee, as if it had been broken. It has been in the same state for the last twenty-five years. Half of the right foot and the right hand, also, is wanting. The body armour is perfect, but that of the legs is worn away.

2. *Lord James Audley.* This statue stands about six feet in height. The head and left foot are wanting. The rest is perfect and in good preservation. The helmet is not on the head, but is carved on the stone alongside of the figure. A ruff is about the neck, and the beard is long and sharp.

3. *The First Esquire.* This figure, which, like the other esquires, is in the niche in the wall about eight feet from the ground, stands about life size. The feet and left hand are wanting. The armour is perfect. The helmet is by the side; not on the head. A ruff is around the neck, and a pointed beard.

The Second Esquire. This figure is, in the main points, like the preceding; it wants its foot only, and holds a drawn sword in its right hand. Beard, ruff, and armour similar.

The Third Esquire. This in the main is similar to those above mentioned; it wants half the head and its feet. It holds a heart in the right hand. Armour and ruff similar to the others.

The Fourth Esquire. Similar to the others, but wants its feet and left hand; and holds nothing, but has a sheathed sword by its side. Buff, beard, and armour similar to the others.

They are all sculptured in stone.' "

An illustration of the Castellet is given in Ormerod's work, III., 524. (1882)

T. N. BRUSHFIELD, M.D.

Salterton, Devon.

[254] **BIRKENHEAD PRIORY.**

It is greatly to the credit of the Corporation of Birkenhead that they have taken over the ruins of their ancient Priory, and, after the difficult and arduous task of placing them in a sound state of repair, that they may be maintained for some centuries longer, they have opened these interesting buildings to the public of the borough. The course they have adopted in seeking the advice of the Historic Society of Lancashire and Cheshire for the careful and conservative treatment of the ruins is also to be commended. The society nominated Mr. E. W. Cox, one of their council, to superintend the works, and his supervision being adopted, the work was most carefully and well carried out by Messrs. W. Haswell and Son, of Chester. The result of the appointment of an antiquary, well versed in both ancient and modern systems of construction, may possibly be a step towards the solution of the much-debated question of the proper treatment of historic buildings, and towards an abatement of the ruthless and destructive course of 'restoration,' so called, by which too many have already been almost lost to us, by the substitution of new work and new designs for old.

In this case every ancient fragment has been preserved, and its character noted, and we are indebted to Mr. Cox for the following extracts from his notes on the remains:—

The recorded history of Birkenhead Priory is very scanty, nor does it hold any important place in local history, so far as it remains, connecting it with the many once powerful families who occupied the Hundred of Wirral. Yet it must once have taken an important position in the country, on account of its site on the Mersey, its tenure of the ferry connecting the roads between the Mersey and the Dee, and its use for access to North Wales. The rank, moreover, held by the Prior, as well as the very numerous remnants of sepulchral stones, many of which are distinctly of a secular rather than a monastic character, seem to suggest that its records have been lost

rather than that few of interest have existed. It will be the purpose of these notes to endeavour to find in the indications given by the remains themselves some of the unwritten history of this Priory, which may illustrate, if not personal history, at least some little of the domestic and social life of the Priory and its neighbours.

The Priory was founded in 1153 by Hamon de Masci, third Baron of Dunham Massey, in honour of St. James, for sixteen monks. From the "Welsh Records," we find that in 1277, Edward I., who was then organising an expedition into Wales, sailed from the Priory by barge to Bromborough and Norton. Lewis records that the Ferry was granted to the Priory in 1285, though by others it is said to have been given to it by licence in 1318 and 1322 by Edward II. Inasmuch as these documents were due to travellers who used the Ferry, complaining that they were not well accommodated by the monks, and as they confirm the older charter and fix the rates for toll, it would appear that the earlier date of the grant is probably the correct one. The licence also gives leave to the Prior to erect houses and to supply food and accommodation to travellers, who were detained by stormy weather from crossing the Ferry.

The tolls for ferryage were fixed at *twopence* for a man and horse, a *farthing* for a man alone, and on Saturday, then as now market-day at Liverpool, *one halfpenny*, and *one penny* for a man and what he could carry.

The Priors held the Manor of Claughton, holding their court at Claughton Grange, situate in Grange Road. A few remnants of the Grange buildings are said to have existed early in the present century near the present manor-house.

The Priors of Birkenhead sat in the Parliament of the County Palatine of Chester, as also did the Bishop of Lichfield, the Abbots of Chester, Bangor, and Combermere, and the Priors of Norton and Stanlaw.

In addition to their lands at Claughton, the monks held the Manor and advowson of Bowdon, and the advowsons of Bidston and of the Mediety of Wallasey. They had rights of pasture and common on Bidston Marsh, at Moreton, and at Tranmere, as well as fish yards on the Mersey, and between the Mersey and Oxton. These last must have been fresh-water fisheries, and possibly may be identified either with the lake once existing at Prenton, which is noted

in Domesday as belonging to the mill there, or with the now-drained mere at Moreton. They had a granary in Water-street, Liverpool, and kept their grain, if unsold, from one market day to another, stored in the upper floor. On this, information is given in the diary of Edward Moore, who held the house in the middle of the seventeenth century.

(To be continued).

REPLY.

[255] THE DATE OF THE MAKING OF THE PARKGATE-ROAD.

(See Nos. 170 and 204.)

In W. C. T.'s query as to the date of the making of Parkgate-road, he refers to the late Mr. Hughes' remarks in the first Volume of the Cheshire Sheaf (p. 257). In this Mr. Hughes says, "we are thereby" (by reference to a Boundary Deed of Chester City, dated 1540) "reminded of a period when the present Mollington or Parkgate-road was non-existent, and when the present Saughall-road through Garden-lane and over Stone Bridge, was the circuitous and only road to Mollington, Shotwick, Neston, etc."

It is a bold thing for one to differ from the late Mr. Hughes on any point relating to the City of Chester, but in this case it appears to me that he is so obviously in error that I may venture to do so.

First of all a glance at the map shews what an extremely circuitous route the one indicated by Mr. Hughes would be, and it is simply incredible that the Romans, with their passion for straight roads, would be content to allow an important road like the one which led to Neston, West Kirby, and the Meols, to commence by curving round in such an eccentric manner, especially as there is absolutely no physical feature in the land to render such a detour necessary.

Secondly, it must be remembered that Great and Little Mollington were important manors as early as the time of the Domesday Survey (1086), and the absurdity pointed out above is shewn even more strongly if one imagines that down to the 17th century people were content to go five miles round to achieve a distance of something like two and a half. Who in his senses, even in the days before rush and hurry became universal, would think of going to Little Mollington via Great Saughall!

Now Mr. Hughes made his deductions evidently from a phrase in the Boundary Deed.

After detailing that the boundary of the city runs to the river Dee, the document states that beginning at "Porte poole" it follows "that rever to a stone bryge being in Molynton high waye, and from hence up a lytill syche or Rever unto Bache-poole." Mr. Hughes seems to have assumed that "a stone bridge in Mollington highway," must be the present day "Stone Bridge" on the Saughall road, whereas there is nothing to show that such is the case, and every reason to presume that there would be a stone bridge on the Mollington (now the Parkgate) highroad, at the point where the stream running from the Bache Pool is crossed.

In addition to this, a reference to Speed's map of Cheshire (1611), which includes a large scale plan of Chester, shews the Parkgate road of to-day, continuing from Northgate-street in the most pronounced manner, with its equally important fellow-arm branching off in the direction of Eastham, along the lines of the present Liverpool-road. Although this plan does not go quite far enough along the road to absolutely prove that the present Parkgate road was the important road into western Wirral at all events in 1611, it certainly is strong evidence in support of my contention, as will be seen by reference to the original map.

So that in spite of Mr. Hughes' remarks, and in spite also of Mr. Gleave's interesting note (No. 204), where he apparently accepts Mr. Hughes' statement, I have no hesitation in saying that the date of the making of what we now call the Parkgate-road must be put back into the far remote past. Perhaps to a time centuries before any Roman Cæsar ever cast longing eyes on the sea-girt island in the Northern Sea, when the Britons, undisturbed except by their internal wars, peacefully cultivated the rich lands of southern Wirral, and needed a good roadway by which to bring their fruits to market at the fortrees crowned heights overlooking the Dee.—Yours, &c.,

WM. FERGUSON IRVINE.

Birkenhead.

[256] MARRIAGE REGISTERS OF ST. OSWALD'S, CHESTER.

1606.

Robert Lowe and Jane Morey, April 23
Robert Mullynax and Alles Dodd, May 1
Edward Powell and Marie Butriche, May 4
Owen Pears and Jane Lewis, May 24
John Willkins and Anne Bythell, June 4
Richard Tealyer and Margery Millner, June 8

Edward Pritchard and Margaret Braynes, July 27
 William Higginson and Isabell Jackson, Aug. 10
 John Queens and Elizabeth Caloe (?), Sept. 14
 John Twyde and Alles Pasment, Sept. 15
 John Akers and Katheryn Evans, Sept. 28
 John Bryan and Anne Willsonne, Oct. 5
 William Mackley and Elizabeth Rise, Oct. 19
 John Carothers and Mary Andertonne, Oct. 20
 John Johns and Anne Carlen, Oct. 20
 John ap Bedward and Elizabeth Edwards, Nov. 1
 Thomas Norris and Margaret Cooke, Nov. 16
 Wm. Woodwort and Margaret Croughton, Nov. 16
 John Calcott and Grace Dye, Nov. 23
 Edward Carlile and Margaret Lea, Dec. 21
 Thomas Rose and Elizabeth Owyn, Dec. 26
 Charles Munyfeild and Jane Mathewes, Feb. 23

AUGUST 3, 1898.

NOTES.

[257] A BREACH OF PROMISE CASE IN 1637.

(Continued from No. 249.)

There are some affidavits sworn by the defendant Richard Hockenhull in this case, which do not appear to go far in raising our estimate of his character. He lays great stress on the majority of the witnesses against him being near relatives of Ann Stanley, as well as Popish Recusants, as if these circumstances rendered their evidence of little or no value. He makes light, too, of the evidence of the women servants as though he considered them as likely to testify in accordance with the wishes of their employers. He complains moreover of the smallness of the portion of Ann Stanley, and states that his father, John Hockenhull, considers that a man of his estate is worth of portion of £1,000, £900, £800, £700, or at least £600.

The deposition goes on:—

Item that the marriage portion of the said Ann Stanley is farr lesse than the said John Hockenhull expecteth or the said Richard Hockenhull deserveth with a wife, yet notwithstanding the said Ann Stanley, and her kinred and friends, and especiall the witnesses before named, produced, sworn, and examined in this cause have and doe labour and endeavour to procure the said Richard Hockenhull to marrie the said Ann Stanley, and they, or some of them, and especially the said Mary Stanley, Dorothy Hurlston, and Ann Hastie intruded themselves into a bedd chamber where the said Richard Hockenhull laye, and brought the said Ann Stanley with them into the said chamber, and there in a morning before the said Richard Hockenhull was drest, or had putt on all

his Clothes, they, or some of them, and especially the said Dorothy Hurlleston and Ann Hastie or the one of them would have had the said Richard Hockenhull presently to have married the said Ann Stanley. And findinge his unwillingness therein, they or some of them, and especially the said Dorothy Hurlleston and Ann Hastie, the said Ann Stanley's maide or the one of them menaced and threatened the said Richard Hockenhull, that if he would not marrie the said Ann Stanley, and acknowledge her to bee his wife, they would call upp some that should force him to do it, or words to that or the like effecte, at whych tyme the said Richard Hockenhull was in his shirte without any dublett upon him, nether had hee any weapon then about him, or in the same chamber to defend himself, if any vyolence had been offered unto him.

That if, and in case, the articulate Ann Stanley did at any time sue the defendant Richard Hockenhull in this, or in any other court for a pretended contract, and did recover against hym, yet was the whole proceedings voyd in Law as will appeare in the event of this Suit.

That if the said Richard Hockenhull did say untoe Ann Stanley that hee took her for his wedded wife or did speake any such like words unto her importuninge a contracte, yet hee did not say anything to her seriously or with intention to contracte unto her, as appeares by the depositions of the witnesses in this cause examined, nor could hee bee perswaded at any tyme to yeild his consent to be contracted to her or marie her; ffor before that pretended tyme and sithence he was an earnest suitor unto his wife Ann Spurstow als. Hockenhull, and did intend and did promise by his faith and truth to maryl her and none other.

That in case any sentence for a pretended contract did passe for the said Ann Stanley against the defendt. Richard Hockenhull, yet before the pretended execucon thereof he did marry his aforesaid wife Ann Spurstow als Hockenhull, and did afterwards consummate the said marriage by carnall copulation, and hath begott a child of her body. And for man and wife the said Richard Hockenhull and Ann Spurstow als. Hockenhull are commonly accompted, reputed, and taken in the places and parishes mentioned in the original articles in this cause exhibited.

That the said Ann Stanley did know beleewe and had heard that the defendant and Ann Spurstow als Hockenhull were clandestinely married, and thereupon did complayne of them

before the Judge of this Court who did pronounce a condemnatory sentence and charges against the said Ann Spurstow als Hockenbull his wife, for that their marriage was clandestine, and she paid the same charges unto the said Ann Stanley or her proctor, being 5*l*. or thereabouts.

(To be continued.)

ORIGINAL DOCUMENTS.

[258] CHURCH GOODS IN THE DEANERY OF WIRRAL IN 1549.

The following certificate of the Sheriff and Justices of the Peace in the county of Chester in the year 1549, gives us some idea how bare the parish churches had been swept of all ornaments by earlier orders, though probably much of the absence of vestments may have been due to the fact that they had been sold by the Vicars and Churchwardens to supply means for the repairs of the churches and replenishment of the poor stock. At the same time it may be mentioned that in Wirral Notes and Queries, vol. 1, page 67, Mr. Irvine published a list of church goods for Neston Church from the originals among the Mayer collection at Bebington, dated 11th March, 1548, and taken before John Massey and Rowland Stanley, Esquires, where in addition to the chalice with a paten, mentioned in the list below (curiously enough the only paten in the whole Deanery), the details of the vestments and church ornaments are given.

As the Commissioners in the following certificate allude to the Letters Patent under which they acted as dated 15th February, 1548, that is 1549 (new style), it would appear that this was a second return made a year later than the one transcribed by Mr. Irvine.—Yours,

ECCLESIOLOGIST.

Queen's Remembrancer Miscellania Church Goods. Com Cestr

The certificat of us the Sheriff and Justes of peace in the said Countie Comysioners by the Kynges highnes, wt. thadvoye and consent of my Lorde pfectors grace and others his majesty's moost honorable Counsaill appoynted for and cononyng Inventories to be taken of all manere of ornamentes plate iewelles and belles belonging to ev'ry Church or Chapell wtin the said Countie wt ferther of his majesty's moost royall pleasure and dradd comaundement by us the said Comysioners to be observed and accomplished as by the lettres of the said Lorde pfectors grace and Counsaill Dated at Westm the xvth of february ao 1548 to us lately directed it

may appere. Whereapon we the said comysioners assembling o'r selves together undelaidly and takyng order for o'r deuyasion into suche sew'all places and hundrethes w'in the said shyre for the spedye executyng of or. moost bounden duties that waies have accordyng to or. allottmentes called before vs the p'sones and vycares beyng resydent and in theyre abscons theyre Curates wt. the Churche Wardens and other of the most honest and substauncyalste men of ev'ry of the said parishes and made true and p'faitt Inventories of all the p'myssees belongyng to ev'ry churche or chapell w't'in or. sev'rall p'cynotes and have left in ev'ry of the said poches oone Inventory subscribet bothe wt. thandes of vs the said Comysion'rs and wt. thandes of the said p'son vicare or Curate Churchwardens and honest men. And also one other lyke Inventory subscribet lykewyse we have delyv'rd to the Kepyng of Custos Rotulorum of this Shyre. And ferther we have geven in charge on his majesty's behalf to the said p'sones vicares and others before named that they p'sume not to alyen sell or other wayes put awaye or gene theyre ascntes to any suche sale alaynacon or puttyng awaye of anye of the p'myssees. But that the same be safely kept and preserved as they wolle answare for the contrary at there vttermost perelles. And for anye iewelles, plate ornamentes belles or leade to have been alaynated contrary to his heighnes said comaundement at anye tyme w't'in a yere before the date of the said lettres in this behalf to us directed. We knowe of non but suche as have ben solde by a comyn assent of the pariah for and to thonly vse of the nedefull rapacons of theyre Churches and for and to the relefe of indigent people dwellyng w't'in the same otherwayes then in the abbridgement heroff it may appere. And fynally we have hereunto certified a short extracte (only) of the plate and Belles of evry pariah churche w't'in the holle shyre according to his highnes moost royall pleasure in that behalf.

John Sauage	Vryan Brereton K
John Doune K	Thomas Gravenar.
Edwarde Warre K	Rondull Maynwaring K
Phillippe Egg'rton K	Richard Hassall
Richard Eggerton K	Wyllm. Brereton, Vic.
John Massie K	Laurence Smyth K
Rolond Stanley	Thomas Aston
Wylliam Moreton	John Caryngton
Thomas Venables	Will. Mór
Edmund Sauage K	Robert Tatton
Hugh Starky	

HUNDEDE OF NORTHWYCHE.

HUNDE DE WIRRAL.

Poche Churches	Plate	Bells
Kyrkebywalley	ij Chales	A Ryng of
Burton	one Chales	ij belles
		ij belles

Stoke	one Chales	iiij belles
Bakfort	ij Chales	iiij „
Shotwyoke	one Chales	iiij „
Brombroghet	one Chales	ij „
Woodchurch	iiij Chales	iiij „
Neston	one Chales wth a paten	iiij „
Heaswall	one Chales	iiij „
Bebbynton	ij Chales	iiij „
Over Church	one Chales	iiij „
Thurstestan	one Chales	ij „
Moreton Chapell	one Challes	i belle
West Kyrkby	ij Chales	* * *
Estham	ij Chales	ij belles
Byddeston	one Chales	iiij „

John Massey K.
Rowland Stanley esquier.

State Papers Domestic. Edw. 6, Vol. 3, No. 4.

Pleasith itt yo'r excellent Highnes that wher as off late bie force and v'rtus off yo'r grace's letters of comandement I have [made] delegant serche and inquirie bie myn officers throwe owt the dioces off Chester in all and singular churchoes and chapells conteyned in the same whether anye off the ornamentis plate iocelles or belles off anye off the said churchoes or chapelles off late tyme have ben taken away sold or alienated and bie whom and to what uses the money groweng ther vpon hath ben employed. And to what values theye did extend I therefore upon such serche and enquirie made have founnde in all and singular the said churchoes or chapelles as here aft'r folowith.

DECANATUS DE RICHMONDE.

* * * *

DECANATUS DE WIRBALL.

All the churchis off this Deanrie as esthum Brombroe Heaswall neston Bacford stoke Bebington Woodchurch Vpton shotwike Burton walezeys westkyrkbe and Bidston have not alienated or put away anye plate iocelles ornamentis or Bellis off ther said churches.

In quorum Omnium et singlorem fidem et testimm p'missorum nos Joannes p'mission dinina Cestren epus ad causas ecclasticas decidend infra dioc. cestren aucte illustrissimi in oristo pncipis et dni nri dni Edwardi sexti dei gratia [&c.] Lte fulcit sigillu nrm presentibus apposimus Dat Xijmo. die mensis Januarii Anno dni. Millmo quingenmo quadragesimo septimo et anno regni diot invictissimi pncipis primo.

JOHN CHEST'R.

[Endorsed] The sale of plate w'thin the . . . Chester.

[Addressed] To the right and mightie p'ince Edwarde Duke of Somersett his Grace gou'nor off the Kyngis maiesties most riall peone and Proctector off his realmes and Dominions.

[259] MARRIAGE REGISTERS OF ST. OSWALD'S, CHESTER.

1607

John Bowton and Parnell Rigbye, May 1
Richard Standley and Anne Webb, May 12
William Mason and Alles Bankes, May 17
Edward Fasaker and Anne Troloo, May 25
Henry Holme and Isabell Oocleshall, July 5
William Haydock (?) and Katherin Malpas, July 26
Thomas Massey and Ann Battrich, July 28
Thomas Bolton and Mary Tomblinson, Aug. 8
William Smalleshaw and Elizabeth Johnsson, Oct. 8
John Tillston and Margaret Kinge, Dec. 13
Phillip Kermud and Ellen Kenred, Jan. 11
William Huntington and Elizabeth Shord, Jan. 11
John Higgenet and Elenor Davies, Jan. 31
Richard Seftonne and Margaret Nichol, Feb. 2
Robert Chantrell and Anne Hellie, Feb. 5

AUGUST 20, 1898.

NOTES.

(See Nos. 155, 180, and 185.)

[260] THE WORD SLANG AS A FIELD NAME.

As a student of Romani, may I point out that whatever the word 'slang' may be, it is certainly not of Gypsy origin. It is not found in a single English or continental Gypsy vocabulary, nor have I ever heard it used by Gypsies, even as a loan word. This fact may be easily verified by anyone who cares to refer to the works of Pott, Paspatis, Smart, and Crofton, or any other authority on the language—a piece of research apparently too arduous for the compilers of our dictionaries.

Nor, again, is the word 'slang' Shelta; that is to say, it does not belong to the ancient jargon fabricated many centuries ago from Old Irish, and which is the peculiar tongue of the Tinkers and other degenerate descendants of the old Irish ceards or metal-working castes.

As a cant word 'slang' exists; but is, in my belief, of too recent an origin to have given birth to the field-name, though, as I will attempt to shew, the converse process may have taken place. I have heard the word used by itinerant hawkers and other non-Gypsy van dwellers: (1) In the common phrase *slanging the prade*, the exact equivalent of the Romani *puving the grys* (in deep Gypsy: *te puvyarel i gren*) lit. 'fielding the horses'—that is, turning them loose for the night in some farmer's field; (2) as a substantive 'slang' or 'slangs' bears the meaning of 'a hawker's licence'; and (3) 'slang,' now used to describe any racy collo-

qualism, was formerly used as a synonym for 'cant,' i.e., the secret jargon of some vagabond or criminal set of people.

Now it is worthy of note that these very different meanings may be harmonised and explained on the simple supposition that hawkers and other vagrants, who are often the conservators of interesting archaisms, should have preserved in their ordinary speech a genuine old English word 'slang' which meant 'field' or some form of field, and which gradually acquired various secondary meanings. In my first example 'slang' clearly means 'field,' and nothing else. The origin of 'slang' in the sense of 'hawker's licence' is explained by Prof. Skeat's citation from a cant dictionary of 1758 where the phrase *out on the slang*, which must originally have meant 'out on the field,' 'out camping' is defined as 'to travel with a hawker's licence'; and lastly 'slang' as another word for 'cant' might have arisen as an abbreviated form of slang patter (*op. cit.* 1758) lit 'field talk.' Prof. Skeat makes unnecessary difficulty about these changes of meaning. Anyone familiar with the life of the roads knows that tramps and vagrants of different degrees meet together on camping grounds and in lodging-houses, and pick up and pass on each other's words, often with little regard to the true or original sense of the word borrowed. If space permitted, I could illustrate this by innumerable examples.

This explanation, of course, leaves the original question of the etymology of 'slang' as a field-name still to seek. But it may prevent its being sought in Romani where it does not exist, or in cant, which, if my contention be correct, owes the word to the field-name, and not *vice versa*.

JOHN SAMPSON.

University College, Liverpool.

ORIGINAL DOCUMENTS.

[261] GENEALOGICAL ABSTRACTS FROM THE WILLS AT THE PROBATE REGISTRY, CHESTER.

The following extracts may prove of value to those of your readers who are interested in Cheshire pedigrees. The Fletchers of Willaston were a yeoman family of some consideration during Elizabeth's reign, and a little later, and were related to the Fletchers of Caldby and West Kirby. The peculiarity in this will is the endorsement of a second will by the son and

executor on the original will and the valuing of the two inventories together.

John Meoles was probably one of the younger sons of Meoles of Meoles.—Yours truly,

GENEALOGIST.

In the name of God, Amen. 5 Jan. 1612 [3].

I WM. FLETCHER of WILLASTON sicks in bodie etc. The right title and interest etc. in my dwelling house in Willaston with all my goodes etc. to my loving brother-in-law and trustie friend John Cottingham upon trust that he will see my will performed as here followeth:—

To my sonne William, x li.
" " Robert, xxv li.
" " Hugh, xx li.
" " Thomas, xx li.
" " George, xx li.

My sonnes Thomas and George to be kept and maintained at schoole so long as my brother John Cottingham shall think fitt.

Lease of house to sonne John Fletcher.

Exor.: Loving sonne John Fletcher.

Wit.: Wm. Bursowe and Thomas Charnocke.

Proved xxv Ap 1618. Exor being dead administration granted to John Cottingham of Ledsham, gent.

Inventorie of Wm. Fletcher and of John Fletcher of Willaston husbandmen, 27 March 1617, by Thomas Bennet, John Hamnett. Wm. Bennet, and Thos. Penketh of same.

Mem: That JOHN FLETCHER late of Willaston beinge upon his death bed, on 12 March 1617 or thereabouts, made his will by word of mouth, as followes, that his will should be according to his father's will and to that agreement wh was made before his uncle John Cottingham, debts paid and nominated Edward Greene of Poulton gent, John Cottingham of Ledsham gent and John Sharpe of Neston and John Hough of Oxon to be his Exors.

Wit: Mr. Doctor Loyd. John Bennet junr. Jane Bennet.

Proved xxv Ap 1618 by Edwd Greene and John Cottingham.

In the name of God Amen, 5 Feb. 1628[9].

I, JOHN MEOLS OF NEWTON NEERE CHESTER.

Gentleman Infrme and sicks, etc.

Bodie to Pariah Ch of S.Werburg's City of Chester. Mentions, "Alice Meols my wife."

"Messuage and tenement in Newton by lease from John Hurleston of Picton to wife, if wife die to Ann Meols my natural daughter and her assigns Whereas I am in law seized of an estate of inheritance in one messuage and tenement etc. lying in the Northgate-street City of Chester, now in occupation of Anne Coyntree widow, same to Alice my wife, with remainder to Ann Meoles my daughter, and ultimately to Alice's right heir."

Exor: "Alice my wife."

Overseers: "Wm. Trafford of Bridge Trafford and Francis Greene Clerke my brother-in-law."

[Sgd] John Meoles.

Witnesses: Francis Greene Clerke

Edwd. Haryson (x)

Richd Robinson (x)

Inventory of goods of John Meoles now remayning in the house of Francis Greene clerk in Great Neston, 9 March 1635.

Valued by Thos. Betson th'elder and Wm. Partington.

Proved 26 March 1636 by Executrix.

In the name of God, Amen. 12 Oct. 1611.

I, JOHN HOLLAND THE ELDER of LITTELL BUDWORTH co. Chester make my last will etc. body to be buried within the bodie of the church at my forme and as much under the forme as you can; debts &c. paid.

I give unto my daughter Elizabeth &c. &c.

Itm. I give unto my sonne Ellis the next best bedde &c. &c. after his mother's decease.

My sonne Hugh shall have the little harrow and the second plowe, his mother having the beste.

Itm. I give unto my sonne John Nicson otherwyse called John Halland base begotten xxs. of money woh. hee doth owe unto mee and my beste cote of medlie cloth in full cleame of his child's portion.

Residue after three legacies Unto my Wyffe and my towe children Ellis Halland and Elizabeth Halland my wyfe to have the one half and they to have the other half."

Dettes owing unto me.

Imprimis unto Mr. Thomas Menwaringe iijli. xijs. Itm. unto Rafe Holwicke of littell Budworth xxvjs. viijd. Itm. unto Richard Woodnorth of Croson Comons xxvjs. viijd. Unto Richard Smethowes of Nowle Butcher vijs. ijd. Unto John Briche of ——— &c., &c., &c. John Werrall of Hartefourd black Smith xvs.

Itm. unto Thomas Gardner, &c.—unto Richard Cokeson—unto Arthur Bowe &c.—unto John Heaward blacksmith—unto John Fletcher the elder of ——— [?]—unto John Fletcher Junior &c. Unto John Fletcher the elder suretie for John Dykes xijs. xd.

Elizabeth halland my wyfe and Ellis holland my younger son

Executors,

and I appoint my friends John Billintone "baylife" and Edward Billintone "tutors" to my daughter Elizabeth for their better education and their good counsell whom I also constitute supervisors.

No witnesses named.

Inventorie of John Halland the elder of littell Budworth late deceased, prayssed by foure honest men viz. Raffe Baunserofte, Edward Billinton, Hugh Bruscoe and Robert Fletcher.

10 Dec. 1611.

Endorsed 1611.

[262] THE INQUISITIO POST-MORTEM OF HENRY BEBINGTON, OF BEBINGTON, DATED 1403.

This inquisition is of a member of a family which early died out in the male line, the property passing to the Minshulls, and then to the Cholmondeleys, of Vale Royal, who sold it about the middle of last century in various parcels.

Henry De Bebington only appears to have held half of this manor, the other half being held by the Irelands, of Hale, through a marriage with the heiress of Merton.

It is rather curious that the goods of the deceased were committed to the custody of Sir John and Sir William Stanley, to answer to the Earl, probably, Ormerod suggests, for some arrears of a subsidy, of which Henry and John de Bebington, together with Sir William Stanley, had been commissioned to collect in the Hundred in 1402.—Yours, &c.,

Birkenhead. WM. FERGUSON IRVINE.

(Welsh Records, Inqns. p.m. 4 Hen. 4, No. 16)

Inquisition taken at Bacford before Richard de Manley Escheator of Cheshire, on Monday next after the feast of St. Matthew the Apostle 4 Hen, 4, by the oath of John de Litherlond, John del Meoles, William del Meoles, Vivian de Foxwyst, James de Pulle, Henry Coly, Thomas del Lee: John Fox de Roshotewyk, Thomas le Maynwaryng, Gilbert Glegg, Thomas de Walay and Henry Le Bryn, jurors, who say that

HENRY DE BEBYNTON on the day of his death held in his demesne as of fee 2 parts of the vill of OVERBEBYNTON, which are worth per ann., clear, £4 6s. 8d.

Also 1 messuage and 2 bovates of land in Magna Salghale, which are worth per ann., clear, 13s. 4d.

Also 3 lands of growing corn (*tres landas frumenti crescent*, superior) price 6s. 8d., 3 lands of growing barley, price 5s., 3 lands of oats, price 5s., 3 lands of peas, price 5s., and divers household goods, price 5s., which said goods were committed to the keeping of John de Stanley, Chevalier, and William de Stanley, Chevalier, to answer to the Earl for the same.

[263] MARRIAGE REGISTERS OF ST. OSWALD'S, CHESTER.

1608.

Rauffe Hamnet and Ellen Gregorie, March 29
William Janion and Mgaret Adams, April 2
Hamnet Thomson and Ellen Robynson, June 22
Francis Welfard and Jane Foorde, July 3
[] and Sisley Cooper, Aug. 10
William Sowne and Ellen Bennet, Aug. 13
Thomas Smyth and Jane Ashton, Oct. 22
Richard Carlile and Markeret Plymatoe, Nov. 20
John Walker and Doryty Nedam, Nov. 20
William Sanders and Margaret Page, Dec. 6

George Selvie and Modlin Kinge, Dec. 12
 William Darwall and Jane Coventrey, Feb. 12
 William Calister and Ellyn Edwards, Feb. 19
 John Watt and Anne Fartlyff, Feb. 26
 John Cooe and Ellen Harper, Feb. 26
 Edward Eaton and Ellen Burchenbed, Feb. 26

AUGUST 17, 1898.

ORIGINAL DOCUMENTS.

[264] COTTON LETTERS.
 (Combermere MSS.)

In the year 1708 Thomas Starkey Esqr., of Wrenbury Hall, pretended a claim to manorial rights in Wrenbury Frith. That pretence was resented by Sir Robert Cotton, Kt. and Bart. of Combermere, who threatened legal proceedings. Ultimately a mutual arrangement was come to between the disputants through their lawyers, Mr. Maisterson and Mr. Wettenhall, who both practised in Nantwich. Sir Robert was then living at Dean's Yard, Westminster; his son and heir-apparent, Thomas Cotton Esqr., being resident at Combermere Abbey. Between the father and son, and the Combermere estate agent, Mr. Beardmore Brereton, of Whitchurch, many letters passed relating to the matter in dispute; and that correspondence was afterwards transcribed (but not in chronological order) in a book still preserved at Combermere. The letters, which are here given in order of date, are interesting not only for their quaintness, and for the account of the strained relations between two county gentlemen and neighbouring landlords in the days of Queen Anne, but for the many incidental facts of local history contained therein.

JAMES HALL.

Lindum House, Nantwich.

Sir Robert Cotton, to Mr. Thomas Cotton.

June ye 8th 1708

Dear Son,—not having room on ye other post I write to you in this to let you know that I recd a letter last night from Mr. Brereton concerning ye herriotts due on acct of Mr. [Robert] Eddowes deceased. it does plainly appeare yt he dy'd possessed of two Copyhold Estates, ye one being aunciently held from ye Earles of Bath, the other from ye Lord Audley, between whose ancestors, ye Lordship of Newhall was aunciently divided, so yt ye Copyholders of yt Lordship did some hold from one Ld, some to ye other, & some from both and payed rent, service, & herriotts from each Copyhold, some to one Ld, some to both according to their tenure & at their decease did pay herriotts to each

Lrd, or to both accordingly; the Lrd Audley's part of ye Lrdship of Newhall came by attainder to the Crowne (for high Treason) in Hen: ye 7th time, and in Edw. ye 6th time Sr Rich[ard] Cotton purchased yt pt of ye Lrdship of Newhall with other lands by way of exchange from ye King. Sr Geo: Cotton son of Sr Rich, sold yt pt to Sr (a) Tho: Edgerton, which was Solicitor Genll to queen Elizabeth, and who was after Lrd Edgerton Baron of Elesmare, who sold his part of Newhall Lrdship to my (b) grandfather wch may morre plainly appeare by ye Pedegree which you have in Parchment. Afterwards my Grandfather bought ye Earle of Baths (c) part, and so became Lord of both their titles to ye Lrdship of Newhall &c. & have an undoubted Right to Herriotts from such persons as dyed possessed of Copyholds held from either or both Lords, if from both, one to each Lrds part, to ye end there should be no mistake ye rentalls have usually been Continued to be drawn for each part severally, but since ye death of old Thomas Gray, my Right as to herriotts has not been so carefully looked after as it ought to have been, especially since I have lived so much out of Cheshire, Robert Billinge received my rents of Newhall from ye time I took them out of Will Bickertons hands, but ye herriotts Samll Smith seased, ym [them]: Robt. Billinge being usually here, & Samll being a stranger to ye Lordship and I believe scarce ever so much as read over so much as a rental of yt Lordship or any thing else as might give any light to discover my right to any thing of this nature, so yt I find by Mr. Brereton's letter I was cheated of a herriott at Mr. Eddowes ffathers decease, there being then two, as there is now for this unfortunate gentleman, there being nothing more clear yn yt there is a herriott due from every Copieholder dying possessed of any copyhold Estate, held from either Lord, & two where there is any Copyhold from both: wch is very plain in this, but you know wt a slothfull man Samll was, in all things of this nature. to conclude, there is nothing more plaine then this as to my right to two heriots. I desire you to communicate this with my kind respects & thanks to him [Mr. Brereton] for his trouble, in being soe particular. Kellerns was an intack from ye Comon & nothing to this business: but I never hard of any Jury yt disputed ye right of two herriotts where there was two Copyholds or one held from each Ld ye instance mr. Brereton mentions of Mr. Wybunbury. In generall where any Copyhold was or is held from both Lords and never disputed yt [that] I have heard of and I am confident there

(a) ho. Egerton, Esq., Solicitor-General to Queen Elizabeth bought $\frac{1}{2}$ pt. of Newhall Manor, in the year 1591.

(b) George Cotton Esq. of Combr. who purchased this $\frac{1}{2}$ part of Newhall for £2300 in 1605.

(c) William, Earl of Bath, sold the third part of Newhall Manor for £500 to George Cotton Esq. in 1622.

was never no such thing made to appear to ye Jury at his fathers decease, nor mencion'd to mee.

had ye Jury brought Mr. Ed[dowes] non compos mentis would have been as strong for them as this and with more truth &c.

I wish more care may be taken of some body else

I am

Your most affectionate ffather

ROBT. COTTON.

Sending so a large pacquet [letter] I forbare sending ye postman till thursday there being nothing of moment since yo writ.

[Mr Brereton to Thomas Cotton Esq.]

June 14, 1708]

Honoured Sr—I reced yours with Sr Robert Cottons enclosed and am to be sure very well pleased for yr honour he does me in thanking me for performing my duty.

It appeares plainly yt Mr Eddowes Estate was originally held under two Lords, and yt frequently a Heriott was pd to each Lord at ye Death of such a Copyholdr but yt it was two Copyhold Estates I can not determine since ye Records declare nothing of it.

The manner of Newhall originally was entirely in one Lord, vizt Lord Audley, and upon the Death of Nicholas Ld Audley who died without issue ye same Descended to his three sisters, ye eldest whereof married Sr John Tuchett Knt the 2d married Bourcher, of whom Descended ye Earle of Bath, the 3d was, its said, never married, but convey'd her pt to her eldest sister whereby two thirds was in ye family of ye Tuchetts or Lord Audleys, & the other one third in the Earl of Bath which was ye Title of ye two Lords before it was last united.

Now Sr, from thence I cannot give my opinion that a Heriott should be due to each Ld, for by yt reason as ye Lords multiply ye heriotts should also multiply, which is agt reason to suppose—then you'll say how came they due in this case. I make bold to answer yt usage & practice time out of mind will make a Right, tho' ye first cause or reason thereof through length of time is lost but to prove ye fact or usage the presentmts do abound in instances that where a Copyholdr died seized of Land held under 2 lords, a heriott is presented due to each ld & this perhaps not on acct it was held under two Lords, but because of two different purchases of Lands held under two Lds and so may have been ye case of ye prmisses in question tho' ye records do not go so high [i.e. far back] as to disconer it (but yt Surr[ender] menconed in my paper 28th Aprl 18 Jac. 1 [1620] looks something like it, where Richd Edgerton is admitted to a Tenemt & 20 Acres of land held under Earl of Bath (which numbr of acres agrees with your rentall) but ye constant paying of two Hariotts in ye like case is a very reasonable circumstance to prove it so and I doubt not but will prevaile on any Jury to determine it so

M

Sr, I shall not fail to repeate ye Dunn to Mr. Fletcher, I am sorry his memory is so nought

I have return'd inclosed Sr Robts Letter and humbly desire you'll please to do me ye Honour to tender my most Humble service to him who am Sr Your most obliged & most Humble Servant

BEARDNEE BRERETON

Whitchurch June 14th 1708.

NOTES.

[265] ARCHDEACON FINMORE.

Your readers may notice with interest the following contribution to the history of the archdeacons of Chester, who have always occupied a leading position in the history of the diocese.

William Finmore, or Finmore, was Archdeacon in 1666. A Berkshire man, born in 1622, he belonged to the Finmores, of Hincksey, in that county. He was a Westminster scholar, under Dr. Busby, and in 1642 was elected to a Studentship of Christ Church, Oxford. He was subsequently tutor to his college, and had under his care, Philip, the father of Matthew Henry. Walker, in his *Sufferings of the Clergy*, states that he was ejected from his studentship. Matthew Henry speaks somewhat slightly of his work with his pupils, and describes him as 'a person able enough but not willing to employ his abilities for the good of those that were committed to his charge, towards whom he had little more than the name of tutor.' William Finmore took much interest in the Parliamentary struggles, his sympathies being strongly on the Royalist side. He seems to have admired Colonel Gage, who led a column of 800 foot and horse in 1644 to relieve Basing House, for which he was rewarded with knighthood. In the following year, Sir Henry Gage, then Governor of Oxford, led a sortie to break down Columb Bridge, and fell, his death being celebrated by Finmore in some spirited lines, beginning

Drums, beat an onset; let the rebels feel

How sharp our grief is by our sharper steel!

Soon after William Finmore was ordained, but nothing is known of him until the Restoration, when on the strength of his pronounced loyalty, he made application for one of the vacant fellowships on the Collegiate Foundation of Manchester. There were only three vacancies, but King Charles II. was gracious enough to sign five grants to these fellowships, viz, to Mr. William Finmore, Dr. Rhodes, Mr. Thomas Weston, Mr. Francis Moseley, and Mr.

John Birch. The difficulty about the surplus of appointments to vacancies was got rid of by the discovery that two of them—those of Finmore and Rhodes—were found invalid, because they were ordered to be elected by the Warden and *Fellows*. It happened that, in addition to the Warden there was then but one Fellow (Newcome), and therefore by the foundation charter the election could not proceed. The King by warrant appointed the other three, and Finmore was left out in the cold. In March, 1662, he preferred to the King a claim for the place of King's Preacher in the County Palatine of Lancaster, one of the four appointed originally by King James, at a stipend of £200 a year. His petition states that he had been nominated by Henry (Ferne), who was for so short a time (February 9 to March 25, 1661-2) Bishop of Chester to succeed John Lightfoot, Rector of Bury; but Thomas Blackburn had procured a grant of the place on the plea that it was void and in His Majesty's gift, by reason of the vacancy of the see. Once again he failed, but he was appointed the same year to the vicarage of Runcorn, which is in the patronage of his college, Christ Church. It has been questioned whether he became Vicar of Runcorn earlier than 1674. Ormerod (i. 679) gives in the list of Vicars 1661 ante, Thomas Breck, 1674 in et ante William Finmore. In the church is a tablet with an inscription, apparently commemorating two wives of incumbents:—

Between these pillars
the bodies of two devout women
rest in hope

Philippa Finmore of Oxford,
deceased Aug. 3, 1672, and
Anne Breck of Wyrall, Jan. 30, 1671-2,
both good wives, good neighbours,
good subjects, good Christians,
most intimate in their lives,
and in the grave they are not divided.
Gulielmus Finmore maritus,
amicus, posuit
brevi seipsum positurus.

'Of Oxford' would not necessarily mean that at the time of her death Philippa Finmore was living in Oxford.

William Finmore had official connection with the Diocese of Chester as early as July 25, 1664, when he was collated prebendary of the sixth stall in succession to Dr. Thomas Mallory. On November 6, 1666, he was appointed Archdeacon of Chester. He died April 7th, 1686, and was buried in the north aisle of St. Mary's Chapel of the Cathedral, where a monument with the following inscription perpetuates his memory:—

H. S. E.

In spe beatæ resurrectionis
reverendus Gulielmus Fynmore,
ecclesiæ Cestriensis archidiaconus et prebendarius,
neonon per multos annos
ibidem thesaurarius et receptor,
quo utroque munere, ad mortem usque,
suo cum laude et aliorum fructu functus est.

Vir alioqui

cum suavitæ et probitate morum,
tum varia eruditione atque constanti in regem fide
undequeque spectabilis,

Obiit mense Aprilis aº salutis humanæ M.DC.
ætatis suæ climacterioo LXIII. [LXXXVI.]

In memoriam desideratissimi mariti
pientissima conjux M.P.

The 'most affectionate spouse M.P.' who erected this monument was Archdeacon Finmore's second wife, of whom we find a curious notice in Bishop Cartwright's *Diary*. On 5th October, 1687, we read: "Mrs. Finmore was with me to demand payment of her husband's salary as Archdeacon, because she supplied the place till Michaelmas in preaching."

Archdeacon Finmore was succeeded in the Vicarage of Runcorn by his son-in-law, Robert Chesshyre, brother of Sir John Chesshyre.

R. H. M.

REPLIES.

[266] QUAKER FAMILIES IN FRODSHAM.

(See Nos. 169 and 183.)

I should have added to No. 183, referring to the Cooke family, that the Hydes of Catton-hall were quakers as early as any in the Parish, also the Lowes, tenants of Crewood, let to them by Col. Gilbert Gerrard (1680-90). These Lowes were of Newton, by Middlewich.

Col. Gerrard retired to his Chester house called The Green Hall, near the Castle Ditch. I suppose it must long ago have been pulled down.—Yours, T. HELSBY.

[267] FONT IN WARBURTON CHURCH.

(See Nos. 138, 144 and 189.)

With reference to the lettering on the font cover mentioned in No. 182 of the *Sheaf* I may say that the initials are probably those of the Chaplain and Wardens. It is an old chapel-of-ease, and has always been called a chapel. The present church, a very handsome, plain, old looking structure, of good red sandstone, was built 15 or 16 years ago by a member of the Egerton-Warburton family. T. HELSBY.

[268] MARRIAGE REGISTERS OF ST. OSWALD'S,
CHESTER.

1609.

James Holland and Jane Grimsdich, April 18
 Henry Draout and Margaret Harrell, June 3
 Nicholas Kenion and Anne Grise, June 4
 Daniell Vaughan and Mary Basnet, July 10
 Thomas Callow and Elizabeth Saunders, July 17
 Lawrence Leene and Margaret Tealier, July 23
 Raffe Prickett and Ellen Ryeroft, Aug. 28
 Thomas Machell and Ales Cotgreave, Sept. 3
 Robert Machill and Elizabeth Nicholl, Feb. 18

1610.*

John Christian and Sioelie Garfield, June 3
 Thomas Johnes and Ales Edge, June 17
 William Gregorie and Ellen Ince, Aug. 27

1611.

John Wright and Ellen Eves, Dec. 4

AUGUST 24, 1898.

NOTES.

[269] BIRKENHEAD PRIORY.

(Continued from No. 254.)

It is to be remarked that we possess no record of the extent or condition of the original structure, nor of any of the numerous alterations and rebuildings which the building shews to have taken place. Beyond the founder's name, we have not a single trace of any donor of buildings, or the name of any Prior, during whose tenure of office they were executed. At the Dissolution, however, which took place in 1536, we find a list of the buildings, which were then granted to Ralph Worsley by King Henry VIII., the monks being dismissed with a small pittance. Some of them were paid for singing at Wallasey Church, and others took up with book-binding and other secular trades. The list of buildings comprises the church, belfry, churchyard, houses, stables and edifices, mills, barns, dovecot, fish-yards, ferry-houses, within and without the precincts, and the ferry-boat: a field is also mentioned which may be identified from old borough maps. This list is of great value, as shewing the existence of features and buildings, of which no traces remained within memory; this is especially true of the tower, as without it we should not have known that the church had a tower. The stables and edifices without the precincts were probably where the King's waggons were kept, there being a record in the accounts of King Edward III. of moneys paid to the Prior

* The plague, which was raging at Chester at this period, may partly explain the small number of marriages in this and the following year.

for keeping the King's waggons. The barn and the house built, or partly rebuilt, in the reign of Charles I. on the site of the Prior's separate house without the precincts, remained in existence till 1847. Much doubt has been expressed as to the site of his Hostel; but the inspection of a good drawing made in 1790 (kindly shewn during January this year by the late Mr. John Laird) has enabled me to identify in it features of much more ancient date than the reign of Charles I. This goes far to confirm the current tradition that the Hostel stood on the site of the late Priory House, and close behind St. Mary's Church Schools, which succeeded it.

The site of the great barn was to the south of the Priory House. There are no means of identifying the position of the Dovecot and Stables, or of the Ferry House at Birkenhead; but, with these exceptions, all the other structures belonging to the Priory can be traced, either from records or remains.

It is unnecessary here to dwell upon the data by which the original plan has been recovered, that having formed the subject of a paper which can be found in the *Transactions of the Historic Society of Lancashire and Cheshire*, and although later discoveries have added to the knowledge of detail, there is nothing in the argument there set forth which requires alteration.

The present ruins consist of the Prior's House and Hall on the *West* side of the Cloister Court and the Refectory with a groined undercroft supported by a range of three low columns without capitals on the *North* side. Somewhat traces of the Monks' Parlour and Dormitory, and of the Chapter House are on the *East* side, while on the *South* side is the Church, of which small traces of the transept, the north aisle wall, the north-west respond of the nave-arcade, and the jamb of the west window remain. The arrangement throughout is almost identical with that of St. Werburgh's at Chester.

The Cloister has lost all its covered walks, but at the N.W. angle, at about two feet below the surface, its foundations were found built of stone, and upon them lay the iron head of the mattock, with which doubtless it was destroyed after the Dissolution. Two windows, apparently from the cloister, were, after its destruction, inserted in the Chapter House. The foundation of the other walls of the cloister have since been partly uncovered by my direction, and are found to be, with the exception of the thickness of the wall on north side, in accordance with my restored plan.

The Prior's House was in two floors, and contains a fine two-light window of late 13th century date in the south gable, a wide stone fireplace in the upper room, and a blocked-up window on its west side. The Prior's Hall, a large and lofty room, is lighted by two large traceried windows, of which the west one has had a square post-reformation window fitted into it below the tracery. The north gable of the hall was also lighted by a large window now ruined. The only openings in the east wall are two doors into the cloister, and one into the crypt, which is a fine example of 13th century vaulting in two alleys, a smaller separate groined apartment forming its ante-room.

The Refectory above this vault, as it now stands, was rebuilt after the destruction of the church and cloister with their fragments. It is apparent that this upper floor has been a timber building, and pieces of its timbers still shewing their purpose, with indications of wooden windows, were found used as lintels, and other supports built up in its late walls, which were very badly constructed, and almost without mortar. Further reference will be made to the character of the sculptured and moulded stones found in these walls. In the N.W. corner of the Refectory a fine stone newel stair was found, with its outer circumference sheared off level with the outer wall, and the well filled with its own ruins and fragments of the church, one of which was the foot and socket of the gable-cross, on which remained enough of the lines of the gable to ascertain its pitch. In the centre of this apartment a hearth formed of a few rough stones and a quantity of calcined stones and sand shewed that this hall had a central fire on a bare earthen floor laid over the crypt.

(To be continued.)

[270] THE BROWNELLS, OF GAWSWORTH.

The family of Brownell derived its origin from Coventry, in Warwickshire, and among the mayors of that town, a list of which since 1348 is extant, there may be noticed the names of Robert Burnell, mayor in 1477; Thomas Bunwell, mayor in 1523; Edmund Brownell, clothier, mayor in 1565. Burnell is obviously a variant of Brownell, but Bunwell is most likely another name. This information was kindly given to the writer by the Town Clerk of Coventry, to whom he applied on learning that it had been a tradition in the family that some of its members had been mayors of the town.

The register of Holy Trinity is the only one at Coventry of a date earlier than 1698, when that of St. Michael's perished in a fire, and it

has been searched in vain for any entries of Brownells between 1561 and 1660. Among the burials there occurs 28th July, 1780, "Joyce Brownell, wife of Nathaniel."

I. WILLIAM BROWNELL, took his B.A. degree at Oxford 29 Feb. 1575, and his M.A. 3 July 1579. He was presented 25 Aug. 1597 to the rectory of Gawsworth in Cheshire by William Knollys and others, and after a 33 years incumbency was buried there 11 Sep. 1630; his tombstone is on the floor of the chancel and the inscription will be found in the appendix. From an entry in the register he appears to have acted for a time as tutor to the sons of Sir Edward Fitton. He mar. at Gawsworth 25 Mar. 1599 Elizabeth Bentley (she was bur. there 19 Oct. 1650). They had issue—

Nathaniel [II]

Susanna, b. 4 Apr. 1604, m. 2 Feb. 1612
Robert Lyghe

Rebecca, b. 12 Nov. 1605, m. 2 Jan. 1628
Thomas Jeynson M.A. Oxford Vicar of Prestbury 1627 till his death in May 1667, by whom she had between 1630 and 1638 Thomas, Arthur matr. at Oxford 5 Apr. 1650, William, John, and Nathaniel. She was bur. at Prestbury 20 Jan. 1674

Mary (twin) b. 18 Apr. 1607, m. 20 Jan. 1623
William Moreton of Congleton gent. by whom she had William chr. at Gawsworth 9 Aug. 1629, Thomas bur. there 12 Oct. 1631 and was bur. there 2 Apr. 1633 where her tombstone is in the church

Alice (twin) b. 18 Apr. 1607 m. 7. Feb. 1627
Edward Rowe of Macclesfield gent. by whom she had Rebecca chr. at Gawsworth 12 Oct. 1630 and on his death in Sep. 1631 she appears to have married his cousin William Rowe of Macclesfield as is shown in the Rowe pedigree in the visitation of 1663-4*

II. NATHANIEL BROWNELL, b. at Gawsworth 25 Nov. 1601 m. there 3 June, 1618 Helen daughter of Peter Downes of Synderland (in the parish of Bowdon) and was bur. there 2 Oct. 1638. They had issue—

Anne b. 9 Oct. 1620, bur. 14 Jan. 1621
Elizabeth chr. 30 Oct. 1622, bur. 14 Jan. 1635
Jane b. 14 Apr. 1625
Thomas chr. 6 Jan. 1629
Nathaniel chr. 1 Apr. 1631
Margaret chr. 7 Sep. 1634
Edward chr. 17 Nov. 1636, bur. 30 Apr. 1646
Rebecca chr. 23 Oct. 1638, m. Stephen Blacklach by whom she had a son Samuel

William [III]

III. WILLIAM BROWNELL is mentioned in his father's will which is given in the appendix. The date of his baptism has not been discovered.

* Earwaker's 'East Cheshire,' vol. ii., 589.

but he was bur. at Gawsorth 16 Dec. 1693
From his will, proved 18 May 1694, it appears
that he had at the time of his death three
children—

Nathaniel [IV]

Elizabeth the wife of Matthew Holliday and
mother of John, Nathaniel, Matthew and
Elizabeth Holliday

Mary the wife of Peter Swanne and mother of
Thomas, John, Mary, Elizabeth and Phoebe
Swanne.

IV. NATHANIEL BROWNELL, matr. from Ch. Ch.
Oxford, aged 19, 14 Apr. 1671, took his B.A. 1674,
M.A. 1677. In 1683 he was presented by Lord
Macclesfield to the benefice of Halsall near
Ormskirk where he remained till his death. He
is described by the present rector as having been
an active and careful man, a restorer of both the
church and the school. He was bur. 21 Mar.
1718 aged 67. He mar. 28 Oct. 1685 Eleanor
daughter of Nicholas Rigbye of Harrook Esq.
[she was bur. 29 June 1719, aged 64]. They had
issue—

Mary chr. 9 Sep. 1686, m. Abraham Orme by
whom she had a daughter Eleanor

Hannah chr. 6 June 1688, m. Mr. Scott by
whom she had a son Jeffery

William chr. 28 Oct. 1690, matr. from B.N.C.
Oxford, aged 19, 17 Dec. 1709, B.A. 1711, m.
Elizabeth wid. of Edward Grimshaw of West
Derby yeoman, d.s.p. 1730.

Eleanor chr. 26 July 1692, m. Mr. Stanley

Nathaniel chr. 28 Apr. 1695, of St. John's Coll.
Cambridge, d. 24 Jan. 1717

Nicholas chr. 7 Mar. 1697, bur. 16 Mar. 1701
Elizabeth chr. 10 May 1700, m. Ralph Baldwin
John [V]

Rebecca chr. 31 Oct. 1708, bur. 31 Oct. 1708

V. JOHN BROWNELL, of Breck, co. Lancashire,
chr. 27 Mar. 1706, Recorder of the Isle of Man
when the principality of the Earls of Derby,
m (i) Hannah daughter of Thomas Watson, of
Ormskirk; she died 11 Jan. 1758. (ii) Mary —;
she died 177—. He died 14 Nov. 1789 having
had by his first wife

Mary b. 30 Jul. 1742, d. 1 Aug. 1752

Nathaniel b. 10 May 1743, d. 29 Sep. 1745

Jane b. 28 Apr. 1746, d. 28 Dec. 1753

William b. 21 Dec. 1748, d. 14 June 1774

Hannah b. 30 Oct. 1750, d. 30 May 1752

Mary b. 11 July, d. 18 Oct. 1752

Elizabeth b. 12 Aug. 1753, m. 26 Aug. 1783
George Stavert surgeon R.N., d. 5 Dec.
1826

Eleanor b. 29 Nov. 1754, d. 6 June 1826

Anne b. 15 Mar. 1756, m. Adam Stavert of
Hoscote in the county of Roxburgh; her will
was proved 5 Nov. 1792. The issue was a

daughter Hannah who m. 1814 Archibald
Dickson of Hassendeanburn, and d. s. p.

John b. 6 May 1757 lieut. R.N., invalided from
Holland in H.M.S. "Serapis" after engage-
ment with Paul Jones 24 Dec. 1779, d. Jan.
1786.

The Brownells of Breck were all buried in the
churchyard of St. Nicholas, Liverpool, and the
bodies were subsequently removed to Knotty
Ash on the widening of one of the streets. The
family is at present represented by Archibald
Stavert of Hoscote and his brother William
Stavert of Prizet, High Sheriff of Westmoreland,
grandsons of George Stavert and Elizabeth
Brownell.

(To be continued.)

[271] MARRIAGE REGISTERS OF ST. OSWALD'S,
CHESTER.

1612.

Tho. Tilton and Margareta Downham, May 1
Tho. Lanton and Katherin Dale, spinster, June 28
Robt. Fraunces and Elizabeth Smith, July 25
Richard Janian and Ales Dobb, July 30
Thomas Dean and Ellen [] Aug. 22
Thomas Betley and Ales Cookeason, Oct. 11
Thomas Croftes and Katherin Johnes, Oct. 11
Peter Smyth and Hester Meddoues, Dec. 27
George Dean and Jane Willms, Jan. 17
Thomas Fromway and Eliz. Neuet, Jan. 23
Thomas Johns and Margaret Griffith, Feb. 2
Bandle Colly and Elizabeth Crumpe, Feb. 16
Wilm Amberley and Margaret Reade, Feb. 16

AUGUST 31, 1898.

NOTES.

[272] A CONGLETON QUACK MEDICINE OF THE
LAST CENTURY.

A correspondent sends me a copy of a curious
advertisement of the middle of last century,
published by a certain Dr. Samuel Troutbeck of
Congleton, extolling the wonders of his mar-
vellous Balsam. "Doctor Troutbeck's Balsam
of Many Virtues" it is called, and if it was able
to do a tithe of what it promised, it certainly
must indeed have been possessed of many
virtues.

One is accustomed to think of advertising and
also of quack medicines as a growth of modern
times, but the following extract will shew that
in breadth of claim the modern advertising
medicine vendor is a very long way behind Dr.
Troutbeck.

He states that his "Balsam of Many Virtues"
is "the most genuine and Best that has ever
yet been made Publick." Among many other

advantages too numerous to detail, it possesses the power of "strengthening the Nerves and Stomach, it removes the Cholick, and induces perspiration, it greatly softens and thickens the Blood," though why one should want his blood softening and thickening does not appear! "It cures Catarrhs and Coughs from tickling Defluxions and Irritations thence arising, is good in all Distempers of the Breast, removes Asmathas and Phthisicks, eases and removes Plurisises, Nephritic, Sciatick and Rheumatick pains, and is good in all hysterical disorders." "It cures Agues and is good in all malignant and pestilential and spotted Fevers and the Plague." "It causes the Smallpox to fill and ripens them, abates all Restlessness, that arises from tickling Defluxions of Rheum; it cures the Jaundice, is good against Melancholy and Distraction." "It cures the bite of Mad Dogs and Cats and prevents any symptom of Madness seizing the person that makes application of it: it cures the bites and stings of venomous Creatures, also all sore eyes, green wounds, Bruises, Burns, Scalds, Fistulas, Ulcers, Cancers, Swellings, and Contusions. It cures all Kind of Fluxes; and it seldom fails in curing Consumptions, if taken in time."

Then follow various instructions for taking it inwardly and applying in outwardly, since apparently it was equally efficacious in either way:—

FOR THE BITE OF A MAD DOG.

Dress the wound with a feather dipt in the Balsam three times a day. Take of it inwardly 60 drops in Mutton Broth in the morning, fasting two hours after it, at four o'clock, and at going to Bed. Abstain from all strong liquors 14 days. Your diet should be Ponedas, Segoa Gruel, and Rice Pudding.

BURNS, BRUISES, SCALDS, ETC.

Dress it with a feather dipt in the Balsam (the sooner the better), and apply a Lint dipt in it. In two or three times dressing it the Place will be cured.

CORNS.

Cut the Corn till it bleeds, and then apply a Lint dipt in the Balsam.

CHOLICK.

Take 60 drops in a glass of Geneva.

COUGH.

Take 60 Drops on Lump Sugar; repeat if need be.

CONSUMPTION.

Take 60 Drops on Loaf Sugar, or in Tea, four times a day.

FLUX AND FEVER.

Take from 20 to 30 Drops in Gruel or Wine-Whey three times a day.

JAUNDICE.

Take from 40 to 50 Drops three times a day in Sugar Candy Tea.

SORE EYES.

Drop one drop in the inner corner.

There are other receipts, but these will suffice to shew the varying methods of application. A note at the foot is rather amusing. "N.B. The reason of such large quantities of Drops being prescribed is not from any Inefficiency of the Balsam, but from a good Intent in the Prescriber, having a Desire that the Disorders of his Patients might the sooner be removed."

That the benefits of this wonderful Cure-all were not entirely confined to mankind is shewn by the statement that "This balsam cures Horses that are pricked, by dropping some of it in, after the nail is drawn out; also a Horse strained in his back-Sinews in once dressing. *All Masters of Families should never be without one of these bottles in their houses, as it is of Publick Benefit.*"

After this Dr. Troutbeck can evidently say no more and concludes by informing the public that this panacea of all evils is to be obtained at his own house in Congleton or at the shop of "Mr. Jonathan Pritchard, Sadler in Boughton, near Chester," at the perfectly ridiculous price of one and six pence the bottle, which is sealed with a wreath of three trouts encircled with the legend S. TROUTBECK.

It is rather suggestive to observe that my correspondent found this advertisement used as a wrapper round some documents relating to the last will and testament of a Cheshire gentleman, not we trust one of Dr. Troutbeck's patients!—Yrs.

WM. FERGUSON IRVINE.

Birkenhead.

[273] AN INCIDENT IN THE PLAGUE AT BROMBOROUGH 1578.

The following extracts from sworn depositions taken before Chancellor Leche at Chester in 1578 afford an interesting little picture of a pathetic incident in the life of a Cheshire village in the reign of Queen Elizabeth.

That terrible scourge the plague had visited the village, and we see the boys as they assemble at the morning school telling their master, who is also the curate, the news that another of the villagers is down with the sickness and wants to see the clergyman. The Curate goes, as in his wont, but remembering

that his life is of value and must not be risked rashly, he only draws as near to the dying man as he thinks safe. The poor sufferer is lying in his bed in one of the little cottages so near the street door that he can with ease talk with those standing without. A little crowd collects, and in the quiet morning, with all hushed to a reverent stillness, the Curate speaks 'comfortable words' to the dying man, and then exhorts him to make his will, which he does by word of mouth in the presence of the awed villagers. He seems to have been a man of small substance and to have had no immediate relatives, as he simply leaves 'a bullock and a filly colt' to his little nephew, and the rest to a neighbour's children. Unlike most cases in the plague, he seems to have lingered two or three days, and we have one more glimpse of him, when he calls to his neighbour Richard Tellett, as he passes the open door, and begs him to send to the church to have the passing bell rung, and then presently dies.—Yours,

HOLLY.

Liverpool.

Depositions with reference to the nuncupative will of Gilbert Norris deceased taken before Doctor Leche 30 May 1578.

THOMAS COKE clerk curate of Bromborough aged about 29 years. Says he had known the sd. Gilbert about 10 years before his death etc. and that "one of this deponents scholars (for this deponent teacheth scholre at Brombroe, wch of them he now doth not perfectlie remember) told this deponent that the said Gilbert Norris was sicke of ye plague and said unto him this deponent [—?] Norris, meaninge the sd. Gilbert is sick of ye plague and would have you come to hym or would speak with you, wherenpon the deponent being his Curate thought it his dutie as his usuall manner to do with others being sicke of that disease was, to goe visit the said Norres and to give him spiritual exhortation and drew nere unto him the said Norres as nere as he durst and spake to hym, and the sd. Gilbert praying this deponent, said unto hym. "Syr Thomas I have sent for you in worst case that ever I was but I [—?] God of it" and this deponent spake unto the saide Gilbert comfortable words and found him in good and perfect remembrance and well disposed towards God and his neighbours and immediately after such exhortation the said Gilbert declared to this deponent and others then and there yt his will was that Gilbert Norres his brother son, should have a bullock, a filly colt, all the rest of his goods, etc. be gave to Humphrey Asmall's children, Robert and Margaret and willed the said Humfrey there and then present to be good unto the said Gilbert Norres, being asked what other legacies, sayeth none," etc.

The date was the Wednesday next after the Feast of the Purification of ye Blessed Virgin Marie last past about ix of the clock, before noone, in the hearing of this deponent, Richard Tellet, Margaret Man, the said Humfrey Asmall and divers others, the said Gilbert then lying in a bed very near to ye strete syde in a lower chamber.

RICHARD TELLET, of the parish of Brombroe, aged about xxx years, says that he knew the decedent "about 16 years" before his death. The rest of his evidence simply goes to corroborate the Rev. Thos. Coke's, but he adds that he and the Rev. Thomas Coke, and Humfrey Asmall were standing as near the door of Gilbert Norris' house as they dared, and Margaret Man was actually in the house and "stode looking upon them through a little wyndowe." He says it was on the Wednesday before Shrove Sunday last past, and that he went again on the Friday, and Gilbert being very sick of the plague besought him to have a "passyng bell rung for hym the said Gilbert," and shortly after died.

ORIGINAL DOCUMENTS.

[274] THE INQUISITIO POST MORTEM OF GILBERT GLEGG OF GAYTON, DATED 1428.

This inquisition has many points of interest, perhaps the chief being this early mention of a curious court, called the Court of the Hundred of Caldey, which held jurisdiction over the manors of Thornton Hough, Leighton, Gayton, Heswall, Thurstaston, West Kirby, Great and Little Meoles, Hoose, Newton-cum-Larton, and Poolton-cum-Seacombe. Its privileges consisted of a view of frank pledge and court baron within these manors.

This Hundred, within a Hundred, is extremely curious, especially as neither of the Caldeys owed suit to it, although it was called after their names.

This bailiwick, together with the Manor of Gayton, came to Gilbert Glegge through his wife Joan, daughter and heiress of Stephen de Merton, who survived him.

The Manors of Great and Little Storeton, and the Bailiwick of the Forest of Wirral, he merely seems to have held as sole trustee for one of the Stanleys of Hooton and Storeton.—Yours,

WM. FERGUSSON IRVINE.

Birkenhead.

Welsh Records. Inquisitions post-mortem.
6 Hen. 6, No. 2.

Inquisition taken at Crystilton before John de Wetenhale of Wico Malbo, Escheator of the King in the County of Chester on Thursday next before the feast of St. George the Martyr, 6 Henry 6, by the oath of William Launcelyn of Pulton, William de Bebynton of Bebynton, Henry Bukke senior, John de Saynysbury, Thomas Jenkynson of Pulton in Walley, John de Meoles, William de Wilbram, William Pylke, Thomas Broune, Thomas Jenkynson of Esteham, John Benette of Neston, and John Bressy, who say that

GILBERT GLEGGE was seised of the Manor of GAYTON, with the appurtenances and of the third part of the hundred of Calday, within the hundred of Wyrehall as of the right of Joan his wife (who still survives). The said premises are held of the King as Earl of Chester in socage by the service of one penny per ann. and are worth yearly in all issues beyond reprises 4 marks.

The said Gilbert died seised in his demesne as of fee of the manors of Great Storeton and Little Storeton with appurtes, and of the bailiwick of the forestry in the hundred of Wyrehall in co. Chester which are held of the King as Earl of Chester, in capite by knights service, and are worth per ann., clear, 20 marks. Gilbert Glegge died on Monday, in the first week of Lent last past; John Glegge is his son and next heir, and is aged 30 years and more.

REPLIES.

[275] A CURIOUS ENTRY IN THE WALLASEY PARISH REGISTER.
(See No. 184.)

The following extract from the new Dialect Dictionary may throw some light on the obscure entry in the Wallasey Register:—

- CLINT.—1. A rocky cliff, a projecting rock or ledge.
2. Hard or flinty rocks: a species of limestone or porphyry stone.
3. A hard tough stone used in the game of curling.
4. A crevice among bare limestone rocks.

A quotation is made from *The Raiders*: "I gripped the icy clints of the granite rock tighter."

From this it will be seen that the probable meaning of 'The Clints' in the extract from the Register, should be the rocky ledges or cliffs, so that the two women must have been killed by a fall of stone on some rocky point in Wallasey, probably the Breck near the Church, though it may have been at the Red Noses. It would be

interesting to find if any trace of this place name still exists.—Yours, &c.,

WILLIAM FERGUSON IRVINE.

Birkenhead.

[276] ANCIENT WATER MILL AT WALLASEY.
(See No. 184.)

Referring to Query 184 in the *Sheaf* of 30th March as to a water mill at Bidston or Wallasey, I once saw in an old magazine for about 1747 an advertisement of water mills for sale at Bidston or Wallasey, either in *Universal Magazine* or *London Magazine*, I think the former.

Liverpool.

G.

This reference is probably to the Moss-mills which existed for many years during the last century and beginning of this on the Wallasey-marsh, and would hardly be early enough for Holly's purpose, the date of his extract from the registers being 1642.—EDITORS.

[277] MARRIAGE REGISTERS OF ST. OSWALD'S, CHESTER.
1613.

Richard Yonge and Jane Tilston, April 6
Robert Fletcher and Ales Challoner, June 2
Thomas Owen and Ann Baxter, July 18
John Brooke and Ann Whitaph, July 21
William Gaament and Margaret Gauther, July 24
John Johns and Dorothea Eare, Aug. 8
Peires Griffith and Dorothea Langley, Sept. 29
Harry Dale and Margaret Gardner, Oct. 7
Hugh Tealier and Elizabeth Bennet, Nov. 14
John Cragge and Ellen Costie, Jan. 6
William Lord and Ann Fazaker, Jan. 10
John Lane and Ellen Edwardes, Jan. 22
William Richardson and Grace Churton, Jan. 23
John Lunt and Maude Allcooke, Jan. 30
Tho. Thomasonne and Ellen Davie, Feb.
Richarde Smith and Margaret Guile, Mar. 8

SEPTEMBER 7, 1898.

ORIGINAL DOCUMENTS.

[278] COTTON LETTERS.
Combermere M.S.S.
(Continued from No. 264.)

Sir Robert Cotton to Thomas Cotton Esqre.
Aug. ye 14th 1708.

Son Cotton,

By yours of August ye 9th I understand that one Henry Colley who you say has lately bought the Coppiehold Estate formerly ye Lord Cholmondeleys of one Pemberton has been with you Complaining that Mr. Starkey last week outt down a good ash Tree upon ye wast before his house and threatens to make him pay a yearly rent

for an enclosure, as was part of his purchas, or sett it to Pemberton. this is a business of great concern tho it seems little, & does concerne you and I as well as Colly, to oppose Mr. Starkey's encroachment, and it may be many others, but for ye present I desire you to send to Colleys not to agree with Mr. Starkey, to pay any rente, but to give you an account of ye name of ye man or men that cutt ye ash Down, and where they Live & who saw them, & whether it be carried away, and by whom & in whose possession it is, or who has disposed of it, and when you have perused these things, I desire you consider of them with Mr. Brereton, and take his advice wt he thinks ye best way to proceed in this, it being my opinion (with submission) it may be convenient to *su-pena* these men that out down ye ash, &c., and make them lett forth by what authority they did ye same, and then to proceed further as we shall be advised.

But, for your and Mr. Brereton's better information concerning our Interest with Colley, in ye Lordsh'p of Newhall, take notice that is an other Coppyhold Estate on ye other side ye lane Oppositt to Collies, and do not doubt but ye lane betwixt both those tenants is as they both are in Newhall Lordshipp.

Now as to Mr. Starkeys pretences to ye wast [common land] in Wrenbury which his Grandfather made some bluster about and frightened some poor people, & some poor I have Heard he brib'd under hand, with enlarging ye Dole to some of them, & threatening others, that got sand or a little Clay on ye wast, he pretending to some right of Royaltie there on; ye wast of which, I could never perceive that he had any right, or if he had I conceive I have a right to two thirds of ye same Royaltie against his one.

For your better understanding of this take notice that Auntiently ye substance of ye Townshipp of Wrenbury was in ye possession of a family of that name as Mr. Starkey used to affirme: ye Ishue [issue] male of yt family failing, that estate by a Daughter and heire descended to another family whose name I do not very well remember, whose Ishue male likewise fayling, it descended to three Daughters who were co-heiress, of which ye eldest Mr. Starkey sayes married Starkey, under whom this young man claimes. Another [co-heiress] married to Minshall of Erdswick and another to Newton of Pownall, all whose heires sold some part of their Lands to Particular Persons, as Mr. Wilsons Coll Masseys Ancesters one Wade, and I think others but my Father bought ye remainder of all Minshalls Estate & the remainder of all Newtons part, from their heires so that if there were any Royalty (which never appeared to me) Mr. Starkey could pretend to noe more yn [than] his part.

But now I am in, I will mention some particulars as come in my memory, relating to his Grandfathers pretences, not long after my coming to age, & to

live at Combermere. He came to propose to me yt he and I should enclose Wrenbury Heath, & divide it equally between us: wch I waved alledging yt it was a help to many poor people, & yt I conceived there were many Charterers [i.e., Freeholders] in yt Towne who had a right to their pr[o]portion as well as wee, or to this effect. Soe this project fell. Some years after wn [when] he and I had frequent Differences, I was rideing over Wrenbury heath and observed a House or Barne building, I thought on ye heath. I rode to see, & found some Carpenters building a house over ye ditch, one part of ye foundation on ye heath, the other in Mr. Starkeys field. I gave ye workmen notice to remove it off ye Comon, otherwise I would prosecute them for wt they did; & it was accordingly removed into ye field, and I suppose [suppose] stands there still, it is opposit to ye lane yt goes fro' woodcock [Woodcot] hill to Wrenbury heath. I need say no more to you of ye encroaching nature of that family for severall generations, but am sorry this young man begins to tread in their steps.

I am
your affectionate father

ROBERT COTTON

[P.S.] Give my Kind respects to Mr. Brereton. The Lordshp of Newhall was granted to ye Audleys by Ranulfe Earle of Chester. ye last of yt name dyed in Henry ye 3rds Raine. he was a great stickler for Magna Carta. I send this writ by Charles being more legible than mine which was bloted.

(To be continued.)

NOTES.

[279] THE BROWNELLS OF GAWSWORTH.
(Continued from No. 270.)

APPENDIX.

Index of wills at Chester. [Lanc. and Ches. Record Ser.]

Thos. Brownell of the Hollincoe, pish. of Mottram, Inv. 1622.

Nathaniel Brownell of Gawsworth, 1638. [vide inf.]

Thomas Brownhill of Hawthorn in Pownall Fee, husbandman, 1661.

Anthony Brownell of Sale, Inv. 1664.

Thomas Brownell of Hollins, Adm. 1674.

John Brownhill of Hollins, husbandman, 1692.

William Brownell of Gawsworth, yeoman, 1694. [vide inf.]

Henry Brownhill of Hollins, 1700.

John Brownhill of Sinderland, 1710.

Joseph Brownhill of Armfield, yeoman, Adm. 1717.

Nathaniel Brownell, clerk, late rector of Halsall, 1719. [vide inf.]

John Brownell of Hollins, yeoman, 1722.

William Brownell of Netherton, gent. 1780. [vide inf.]

Thomas Brownell of Sunderland, labourer, Adm. 1733.

Nathaniel Brownell of Gawsworth, co. Cestr. :—Dat. 29 Sept. 1638, inv. 4 Oct. 1638, S. T. £254 9s. Od., provd., 1638. Infirme etc. assigns real estate in Synderland to good friend Wm. Burges of Macclesfield gent. and Geo. Birch of Altrincham yeom. and real estate in Gawsworth to loving brother-in-law Thomas Jeynson, Vicar of Prestbury, and Wm. Rowe the younger, of Macclesfield, mercer, and good friend John Wardley of Siddington yeoman, to certain uses. Mentions "wife Ellen" "son Thomas Brownell" [under 24 years] "wife's mother Elizabeth Brodhurst" "sons Nathaniel, Edward and William Brownell" "farm called Baylie Ridding" "my mother Elizabeth Brownell."

William Brownell of Gowsorth :—Dat. 20 Oct. 1693, inv. 28 Dec. 1693, provd. 18 May 1694. Weake in bodie etc., mentions "well-beloved son Nathaniel Brownell, rector of Haulsoe and his wife;" to grandchildren William, Mary, Hannah, and Ellenor Brownell children of the aforesaid Nathaniel, £10 each; son-in-law Matthew Holliday and daughter Elizabeth his wife and John, Nathaniel, Mathew, and Elizabeth Holliday grandchildren; son-in-law Petter Swanne and daughter mary his wife and Thomas, John, Mary, Elizabeth and Phebe Swanne, their children. legacies to Peter Pott, brother-in-law Steaven Blacklach and nephew Samuel Blacklach and sister Rebeka Blacklach, also to Josiah Johnson and Josiah Wilcockson and to servant Thomas Mothershead. Exors. kinsman George Massie of Over Alderley gent. and John Shaw of Conglinton, alderman.

Nathaniel Brownell, Rector of the Parish Church of Hassall, Clerk :—Dat. 10 Mar. 1718, inv. 31 Mar. 1719, sum total over £1000, provd. 9 May 1719. Sound in mind etc. "To my eldest son William my guilded cup, pursuant to the will of his grandfather Brownell." Mentions messuages and tenements in Gawsworth and land in Sinderland; also farm called Baly-ridding; also lands in Aughton called Brookhouse, purchased from madam Francis Soarisbrick. Mentions wife Eleanor Brownell, daughter Mary now wife of Abraham Orm, daughter Hannah Stott [Scott] widow, daughter Eleanor Tatlock [Stanley] widow, daughter Elizabeth now wife of Ralph Baldwin, nephew Thomas Swanne son of Peter Swanne brother-in-law, grandson Jeffry Stott [Scott]; lands in Congleton "which were my wife's at her marriage." Exors. wife, nephew Nicholas Rigby of Horrook, gent., and John Moore of Downholland tanner.

The three wills given above were copied by Mr. W. F. Irvine.

William Brownell of Netherton, co. Lanc., Gent. :—Dat. 18 June 1730; provd. at Chester 8 Mar. 1730. To wife Elizabeth, late wife of Edward Grimshaw of West Derby yeoman, with whom he

acknowledges marriage-£20. To the same-all freehold estate in Netherton for life so long as she remains a widow. To the same-household effects and stock, to learned friend William Vincent of Witwick, co. Leicest., clerk-£30, or if he be dead £20 to his widow and children. To friend Richard Halsall-20s. To Edward Simpkin-20s. To William Gouldbourn of Netherton-10s. To Alice Aspinwall-5s. To William Holme, weaver-40s. To poor of Saphton, Netherton and Lount-£3. To poor of Halsall-£3. To niece Eleanor Orme-£10. To Doctor Dickens-two books. To servant Ellen-20s. To nephew Jeffry Scott-annuity of £6 during joint lives of himself, his mother, and Aunt Margaret Scott. To sister Eleanor Stanley-annuity of £8 to hold to her after decease of Mrs. Tyrer, wid. of Henry Tyrer, gent. for 99 years. Both annuities to be paid out of estate of Aspull co. Lanc. To sister Mary Orme-£50. To sister Eliz. Baldwin-£50. Husbands desired to permit them to dispose of same to their children. Everything else after payment of debts to brother Mr. John Brownell. Abraham Orme, brother-in-law sole exor.

John Brownell of Liverpool, co. Lanc. Gent. :—Dat. 9 Mar. 1787, proved at York 12 Nov. 1791. Property in three equal shares to daughters Elizabeth wife of George Stavert of Liverpool surgeon; Eleanor; and Ann wife of Adam Stavert of Todrig in the par. and shire of Selkirk. Plate wearing apparel, etc. to dau. Eleanor. £20 to Liverpool Infirmary. £10 10s. each to exors.—esteemed friend Stephen Waterworth, and brother-in-law Thomas Watson.

William Brownell of Liverpool, co. Lanc. Gent. :—Dat. 6 Mar. 1774. Everything to father John B. sole exor.

Eleanor Brownell of the Breck par. of Walton, co. Lanc. spinster :—Dat. 6 June 1825, provd. at Chester 7 July 1826. Forgives debts to Thomas, John Brownell, and William, sons of sister Eliz. Stavert; to each of said nephews bequeathes £1000. To sister Eliz. £100. To niece Hannah and her husband Archibald Dickson junr. £50 each. To nieces Eliz. and Eleanor daus. of sister Eliz. S. each £1000. To great-nieces Eliz. and Eleanor Brownell daus. of nephew William Stavert—£100 each with interest on youngest attaining 18 years; in case of decease of one, her share to go to the other; of both, to their father. All other property to niece Hannah Stavert dau. of sister Eliz. S. Said Hannah S. sole extx.

(To be continued).

REPLY.

[280] THE DATE OF THE MAKING OF THE PARKGATE ROAD.

(See Nos. 170, 204, and 255.)

Mr Irvine has made a distinction in the title, by calling it, the date of the making of 'what is now called,' the Parkgate road. The subject,

however, is interesting, and if out of it we cannot evolve a definite solution, we may, at any rate, throw more than ordinary light upon the early history of Wirral. In proof of the antiquity of this old Wirral road, reference has been made to the splendid map of John Speed, a remarkable Cheshire man; but, unfortunately, he does not trace this road to the extent we could wish.*

We will here refer to that very instructive work 'Watkin's Roman Cheshire.' Mr. Watkin with all his research, is in the same dilemma as all previous writers with regard to the two Wirral roads out of Chester. He marks them on his map as supposed roads. The following is what he says with regard to what we call the Parkgate road:—

Taking next the roads to the north from Chester, the most important is that leading to Wilderspool, which issued from the North Gate, following the track of the present Upper Northgate Street for some distance, until the latter divides into two branches, one called the Parkgate Road, the other the Birkenhead Road. Mr. G. W. Shrubsole, of Chester, informs me that, a few years since, in building some new cottages in the angle formed by the junction of these two roads, excavations were made, and the Roman road was found proceeding in a straight line between them. It rested on the red sandstone which here rises three or four feet above the level; this had been cut away, and the road paved. It is in a straight line at this point with the road issuing from Chester to the south, but like the modern road, it divided a little further on into two or more branches, though the exact spot has not yet been revealed."†

That the settlement at Meols (Roman) must have had a communication with Chester is unquestionable, though the traces of any road between the two places are very faint. From the former place to Greasby, and a little beyond, there seem to be traces, but beyond this all is doubtful. The long distance between the departure of the Romans and the Norman conquest must have been an interval of terrible devastation to the people of Wirral. For besides famine and pestilence, and deadly internecine civil strife to which they were exposed, they had to contend with wave after wave of piratic adventurers, who carried fire and sword throughout the district; and when

the conquest took place, and the forest laws came into operation, judging by what took place on the formation of the New Forest, there must have been an enforced migration from Wirral towards Chester, and as those forest laws were in operation until the reign of Edward III, it seems as though, for commercial purposes, the old Wirral road to Chester would be then little used. Camden says, "Wirral was all forest, and not inhabited in old times, but now, thick set with towns on all sides; but happier in respect of the sea, than the soile; for the land beareth small plenty of corne, but the water yieldeth great store of fish."

Ormerod also says the entire hundred was formed into a vast forest, and in confirmation of this he adds that well-worn old couplet,

From Blacon Point to Hilbre,
A squirrel may leap from tree to tree.

And besides, the Wirral peninsula abounds, as in the locality of Great Neston, with names such as All-wood, Wood Lane, Wood Fields, Wood House, and Back Wood. If therefore, the Roman road that connected Chester with Meols, or what Wirral people call 'The Melts,' be lost, can that be wondered at, considering the revolution of the centuries that have passed away since their time.

There is, however, much to be said in favour of a road along, or near to the Dee shore from Chester. Mr. Watkin affirms that some years ago, in the making of an ordnance survey, an old road was discovered near to Parkgate, as were also some Roman coins. To this he did not attach much importance, as the port of Chester extended along the shore to West Kirby.

Leland, in his description of Wirral, seems to have taken this road. He very quaintly describes it in this way. "Wirall begynnith lesse than a quarter of a mile of the very Cite selfe of Chester, and withyn a 2 bow shottes of the Suburbe without the North-gate at a little Broeket called Flokars Broke; that ther commyth ynto Dee Eyver; and there is a Dok, whereat spring tide a ship may ly, and this place is called *Porte Pool*. Half a mile lower ys Blaken Hedde;" and he further goes on to describe the villages and places of note along the shore to Hilbre.

Mr. Irvine seems to think the road, such as it was, may have existed before the occupation of the Romans.

* We would point out that Speed's map was on such a small scale that no roads were marked on it at all.—EDITORS.

† *Roman Cheshire*, p. 55.

John Speed's map appeared in 1610, and yet this road was so insignificant as to be unnoticed by him, or by any topographer before his time. But there must have been a track of some sort, to keep up the communication with the early Wirral churches.

When the new Haven was made below Neston about the year 1550, it is very likely this old road would be more used, but by pack horses. When Cromwell went to Ireland, tradition asserts that his army encamped on a large heath at what Smith and Webb call Hinder-town at the back of Neston. Again on this very heath, the army of the Prince of Orange certainly encamped about the year 1688 when on its way to Ireland. "In 1803 a cask containing coin of the reign of William III. to the amount of £800 were found by a stonemason on Windle Hill near to Parkgate." The army came by this road. To show in what state it was at that time, "the Mayor's Tumbrel" (a sort of baggage waggon), broke down about two miles out of Chester. This caused a delay with the officers in Neston from which place they shipped horses.

For energy, for enterprise, and for conquest, our ancestors were famous. But, strange to say (although the Romans set so good an example), it was not until last century that they turned their attention to making better the communication between one town and another. The Romans saw the advantage of this, and it gave them a thorough command over their extensive empire. It is said that on one of their roads, a horseman could ride one hundred miles in a day, and yet this very Parkgate road, even so recently as the year 1791, is described as being 'both narrow and bad.'

We have in Mr. Wm. Harrison's history a very interesting account of the roads in Cheshire. In that history we are told that the Parkgate road was "Turnpiked in the year 1787 by Act of Parliament." Before that time the road was repaired bapbazard by the various townships through which it passed. And this was the state of the Parkgate road up to the year 1787, when Parkgate was at the very height of its popularity.

We may say in conclusion, that the Parkgate road was never made, in the ordinary acceptation of that term, but that it grew with the advance of civilisation, and the exigencies of trade; perhaps from an ordinary cattle track, of

which no one can point out the beginning, until in the early decades of this century, it became, and still is, second to none in the United Kingdom.

GEORGE GLEAVE.

[281] MARRIAGE REGISTERS OF ST. OSWALD'S, CHESTER.

1614

Rondle Ince and Mary Androe, April 27
James Baxter and Ann Litherlande, May 8
Evan Johnes and Widdowe Bennett, May 9
John Mutchell and Ellen Ravenscroft, May 15
Henry Carre and Ales Maller, May 21
John Lye and Elizabeth Smyth, May 28
Evan Humphrey and Ellen Yeomant, Aug. 24
David Johnes and Margaret Piggott, Oct. 2
Thomas Smyth and Ellen Sparke, Oct. 5
Richard Yonge and Elizabeth Newport, Nov. 9
Robert Miller and Margerie Boore, Nov. 24
Daniel Lea and Ales Crosse, Jan. 3
Arthur Day and Sialye Trinill, Feb. 19

SEPTEMBER 14, 1898.

NOTES.

[282] DELVES-BROUGHTON OF DODDINGTON.

In a curious paragraph in the *Courant* of the 17th August occurs a statement that an Anglo-Irish family named Weldon (Welldon—Well-Done—the down, or hill, of the Well—the Holy Well?) was of 'longer lineage' than were the Broughtons, because the rather dubious descent of the former was traced to Bertram de Welton (phonet, *Walton*) Bishop (and Palatine Earl?) of Durham, at the Conquest. The celibacy of the priesthood, however, was but little observed by either the grand or the petty fathers at that date; nor for centuries after did they pay much attention even to the papal decrees. But, if this Weldon descent is accurate, the Delves, and, I should say, the Broughton descents (though I never had any personal acquaintance with them) are not far behind. I should suppose that either would reach the 13th century; and, if so, they may, as a matter of fact be, in every way, accounted quite as old as the Weldons, for several general reasons. This statement however, which went the round of the Press, perhaps referred—though in a clumsy, non-sequitur sort of way—to some particular descent, high up the tree, which would be thought to oust the Delves-Broughton, or rather the Broughton, claim, and all others, to the heirship, and next-of-kinship, in question,

as there stated. For Henry VIIIth's reign is only assigned as the date of *origin* of the Broughtons—and it is to the latter family (the male line of this House) that the whole dispute refers. Broughton being a territorial or manorial name, it follows, almost with absolute certainty, that if the family were of Broughton (Co. Stafford) or its neighbourhood, some 400 years ago, they were even then an ancient family—although perhaps a younger branch, and repatriated in the days of the English Calais merchants—of which the restorer (?) of the house might have been one—like, for example, the now extinct Fermors (Farmers), late Earls of Pomfret, who, so far as is known however, was a family of early plebeian origin, and in every age, therefore, much inferior, in point of nobility and gentry, to that of the Broughtons. For the 'guinea stamp' assumed privilege of kings was never accounted for much except among the common people (the 'commoners') and the classes immediately risen out of them, otherwise the descendants of countless generations of servitors would always have been accounted for more. This, however, in our happier sham-democratic days is no longer a question of the slightest importance—any more, in fact, than is this newspaper reference to the higher branches of the genealogies of the Broughtons and Weldons. For, the absurdity of it all is, that the true legal question begins in 1766!—with the birth of Emma Broughton, reputed daughter of one Sir Thos. Broughton, Bart.—she, by her parents, or one of them, or by some of their friends, being baptised by the paternal surname, inferentially it is presumed; or, at all events, that surname became hers by user (as customary, time out of mind); or it may have been first acquired through one of the slovenly entries made in the register, as was (and, to a certain extent, is still) so often the case everywhere. However, there seems to be independent evidence that she was of natural birth, and eventually married the ancestor or ancestress of the late Mr. Coghlan, who was of 'an old and distinguished Irish family.' Six years ago this gentleman died apparently intestate, leaving some three quarters of a million sterling and a large real estate. Then came litigation between his cousins, of whom Delves - Broughton of Doddington was one, and the chief. It ended in a compromise. But a Mrs. Mohan, whose mother was a first cousin of Coghlan's, has now commenced a suit for the re-opening of the whole question. She

may prove to be the actual heiress of Coghlan, as well as be entitled as his next of kin; and, moreover, she threatens to prove the illegitimacy of Emma Broughton—which would oust the Delves-Broughton claim.

The interest of the fight will centre in the claim to the real estate. Whoever has got possession of the settlement (if any) made on Emma's marriage, will perhaps be in a position to prove her legitimacy or illegitimacy. Sir Hen. Delves - Broughton, aged 90, was first in the field. So much for the uncertainties of the law, and its nine points and, its maxim that the law favours the diligent; and then *le Diable est aux vaches*.

X.

[283] THE BROWNELLS OF GAWSWORTH.

(Continued from No. 279.)

PARISH REGISTERS.

Parish of Gawsorth oo. Chester; copied by the late Rector the Revd. J. T. Penrose M.A.

[the date of birth is given first when recorded.]

Baptisms.

- 1601 25 Nov. 26 Nathaniel Brownell filius Guil. Brownell
 1604 4 Apr. 7 Susanna Brownell filia Gu. Brown.
 1606 12 Nov. 14 Rebekah Brownell
 1607 18 Apr. 21 Mary and Ales Brownell filiae Guil. Brownell Rect. of Gaws.
 1620 9 Oct. 13 Anne Brownell filia Nathaniell Brownell
 1622 Oct. 30 Elizab. Brownell filia Nathaniell Brownell
 1625 14 Apr. 16 Jane Brownhill filia Nathanilis Brownh.
 1629 Jan. 6 Tho'as Brow'hill filia Nathanielis Brownhil ge't.
 1631 Apr. 1 Nathaniell Brownell filia Nathaniell Brownell
 1634 Sep. 7 Margrett Brownell filia Nathanielis Brownell
 1636 Nov. 17 Edward ye sonn of Nathaniell Brownhill
 1638 Oct. 23 Rebecka ye daught. of Nathaniell Brownell
 1648 Oct. 18 Elizabeth daughter of William Brownhill
 1654 Mar. 26 William the sonne of William and Mary Brownell
 1657 Jul. 12 Rebecka the daughter of William Brownell and Mary his wiffe

Marriages.

- 1599 Mar. 25 Willm. Brownell p'so' of Gawsorth and Eliz. Be'tly
 1612 Feb. 2 Robt. Lyghe ge't and Susana Brownell

- 1618 Jul. 3 Nathaniell Brownell and Helle' Downes filia Petri Downes de Sunderland in Bodo' p'iah
 1623 Jan. 20 William Moreton of Congleton gen. and Mary Brow'hill daughter of William Brownhill Mr in Artis and p'son of Gawsorth
 1627 Feb. 7 Edward Roe of Maxf. gentma' and Ales Brownell filia W. Brownell Rect. of Gausworth
 1628 Jan. 2 Tho. Jainson Mr of Arts. Oxf. and pastor at Presbury and Rebecca Brownell filia W. Brownell rectoris de Gawsorth.

Burials.

- 1609 Apr. An Brow'hil ux. Tho. Brownell de Northe' soror Thosae Byrohe de Byrohe ge'tel. dyed Apr. 5 bur. 26 [P] Tenebrae [P]
 1621 Jan. 14 An Brow'hill filia Nathaniel Brow'hil
 1624 Jan. 21 Ales Brownell
 1630 Sep. 11 William Brownell parson of Gawsorth
 1635 Jan. 14 Elizabeth filia Nathanielis Brownell
 1638 Oct. 2 Nathaniell Brownell
 1646 Apr. 30 Edward Brownehill son of Nathaniell Brownehill
 1650 Oct. 19 Elizabeth Brownell the widow of William Brownell heretofore Rector of Gausworth
 1660 Aug. 8 William the son of William and Mary Brownell
 1693 Jul. 21 Mary Brownell
 1693 Dec. 16 William Brownell
 114 parishioners signed the Solemn League and Covenant; no Brownells were among them.
 Pariah of Halsall co. Lanc. : copied by the Rector, the Revd. T. B. H. Blundell, M.A.
 1683 Nathaniel Brownell read himself in as Rector of Halsall, Aug. 25th. 1683

Nuptae.

- Nathaniel Brownell Rector and Mrs. Eleanor Rigbye filia Nicholas Rigbye de Sharrook were married ye 28th. of October 1685

Christenings.

- 1886 September Maria filia Nathanielis Brownell Rectoris nata fuit die Saturni vicesimo octavo die Mensis Augusti circa horam 5m post meridiem et baptizata nono die mensis 7bris.
 1688 June Hannah filia 2da Nathanielis Brownell nata xviii die mensis Maii et baptizata sexto die Mensis Junii.
 1690 8br. Gulielmus filius Nathanielis Brownell Rectoris Natus 17o die Octobris et baptizatus vicesimo octavo die ejus mensis -28

- 1692 Julii Elianora 3a filia Natlis Brownell Rectoris de Halsall nata fuit 15o die Julii et baptizata 26o ejusdem mensis -26
 1696 Aprilis Nathaniel 2s filius Nat' Brownell. Rector. de Halsall, -28
 1697 Martii Nicholas filius 3us Nathelis Brownell Rector de Halsall natus 24o Februi et baptizatus die Martii 7
 1700 Maii Elizabetha filia Nath. Brownell Rector. de Halsall nata -10
 1706 Johannes filius 4us. Reverendi Nathlis Brownell Rectoris de Halsalls natus fuit 17o Martii and baptizatus 27o ejusdem Mensis -27
 1708 Oct. Rebekah filia Nathanielis Brownell Rectoris de Halsall -31

Sepulturae

- 1701 Martii Nicholas filius Nathlis Brownell Rector de Halsall -16
 1708 Oct. Rebekah filia Nathanielis Brownell Rector. de Halsall -31
 1717 Janry Mr. Nathaniel Brownell son of Mr. Brownell Rector, -27
 1718 March Mr. Nathaniel Brownell Rector de Halsall -21
 1719 June Elianora uxor Nathanielis Brownell Rector. deod. -29

Tombstones—

Gawsorth Church, floor of the chancel; of. Ear-waker's "East Cheshire."

Hic jacet | Gulielmus | Brownell vi | tas integer-
 rimus | theologus | et rector hujus | ecclesiae | qui
 sepultus | fuit Sept | Anno Dom. | 1630

Halsall Church; copied by the Rector. 1896.
 South wall of the chancel

Hic positae sunt | reliquiae | Viri reverdi Nathan-
 ielis Brownell | Hujus ecclesiae per xxxv annos
 rectoris | Cura pastorali | Integritate vitae summa
 | In egenos liberalitate | Comitatus erga omnes |
 Spectabilis. Obiit Anno {Ætatis suae} 67
 {Domini} 1718

Necnon dilectae uxoris Eleanorae | Fil: Nich:
 Rigbye de Harrook arm: |
 Obiit Anno {Ætatis suae} 64
 {Domini} 1719

Stone removed from the chancel floor.

H: S: I. corpus | Nathanielis Brownell | filii Re-
 toris e collegio | Divi Jo | hannis Cantab | nuper
 Alumni—Obiit 24o die Jan | Ao DOM: 1717o |
 Ætatis suae 22o | Juvenis ingenuus | indolis.

Here was interred the | body of Nicholas Brownell
 | 3d. son of Nathaniel | Brownell Rector
 March | ye 16 Anno Dom: 1701.

Foster's "Alumni Oxonienses."

Brownell, Gratian Scholar New Coll. 1568. B.C.L.
 14 May 1576

Brownell, Henry of Notts. pleb. Ball. Coll. matr. 17
 July 1584 aged 26

Brownell Humfry B.A. 11 July 1559

Brownell, Joseph s. of John of Coventry gent. St.
 John's Coll. matr. 14 July 1662 aged 17

Brownell, Nathaniel s. of William of Gawsworth
Cheshire pleb. Ch. Ch. matr. 14 Apr. 1671 aged
19 B.A. 1674 M.A. 1677, rector of Halsall co.
Lanc. 1683 father of William.

Brownell, William B.A. 29 Feb. 1575-6 M.A.
3 July 1579. Rector of Gawsworth Cheshire 1597
till his death in Sept. 1630 buried 11th.

Brownell, William s. of Nathaniel of Halsall co.
Lanc. cler. B.N.C. matr. 17 Dec. 1709 aged 19
B.A. 1711

Gray's Inn Admission Register.

1637 June 23 John Brownell of Derby gent.

1656 Apr. 24 John Brownell son and heir of
Richard B. of Stilton Hunts. gent.

W. J. STAVERT.

QUERY.

[284] THOMAS MOTTERSHEAD, SHERIFF OF
CHESTER, 1641-2.

Thomas Mottershead was Senior Sheriff of
Chester in the year 1641-42, during the
Mayoralty of Thomas Cowper. The Sheriff's
name appears as having been present at an
assembly held in the 'Common-hall of Please'
on Friday, February 3rd, 1643 (William Ince,
Mayor), when he was appointed one of the four
collectors in connection with an assessment of
£500, for the purpose of defraying the expense
to be incurred in the erection of additional
works of defence. I lose sight of him after
that date, and should be greatly obliged for any
information as to the date of his death and
place of interment.

C. M. F.

[285] MARRIAGE REGISTERS OF ST. OSWALD'S,
CHESTER.

1615.

William Evans and Ellen Wilkinson, April 25

Raph Morgan and Elizabeth Anion, July 24

John Tyrer and Ellen Fisher, July 26

John Forshawe and Jane Sefton, Sept. 28

Arch Latymer and Isabell Byas, Oct. 10

Hugh Williamson and Ales Roberts, Oct. 15

William Curmin and Elizabeth Evans, Oct. 22

John Harrison and Margaret Title, Oct. 26

George Litton and Margrett Burges, Nov. 13

Edward Wright and Kathren Ingelfield, Nov. 14

John Cryer and Ellen Warton, Nov. 30

Hugh Crumpe and Margrett Pemberton, Dec. 11

John Lloyd and Anne Tapley, Jan. 21

Thomas Harrison and Jane Holland, Feb. 6

Arthur Urmeston and Jane Probbin, Feb. 13

SEPTEMBER 21, 1898.

NOTES.

[286] BIRKENHEAD PRIORY.
(Continued from No. 269.)

The Monks' Parlour is indicated by the
traces of its walls on the side of the Chapter
House, and also by a staircase to the Dormitory
and Scriptorium above the Chapter House.
The Dormitory also appears to have been a
wooden structure over the east alley of the
Cloister. The lines of its floor and roof may
still be traced on the west side of the Chapter
House, hewn roughly level with the wall. Dr.
Jessop decided that this must be the partition
of the Dormitory, but until recent researches,
its remnants were not detected.

The Chapter House is plainly a portion of the
original foundation, and is the only building
not a complete ruin; it has two bays of
quadripartite vaulting with moulded ribs
separated by a stilted Norman arch, carried by
triple wall-shafts with cushion capitals. One
perfectly plain Norman window remains on the
south, and on the north and east are five light
third pointed windows, inserted from some other
part of the building, probably the Cloister,
prior to the dissolution.

Above the Chapter House is the
Scriptorium, a large room still contain-
ing the lockers for the books and writing
materials, a fine late fireplace well moulded,
and a watching loft which once opened into the
south side of the church, whence the light
above the altar could be watched. There is a
tracery and transomed two light window at
each end of this apartment, which has been
provided with shutters to regulate the light for
the scribes. The grooves and hinges still
remain.

The Chapter House and Scriptorium were
adjoining the former North Transept of the
Church. This transept, originally Norman,
is indicated by the junction of a wall
on the south of the Chapter House;
and at a later date, it seems to
have been lengthened eastwards into
a second north aisle, probably used as a Sacristy
and Chapel. This is the only existing fragment
of the Norman Church. The thirteenth century
Church consisted of a Nave of six bays with side
aisles. There is a very rude drawing in King's
Vale Royal, A.D. 1658, the examination of which
shows that though very inartistic, it is not, in

a sense, inaccurate. This drawing shows the six bays; and it may be demonstrated that other surmises of five, four, or three bays were not practicable plans.

The Chancel was of three bays, and the usual four arches of the central tower occupied the space between the Nave and Chancel.

Fragments of the west window, sufficient to make out its plan, were found, and this with the existing fragment of the north jamb, the site of the north wall, the single respond or half pillar at the west end, and the spring of its arch sufficed to recover the measurement of the nave. The breadth would also give the square of the central tower. The length of the chancel was checked by the position of the watching loft. Taking three bays as the conventional proportion to those of the nave, there could be only one point seen from the loft between the intervening pillars, and this would fall exactly over the centre of the altar in a church measured out by the plan which I have given elsewhere. (See *Trans. Hist. Soc. Lancashire and Cheshire*, Vol. 46.) Several portions of large shafts, plainly belonging to the central crossing, enable us to recover this feature also.

The Lady Chapel alone remains to be noticed. Before the repairs, only two stones of this building were known to exist, a spring of the groining and a central boss. From the radiation of the ribs on these, and the curves given by them, it was possible to reconstruct one bay of vaulting. Indications formerly existing in the small ruins of the church proved that it was roofed with wood, and this vault being unsuitable for other positions, was allotted to the Lady Chapel. The etching in *King's Vale Royal* shows three eastern openings and these being given as those of the Lady Chapel and fitted to the recovered groin are found with a length and a breadth of three bays, to complete the measures of the church, which are founded on the figure seven; thus the opening of each arch of the arcade was 7 feet; the breadth of the nave, 21 feet; of the two aisles, 21 feet; the length to the centre of the church, 77 feet; thence to the end of the Lady Chapel, 77 feet; and the measures of 77 feet occur continually with other measures based on 7 throughout the whole of the buildings. It may be said, therefore, that small though the existing fragments be, scarcely any single feature, except the upper stages of the tower, is without some authority among the remains for its recovery.

Moreover the recent researches have not only given confirmation to this plan, but they have disclosed a mass of minor details, which give the character of the building. The sill jambs and some of the tracery of the east window were built into the post-Reformation rebuilding of the Refectory; and from the same walls were taken very many more fine fragments of groinings, capitals, and traceries, which fully disclosed the extreme richness and artistic finish of that building.

On the north side of the Priory buildings was a small court, about 21 feet square, one side being formed by the Refectory. On the south, at the east end, was a groined kitchen, afterwards destroyed. A great chimney added to the crypt at the N.E. angle has also been taken down to its foundations.

At the west end of the court stood the guest-house, which had an entrance door made from the Prior's Hall. This guest-house was a later addition of timber, and the sockets for the timbers are still visible in the walls of the Prior's Hall, and they give indications of its plan. A newel staircase projected slightly into this court, and led from the crypt to the refectory; it was found cut off in parts of its outer circumference, and built up with fragments of the church by the rebuilt refectory wall. Thus all the usual monastic buildings are accounted for.

(To be continued.)

[287] A FEW MORE CHESHIRE NORMAN NAMES.

(See Nos. 197, 240, 244 and 247).

Bellow, armigeri (Boileau?). Represented now only by a branch in Ireland.

Boydall, barones and minores.

Furnival (Fourniville?). Appears late.

Malpass? baron, minor. Early bearers were probably of Norman origin, but certainly received the name of Malpasse (Maupasse) from Malpass in 12th century.

Patrik, baron min, and co-barons of Malpass with the Malpasses.

Praers (Préaux) (Pratellis), baron, min. They were apparently of Raineval Castle in Picardy, midway between Amiens and Montdidier, and about A.D. 1350 were called after their chief manor, Raineval. The identity of the Cheshire Praers with the de or des Préaux (Pratellis) is considerably strengthened by the occurrence of the name de *Pratell* as that of a witness to several charters of one or more of the Palatine Earls of Chester.

Butter (Le Roter), baron, min., of Thorneton-le-Moors, and descendants of the first and the later barons of Malpass, through the Malpasses.

Stuteville (Estouteville). The only relic of the existence in Cheshire of this surname is an early entry (1558-60) in the oldest parish register of Overton Church, which seems very satisfactory. It is a record of the burial of 'Ales Stuteville *alias* the Blazing Star!' I am not quite certain of the exact orthography. The family was ancient in Yorkshire, and of the lesser baronial rank.

Wilme (of Oughtrington).

There were, and perhaps are, many other names of which I have no recollection.

T. HELSBY.

ORIGINAL DOCUMENTS.

[288]

COTTON LETTERS.

(*Combermere MSS.*)

(*Continued from No. 278.*)

[*Mr. Brereton to Thomas Cotton Esqr.*]

[Whitchurch Aug. 18th, 1708.]

Honoured Sr

Just now [i.e. recently] I was in Company with Mr. Starkey & I took ye opportunity to discourse him about Colleys Griveance [grievance] he tells me that this Inclosed peece of Land is a parcell of ye waste ground belonging to ye Township of Wrenbury ou[m] frith and that ye Ash Tree that he caused to be cut down stands upon yt Inclosed peece. he says yt his Ancesters time out of mind have had & taken all waifes Estrays Deodands & ot happening wthin ye sd Townshipp and were always accounted to have ye Royaltie thereof. this he says will be proved by most of ye Ancient inhabitants. he told me ye late Lrd Cholmondeley did question his Grandfather concerning ye Royaltie but after some moneys spent yt Lrd. declined proceeding.

this inclosure I peroeive by him has been made but within these 20 or 30 years at most. If wt is above mentioned be true, I believe Colley will be advised to agree wth Mr. Starkey because of ye convenience of yt peece to ye Tenemt. not but yt ye freeholders may throw it down, but yt will be to his prejudice.

he is not compellable to agree, nor will any action [action] ly [lie] against Colley for ye Rent, & if Mr. Starkey take upon him to sett it to another, Colley or any freeholdr may throw down ye Inclosure.

I hope on your receipt of Sr Robert's letter you will be better able to Judge on this matter.

I took no notice to Mr. Starkey yt you knew any thing of this Complaint. he seem'd very civill & unwilling yt you should be any ways offended and says he does not question but you will be very Easy If you please to Enquire into his right as to this particular of which you may, if you please, as he says, be informed by severall Inhabitants In that Township or Parish of Wrenbury, and particularly by Mr. John Savage, who remembers ye takeing in ye peece, and knows yt Pemberton allways paid him and his Grandfather, 18d. a year as a Cheife for yt Inclosure.

he told me he hoped to see you at a Parish meeting on thursday next wn he presumed he would give you ample satisfaction as to ye affaire

I am Sr,

Your most obliged Humble Servant

BEARDMR. BRERETON.

Whitchurch,
Augt. ye 18th, 1708. }

[*Sir Robt. Cotton to Thomas Cotton, Esq.*]

August ye 21st, 1708.

Dear Son,

I Desire you to peruse my letter about Mr. Starkey or ye men that cut down the Ash and consider of it wth Mr. Brereton, as to my Royalty on ye wast in Newhall. It was never disputed. So Mr. Brereton needs not be at any Trouble to search into that. Tho' Charles writ ye letter sent you it's only a Copie of one I writt, but not so legible, being close writ & enterlined.

Mr. Starkey has no land in Newhall Lordship nor pretences to any wast [commons] there, his aim is at a Royalty in Wrenbury, which I will oppose. Mr. Wilson might have been of use in this business concerned but Jno Savage has no freehold of Inheritance there, his leases, I think, all are remote from ye Comon, and I believe knows little more then hearsay So ye less you say to him, till we have ye mens answer upon oath, the better. Mr. Charles fletcher and auncient men in or near the frith can say more to this than John Savage. But I desire you advise well of my letter with Mr. Brereton, & in ye meantime observe my directions in that letter with kind respects to Mr. Brereton.

I am, in hast, your affectionate Father

ROBT COTTON

[P.S.] On second thoughts I conceive honest Harry with his friends and relations may be as helpfull in this business of frith as any I can at ye present think of I think it might be convenient for you to get him [to] meet you at the place, & if Mr. Brereton could conveniently be there at ye same time might doe well.

(To be continued.)

[289] MARRIAGE REGISTERS OF ST. OSWALD'S,
CHESTER.

1616.

Ralph Cheshire and Margrett Smyth, April 22
William Spicer and Elizabeth Cawley, May 20
Thomas ap William and Ellen Rummer, July 20
James Hignett and Elizabeth Morter, July 25
Robert Kinge and Anne Evanes, Oct. 17
Henry Litherlande and Elizabeth Bennett, Nov. 19
John Garfield and Elizabeth Watt, Dec. 1
Richard Gitten and Ellenor Nicholl, Dec. 9
Raph Gaskell and Ales Grange, Dec. 15
Hugh ap Fenn (?) and Jane Lowe, Feb. 28

SEPTEMBER 28, 1898.

NOTES.

[290] THE MS. COLLECTIONS OF THE FOUR
HANDS HOLMES OF CHESTER.

These monuments of the industry of the four notable Cheshire antiquaries, genealogists, and heralds, were, as everyone knows, garnered by them into some 200 or 300 folio volumes, during the greater part of the 17th century, and have long formed part of the celebrated Harleian collections. But, although this enormous body of Cheshire evidences has been worked upon by many topographers, historians, and others during the present century, I think that no special notice of them has yet appeared in print. Certainly, though they are well worthy of a more elaborate account than any one person can readily undertake, a note or two respecting them may be given here from memory, and particularly in reference to the late Mr. J. P. Earwaker's discovery of the great confusion introduced by the misplacing of the several indexes, and a total absence of a general index of the many thousands of names, places, and armorials comprised in this very wide and interesting field of enquiry.

Many of these wealthy volumes were contributed to the Harleian Collection by the Egertons of Egerton and Oulton—the last in or about the year 1836. As the various contributions and purchases from various sources were received by the authorities of the British Museum during the last and present centuries, they were excellently bound up in handy tomes. But in the binding there was one great defect, which was left to Mr. Earwaker to thoroughly investigate, though no doubt many before his time had puzzled in vain over it. It appears that numbers of the original indices, made by the Holmes, were so mixed up

and separated from their proper volumes that a reference to one would involve a hunt for its index among many others! This, at first sight, would by flippant critics be attributed simply to the erroneous indexing by the Holmes—on the strength of their general character as rather negligent and not very accurate transcribers—when that business was in its infancy, and when probably these busy gentlemen were greatly pressed for time. This negligence and ignorance combined with that of the sub-librarians and bookbinders of the day would of course mean to men of research a very serious and costly loss of time.

Considering this, one would think it worth the while of the authorities to give a competent hand the task of making a wholly new and exhaustive index to the entire Holmes' collection—rather than a pottering explanatory work, as might be suggested, referring the reader from one volume to another to get at the right index. Especially so, one would think, would this be most desirable when we consider the general untrustworthiness of nearly all of the present indices, particularly in matters of detail.

The Holmes' collection, as most readers know, consists of three divisions of records. Perhaps the most valuable, for legal, historical, or purely genealogical and heraldic purposes, is that which comprises abstracts, and even what purport to be copies, of original charters, deeds, wills unproved, inventories unused and used for letters of administration, &c., rentals (rent-rolls), inquisitions, and ancient copies of such documents; also extracts from court rolls of several descriptions, and occasionally a letter or note relating to property. But it often happens that these records have been slovenly and inaccurately abstracted and copied, insomuch that the limitations of settlements, for example, are but partially given; while the names in testatum clauses and endorsed liveries of seizin are very defective, or have been entirely neglected or overlooked, so that valuable information is often missing, and is now beyond recovery, considering the enormous loss and destruction of original documents, both in private and public hands, during the last three centuries. From this general laxity and want of eye of 17th, 18th and early 19th century transcribers, all topographical works (which largely run at many points into the realm of general history as it should be written), largely based upon such collections—as was the case of Dr. Ormerod's history of the whole county, in the opening years of this century—must suffer

greatly. But, all these considerations notwithstanding, by reason of the loss and destruction I have referred to, even these inaccurate and deficient evidences become invaluable—especially where the reader can instinctively sift truth from error.

The second division of the Holmes' collections consists of numerous tabular pedigrees of all kinds, of their own drawing, for emblazoned rolls of vellum, and for 'Founders' Kin' (some years ago, by Act of Parliament, abolished at the old Universities because of the interminable numbers of collateral descendants through female lines, claiming the privileges reserved by their ancestral founders to all eternity)—just as people claim their weakly blood, 'Royal descent,' through 'divers venters,' as old Tommy Lyttleton (who as justiciar rode the Northern Circuit in 1440-50) calls it in his famous and respectable collection of Tenures, upon which that learned barbarian, Cook (Coke), commented so wondrously in *Our Great Betsy's Day*. With, however, these genealogies of the Holmes, are also the rough drafts of pedigrees, &c., made by some of the Heralds during their visitations. Both kinds have long been recognised as untrustworthy, from a scrupulously exact point of view. This arose, chiefly, from a want of acumen and a knowledge of the ancient laws of real property—which still work—and that continuous energy and industry so necessary, and sometimes from an absence of materials sufficient for so exacting an occupation. So that often, for instance, a grandsire appears as his own grandson, or some one else's grandson appears as his own grandfather, a mother as her own grandchild, or another person's spouse is malappropriated so disreputably that a great genealogical scandal is the result—to say nothing of occasional vagaries of conscience in the complication of third or fourth-rate genealogies, of the 17th and 18th centuries, which boasted of a match or two with Norman houses. Certainly, as already said, genealogy in the 16th and 17th centuries was practically as much in its infancy as geology in the early 19th. For, except in actions of law and suits in chancery, and in a few strictly legal documents generally, neither tabular nor any other form of pedigrees were known until towards the end of Henry VIII.'s reign—when the Heralds saw their way to an entirely new business, in the shape of regular visitations to counties and towns every 30 years or so. It was a laborious pilgrimage to scour a whole wild shire, but ultimately 'paid' well,

though it was not without mutual fits of disgust on the part of the disturbed gentle and noble, and the Heralds and their men, who tramped after the farmer, sometimes when the tail end of the pedigree was absorbed in his field sports. In Lancashire, Townley of Towneley, when on one of these occasions the Herald complained, treated him as rudely as might have been expected in that wild cheap-acre county, refusing to enter either pedigree or arms, and saying there was "no gentleman in Lancashire now but my lord of Derby!" And, even in gentler Cheshire, one of a then much poorer house, horse or dog-whipped one of these then very self-important personages; as in a testamentary deed of Elizabeth or James I. reign, is a bequest of "the whipp wherewith I chastysed the Heraults man!" And in none of the visitations of Lancashire is there a single entry of the Gerards of Bryn and Garswood—who were certainly able enough, even in those days, to pay the heaviest fees. Practically, whatever the law was in these and armorial matters, it was often enough evaded, contemned and disregarded by those powerful enough, or who had powerful friends (and men generally held closely together), until at last it was all knocked on the head, like the sumptuary laws, by the abolition of the whole tyrannical but once necessary feudal system, between two and three hundred years ago—less than a century after the Reformation of the English Church.

The third division of documents in the Holmes' collection, as so many of us know, consists of 'tricks' (not to cast a covert reflection), and sometimes the emblazonry of arms, the tricks being a mere outline, with the initial letters of their metals and tinctures. These armorials are practically trustworthy enough, as they mostly consist of well-known coats, taken principally from the seals of a great variety of documents, and also from the emblazonments of now long-destroyed tombs, window memorials, and carvings in wood and stone, and from ancient rolls of arms, and sometimes, though rarely, from the muster-rolls of the names of commanders in a few of our early battles.

Thus we have a collection so extensive that, without the aid of the best of indexes, the strongest and most industrious in research could never hope to go noting and transcribing scrupulously through the whole of these hundreds of volumes in less than ten or twenty years of continuous labour!

But half-a-dozen pens engaged on an index might get through their work under two or three years. And to the whole of the large number of people, all over the country, interested in such works, it would be a far greater service than even the transcription of all the old parish registers in a county. Cannot the Trustees of the British Museum afford a few hundred pounds (at the most, from first to last) for the work of making thoroughly accessible one of their now most valuable collections?—considering that sums of money are yearly spent by them in the acquisition of less extensively studied, and no more important works of almost every conceivable description—many of which it is very questionable are of less practical general interest than these memorials of perished legal and heraldic documents.

T. HELSBY.

ORIGINAL DOCUMENTS.

[291]

COTTON LETTERS.

(Combermere MSS.)

(Continued from No. 288.)

[Sir Robt. Cotton to Thomas Cotton Esq.]

Aug. 24th 1708.

Dear Son,

We have yours and my Daughters of 21 [Aug.] by yours I find you are not a Stranger to J. S. [? John Savage] and by mine to you, you see I know him yet it is not amis[s] to hear wt he say's [sic] And make use as you see occasion, but trust your own Judgmt & men of most truth sinceritie & Judgmt; I need say no more at present. you had my opinion of him & some others before and I am glad you are sencible yt wt I write was well grounded, you do well to Espouse your neighbours and your own Intrest, I have always done & always will, I am glad ye Spark stirs In this affaire now in my time, yt I may Joyn my assistance wth yo & other Charterers in Wrenbury: wt Jo. Savage remembers of yt enclosure makes nothing for Mr. Starkey's pretence to a Royaltie nor Indeed to prove whether it be in Newhall Lrdship or noe, tho I believe ye neighbours may repute it in Wrenbury. there being no partition of ye lane, so yt they may have enter-comoned together. wt he sayd to Mr. Brereton of his ancestors being always reputed Lords of Wrenbury, & have taken all wifes estrayes Deodands &c I am confident is not true, for if his grandfather had had them I should have heard of ym and put in for my share or otherwise have oposed him, but I could never learn yt any of his other Ancestors pretended to any such thing; It [is] now more then 50 years since I was married and usally lived at Combermere, till you succeeded me there, and am confident he

never enjoyed any such thing. Except he might privately in a Clandestine manner get any such thing into his Clu[t]ches as this young man gott.

Pemberton promis'd him rent for yt enclosure; A great designe of his Grandfather and father seemed to bee to get ye Charitie money of ye Parish to Cheate ye poor &c. but Jno & Richd Wilkinson & some others were principally assisting to mee in securing some Hundreds of pounds which wear [sic] in danger Except 10li which this young mans father [John Starkey] cheated ye Parish of, wch. is still due and never like to be paid. Rich: Wilkinson remembers this if alive, he is an honest man remembr. me to him.

I suppose ye late Lord Cholmondeley and Mrs. Starkey laid their action for something that neither of them had right to, so yt. action fell: this is enough for this time of this business. gett the best assistance to prevent such designs wch. I suspect. my respects to Mr. Brereton:

you do well to assist Honest Harry in keeping him as easie from trouble as you can, tho' I take him to be an upright honest man of good sence fit to be of a jury, & as I write mated to you will be very helpfull to ye Charterers of Wrenbury & frith in defending our right. I desire the rent for ye tithe may Continue to be pd to me & in rent all this year & so on. I desire Lady Glegg [Sir Robert's daughter] may be pd her annuity, both now and as soon after as Conveniently may be. wt need have I to order her to receive her own money wn it is due. my business is to order you to pay it, & take her receipt for ye same. the receipt from Mr. Reynolds according to my son [in-law] Lacons order for his Daughter Cottons use, I think sufficient, it may be hereafter entered on ye back of a bond my son Lacon had from me for a 100l. for her use.

pray give my service to my *Cousen Maisterson who I take to be my very kind friend. as you state ye Case of Pemberton I conceive no man ought to turne an ancient water course from his neighbour to his prejudice, without his consent, without he can prove he had it by leave during pleasure, but yo on ye place can better Judge. there was an Ancient Habitacon there before this house was built, John Savage was wont to be much Pembertons friend, but I fancie he loves to Domineer, & is spightfull enough where he is not observed. but, how ever, it is convenient to keep faire with him being often usefull but you know him.

with due's [sic for duties] to you from all heare [sic].

I am your

Affectionate ffather

ROBT. COTTON.

*Cousin here does not imply relationship, but is merely a polite expression.

[Mr. Brereton to Thomas Cotton Esq.]

[Aug 28. 1708]

Honoured Sr,

This morning according to your orders I wrote to Sr Robt. Cotton to acquaint him yt I had waited on you on thursday last to view ye Intack and ye place where ye tree was outt down. I mencooned by whom it was done and how ye Intack & Lane were bounded, as he was pleased to mencoon in his first letter. I also took notice that ye only Royaltie (if any) that Mr. Starkey could pretend to was to ye soil. if so, how does it appeare to be in him more than another freeholdr. his prerogative extended only [on] account of all ye Cottagers in Wrenbury and frith; how long they have been so and wt rent, and to whom they pd it. and if they can meet with any auncient people yt have no benefit of ye waste their Evidence will do well, for as to any yt have benefit of ye wast or any Cottagers, I take it, they will be no Evidence.

Sr if yo think fitt I will suspend sending ye Case to Sr Robt. Cotton till you have further informed your self of Mr. Starkeys pretentions in respect to ye Cottagers or otherwise, who am Sr.

Your most obliged Humble Servant

BEARDME BRERETON.

Whitchurch Augt ye 28th 1708.

[292] MARRIAGE REGISTERS OF ST. OSWALD'S, CHESTER.

1617.

John Snape and Jane Davies, May 29

John Jumpe and Ellen Hockenhull, June 22

William Woodwall and Anne Langley, Sept. 29

Richard Nicholl and Elizabeth Lightfoote, Jan. 31

David Johnes and Margerie Garratt, Feb. 2

OCTOBER 5, 1898.

ORIGINAL DOCUMENTS.

[293]

COTTON LETTERS.

(Combermere MSS.)

(Continued from No. 291).

[Mr. Brereton to Thomas Cotton, Esq.]

[Whitchurch

Augt. ye 30: 1708]

Honoured Sr.

I have sent ye Case & queries to Sr Robt. Cotton but made bold to add ye nota and queries as under written wch I don't grant to be true but only suppose it to provide agt ye worst.

I forgott in my Last to mencoon yt I had according to your ordrs sent to Mr. Wilson abt ye Rent of ye Tithes, who sent me word yt as Exeor to his late Mother he was Debtor to Sr Robt. Cotton for last years rent of Tithes: £9: 10s haveing Discount of taxes he says he has sent to the Tenant for an

Account of ye Taxes & will pay me ye ballance on fryday next I desire you will please to let me know if I shall receive ye Ballance

I am Sr

Your most obliged Humble Servt

Whitchurch

Augt ye 30: 1708 }

BEARDME BRERETON

Note. divers Cottagers in ye Township of Wrenbury cu[m]frith have pd a Chief rent to Mr. Starkey time out of mind as Lords of ye soyle.

Qu[ery] If Mr. Starkey can prove paymt of a Cheife fro divers Cottagrs to him & his ancesters time out of mind also yt some freeholders have asked leave to gett sand or clay on ye wast in Wrenbury cu frith will not such acts entitle Mr. Starkey to ye soyl-right of ye wast in ye ad Township tho other freeholders also claime a right to get sand, clay &c and have so used it time out of mind.

[Sir Robt. Cotton to Mr. Brereton.]

Augt. 31st, 1708.

fro Deans yard Westminster.

Good Mr. Brereton,

I have reed. your letter of ye 28 and thank you for accompanying my son in ye view of ye Copyhold in Newhall in Wrenbury frith with your observacons there of. I am confident there was never any grant of any Royaltie to any of his [Mr. Starkey's] ancestors. if there had, his Grandfather would never have proposed to me to enloose Wrenbury Heath with him & devide it Equally between us. but yt is a trieking notion sett up by his Grandfather, who I believe never had his fellow for such artificies born in Cheshire.

I conceive you take this right as to ye Copyhold and wast Land in Newhall, Tho in ye township of Wrenbury frith; & desire your care & directions in it. ye Cottage which you mencoon in ye name of James Stoakes, I suppose by my sons letter, is James Croxtons. I remember nothing of it, but there was one Croxton yt had a Lease of a tenemt. which I bought of Coll. Massey more then 50 years since who I presume might be Brother to this sd James, but Mr. Starkey triak'd in all places where he could, & attending at all distributions to ye poore by faire means or foule means imposed upon poor peoples Necessities tho' in a Clandestine waye.

I did in a former letter to my son Cotton intimate ye substance of ye Freehold in Wrenbury and ye frith aunciently was repute[d] to be held by a family who according to those times did assume to themselves ye name of Wrenbury. the Issue male of yt family failing ye Estate of Wrenbury descended to another family by a Daughter & heir whose name I don't remember, tho well known in ye Country. ye Issue male of yt family failing in like manner, the estate came to be

devided between three sisters who were Coheires, of wch one married Starkey, another to Minshull of Erdeswick, ye 3d [third] to Newton of Pownall, the heirs of these three Coheirs sold some of their parts to severall persons whose heires hold ym in freehold still, but ye remainder of wt was left unsold by Minshull my ffather bought, with some part of Starkeys, and afterwards I bought in like manner wt remained unsold of Newton's part, & also severall tennts [tenements] that had been sold to severall persons before by ye heirs of all ye before mentioned three Coheires. so that I conceive I have more Land in Wrenbury then Mr. Starkey or any other freeholder &ct with the interest of Minshull & Newton, In the Royalty if there were any which I believe there never was.

I believe Mr. ffletcher has told you truly yt ye Inhabitants of Wrenbury appear at ye Ld Cholmondeleys Court wch I take it is ye Queens Court Leet, wch my Ld, I have heard, has a grant of with waifes & estrayes If I mistake not in all places in Namptwich hundred; where they were not granted before to others, If ffelons goods Deodands &ct are not Incerted, I presume they are still in ye Crown, but wt [what] Mr. Starkey says of his pretence to a Royalty is falsely Stuffe. but I presume those yt were intrusted to see my Lords pattent pass would not suffer such things to slip; but ye wast was ye Charterers freehold and cold [could] not be granted without their consent.

having tired you with this long relation, [I] desire your assistance for ye prserving my right in ye Lrdship of Newhall; & mine & my neighbours right to ye wast land in Wrenbury & ye frith, who am

yr very affectionate friend

ROBT. COTTON.

Although Starkeys had ye Mansion house, Minshull had Wrenbury Woods, & Newton had Wrenbury Parkes which were part of ye Demeane but none of these signifie any thing to a Royalty.

[Sir Robert Cotton to Thomas Cotton Esq.]

Sept. ye 2d 1708

[Dear Son]

I desire yo[u] to read wt I have wrote to Mr. Brereton and take a Copie of it in order to discover truth of ye Case of ye Inclosures. I know not what Inclosures are now, but in ye begining of my time there were but few, and those only by pawpers. John Shaw may go with Honest Harry [P Woolrich] and who else you like best to enquire into these things. you know John Savage, yet hear wt he says, but I take him to be least concerned of any man of his degree in ye wast of yt town. no pt of ye lands in his holding Joyneth to ye wast, of which he has no benefitt, there are those yt can Inform yo of ye Credit of those concern'd in ye enclosures.

I desire ye freeholders of which you and I have too [P also] may not be wronged. but conceive yt If ye will sett up a title against ye Charterers it will be but reasonable to fling there [their] enclosures open.

Your affectionate ffather,

ROBT. COTTON.

Copie of my ffathers [letter] in my other letter vizt. :-

I have Mr. Brereton's letter wth a Case drawn by him wherein he allows Mr. Starkey & his Ancestors to have reod rent for all enclosures on ye wast time out of mind wch I am Confident is without ground.

For Mr. Brereton Attorney at Law in
Whitchurch.

Sept'r ye 2d. 1708

Good Mr. Brereton

I have your letter of ye 30th past, with ye state of ye Case as drawn by you which I will peruse and consider better of it before I show it Councell. in ye mean time, I think it may be convenient for my son to send some sincible [sic for sensible] man yt can write with Henry Woolrich and any other understanding man of good Credit, to see wt enclosures theire [there] are on ye wast, either in Wrenbury or ye frith, and enquire of them in whose possession they are, or [of] other ancient neighbours when those Inclosures were taken in, whether they have pd any rent and how much, and to whom, and whether they or their parents yt pd first did not receive money from ye Church dole, for I am Confident none of Mr. Starkeys ancestors ever reod such rent before his Grandfather, nor he but by terrifieing poor people or by bribing them at ye poors cost privately underhand.

but I desire to know as much as I can before I go to Law. my Son writes this young man has seized some Estrayes and has one in his hands at this present. it is much my Lrd Cholmondeleys agents don't take care of his Interest in yt.

I desire your advice to my Son or me in this, & am yor assured friend

ROBT. COTTON.

[Inclosure with letter dated 2 Sept. 1708.]

PARTICULARS to be enquired into relating to ye Cottagrs in Wrenbury and Wrenbury ou frith.

Enquire: How many Cottages there are & where standing wt are ye names of ye severall Cottagers who first erected & enclosed ye Cottages &ct. How long since erected &ct.

With whose consent or direct'on were they Erected whether by order of Sessions by ye freeholders or by Mr. Starkey or his Ancesters.

Wt rent do they pay & to whom & how long have they pd it.

How came they to pay any rent was it by persuasion or threatening, & by whom were they persuaded or threatened or if they or their parents ever received any moneys from ye Church dole, & who distributed it to them.

What Intacks have been made without Cottages, by whom, when, or where lyeing, if any rent pd for ye same, to whom, what, & how long.

If ye Intack in dispute, in possession of Henry Colley or his tenant, be in ye Lrdship of Newhall or parcell of wast of ye Township of Wrenbury on frith. note ye Lands on both sides ye ye wast where ye sd Intack is made, are Copyhold & in ye Lrdship of Newhall.

If any of ye freeholders of Wrenbury on frith on Diging or Carrying away sand or clay did ask leave or have they been for bid or interrupted therein—if so wn & by whom were they interrupted &c.

[The statement of the Case follows here. It is given *postea*.]

(To be continued.)

[294] ADMISSIONS TO ST. JOHN'S COLLEGE, CAMBRIDGE: PT. I., JAN. 1629-30 to JULY 1665.

- p. 129. Willoughby *Aston*, bart., s. of Thos. A. of Aston; b. at Risley, Derbyshire; bred at Nuneaton; adm. fellow-commoner July 5, 1656, aged 16.
94. Thomas *Barnshaw*, s. of Wm. B., husbandman, of Goostrey [Sandbach], Cheshire, bred at private school at Goostrey; adm. sizar, Sept. 13, 1649, a. 18.
95. Francis *Beresford*, s. of Francis B., esq., of Newton Grange, Derbyshire; born at Miles End [Stockport]; bred at private school at Anderton; adm. fellow commoner Apl. 2, 1650, a. "past 19."
93. Thomas *Bowden* of Lyme, s. of Geo. B., husbandman; bred at Winwick; adm. sizar June 21, 1649, a. 20.
141. John *Brereton* of Nantwich, s. of John B., bred at Nantwich; adm. sizar June 2, 1659, a. 16.
85. John *Bretland*, of Mottran, s. of John B., gent.; bred at Chester; adm. pensioner July 9, 1647, a. 17.
125. Hugh *Bridge* of Malpas, s. of Thos. B., clerk, bred at Chester; adm. sizar Apl. 5, 1656, a. past 17.
129. Robert *Bridge* [brother of above]; born at Malpas, bred at Chester, adm. pensioner July 10, 1656, a. past 19.
2. Thomas *Cass*, s. of Wm. C., prob. of Chester; born at Chester, and bred there; adm. sizar Oct. 8, 1630, a. 15.
17. Samuel *Catheral*, s. of Ralph C., rector of Swetenham; born at Handley, bred at Northwich; adm. pensioner, June 2, 1634, a. 16.
150. Samuel *Catherall*, of Pulford, s. of Ralph C., yeoman; school, Catterall, Lancs.; adm. sizar, Apl. 23, 1661, a. past 20.
157. Thomas *Chalmondly*, of Burniston [Barnston], Cheshire; s. of Thos. C., yeoman; bred at Chester; adm. sizar Aug. 25, 1662, a. 19.
34. William *Chrimes*, s. of Robt. C., of Weaverham; b. at Weaverham, bred at Northwich; adm. sizar Feb. 4, 1636-7, a. 17.
80. Francois *Craven* of Congleton ('Congerton'), s. of Fras. C., embroiderer; bred at Congleton; adm. sizar, Aug. 19, 1646, a. 19.
- p. 144. Edward *Crew*, of Nantwich, s. of John C., deceased; bred at Newport; adm. sizar, Feb. 26, 1659-60, a. 17.
49. George *Cudworth*, s. of John C., yeoman, of Newhall; b. at Newhall, bred at Great Ercoll, Salop; adm. sizar, July 4, 1639, a. 16.
14. Robert *Elcocke*, s. of Alexr. E. gent. of Whitepool [in Acton]; b. at Whitepool, bred at Wrenbury (private school); adm. pensioner, June 28, 1633, a. 18.
104. Robert *Farrington*, s. of Rt. F., husbandman, of Stanthorne; b. at Stanthorne, bred at Northwich; adm. sizar Apl. 12, 1652, a. 18.
46. John *French*, s. of John F., husbandman, of Great Budworth; b. at Great Budworth, bred at Northwich; adm. sizar Apl. 3, 1639, a. 19.
136. George *Guest*, of Pulford, s. of Randle G., clerk; bred at home; adm. sizar May 28, 1658, a. 18.
146. Randolph *Guest*, of Sutton [brother of above]; bred at home; adm. sizar, June 1, 1660, a. past 16.
145. Isaac *Harpur*, of Stockport, s. of Fras. H., mercer; bred at Stockport; adm. sizar Apl. 7, 1660, a. 16.
73. Henry *Hebbert*, of Marple, s. of Wm. H., yeoman; bred at Glossop; adm. sizar Aug. 4, 1645, a. 18.
116. John *Hoolbrooke*, of Over, s. of Ralph H., yeoman; bred at Northwich; adm. sizar June 8, 1654, a. 18.
132. Samuel *Hopkins*, of Frodsham, s. of Richd. H., clerk; bred at Shrewsbury; adm. pensioner, May 21, 1657, a. 17.
128. Robert *Janny*, s. of Robt. J., clerk; b. at Timperley in Bowdon, bred at Dronfield; adm. sizar June 27, 1656, a. 18.

111. Edmund *Jodrell*, of Taxall, s. of Edm. J., esq., bred at home; adm. fellow-commoner June 10, 1653, a. 17.
3. Thomas *Kent*, s. of John K., yeoman, of Elton; born at Elton, bred at Nantwich; adm. sizar, Jan. 24, 1630, a. 16.
156. John *Leech*, of Cowarden [Carden], s. of John L., gent.; bred at Wrexham; adm. pensioner, June 14, 1662, a. 19.
165. Thomas *Leche* [brother of above]; bred at Wrexham; adm. pensioner, June 29, 1664, a. 16.
- p. 92. Richard *Legh*, of Cheshire, s. of Thomas L., esq. [rector of Walton-on-the-Hill]; bred at Winwick: adm. fellow-commoner June 18, 1649, a. 15.
110. Thomas *Legh*, of Walton, Lancs. [brother of above]; bred at Chester; adm. pensioner May 9, 1653, a. 16.
110. Peers *Legh*, of Disley, s. of Peers L., gent.; bred at Chester; adm. pensioner May 9, 1653, a. 16. [Cousin of the above.]
- (To be continued.)

QUERIES.

[295] MADOX FAMILY OF FARNDON.

The Rev. L. E. Owen, rector of Farndon, would esteem it a great favour if an antiquary would suggest the best way to obtain information upon Lombardic lettering on ancient tombstones; also where to find the history of the family of Madocus (probably the modern Maddox) one of whom was buried in Farndon Church about the middle of the 16th century, and another in Valle Crucis Abbey, Llangollen; also as to the etymology of Madocus?

[296] GATEWAY IN CITY WALLS.

Can any reader of the *Sheaf* inform me about what date the archway was made through the City Walls opposite the Canal Locks?

W. C. T.

[297] ANCIENT WALL IN WEAVER-STREET.

The east side of Weaver-street (Whitefriars end) is bounded by a stone wall, which by its ancient and weather-worn appearance seems to have been a portion of some former buildings. Can any reader give me any particulars?

Chester.

W. C. T.

[298] MARRIAGE REGISTERS OF ST. OSWALD'S CHESTER.

1618.

Henry Johnes and Margret Williamson, May 4
John Robts. Thatcher and Ales Urmeston, July 14
John Robts, of the barne lane, laborer, and
Kathren Blaoun, June 17

Richard Bathborne and Elizabeth Houghton
July 25

John Williams and Ellen Williams, Aug. 24

Robert Cooke and Ellenor Smyth, Aug. 1

Gylbert Quayle and Sara Trenyll, Nov. 2

Bowland Buttler and Ales Bickerton, Nov. 16

George Chamberlayne and Alles Mullynax, Dec. 22

OCTOBER 12, 1898.

NOTES.

[299] THE PLACE-NAME GREASBY.

Mr. Harrison, in his book on 'Place Names of the Liverpool District,' inclines to the belief that Greasby, which appears in Domesday Book as Gravesberie, means Græfes-burh or Græf's Castle, unless the first part of the word be the Anglo-Saxon græf (ditch) or graf (grove). The present writer having put forward 'gerefa's burh,' the block-house of the over-lord's greave or bailiff, it may serve a useful purpose to put down the reasons for maintaining this derivation.

It was suggested by the following words in the article on Gravesend in Cassell's new Gazetteer: "The name is said to be derived from the Anglo-Saxon gerefa, and to denote the limit of the jurisdiction of a port-reeve. During the Saxon period, there was a hythe or landing-place here, round which a town grew up soon after the Conquest. In Domesday the place is called Gravesham." It will be seen that this form is exactly parallel to the Wirral Gravesberie. This derivation of Gravesend goes back to Lambard, the Kentish antiquary of Elizabeth's time, but it should be mentioned that Canon Taylor and Mr. Blackie both prefer 'the end of the ditch or trench.'

The objection to 'gerefa's burh' for Greasby is two-fold. In the first place the initial 'ge' would, by rule, be dropped in later English; and in the second, the Anglo-Saxon form of the word would be 'gerefan-burh,' which could scarcely have been modified to the Domesday Book form as early as 1086. Those objections, however, do not seem insuperable. It is true that 'gerefa' was gradually softened to 'ireve' and then to 'reeve,' at least in midland and southern England, and in a compound like 'sheriff' has been almost entirely lost; but in the north the form of 'greve' or 'grave' preserved the initial 'g'; and the parallel words in other languages have also preserved it: Stormonth gives — 'Icelandic, greif, a governor; Dutch, graef, and German, graf, a

count,' and the old Northumbrian form was 'grœfa.' We have mention of the portgraves of London and Preston, predecessors of the mayors; the 'greave of Pendle Forest' in Lancashire; and the 'grave of Greasbrough' near Rotherham; 'the griever or bailiff' occurs in a collection of Galloway legends, and the word is said to be current still in that district, while 'grieve, overseer' is given in a dictionary of the Scottish dialect. The initial letter, therefore, is no difficulty. It is otherwise with the grammatical form of the word. Perhaps some student of the old English dialects, or the allied languages, may be able to say whether the 'strong' genitive in -s can be found in connection with *gerefa* or its parallels. The vowel change from *e* to *a*, if not due to the Norman scribe's phonetics, may be merely a matter of dialect—cf. the German 'graf'—and the declension of the word may be affected by the same cause. The 'strong' genitive has now become universal in English, and there must be a cause for this, but the weak one in 'en' still belongs to 'graf,' &c., as in Grafenstein, Gravenhage, and other place-names. How was the Northumbrian 'grœfa' declined? A word of similar appearance is 'witga' (a prophet), which in the Northumbrian speech made its genitive in -s, though the Anglo-Saxon has the 'weak' form. The following passages prove this:—

St. Luke iv., 17.—(A.S.) Him was geseald isaias
 boc thæs witegan

(Nh.) Gesald was him boc dhæs
 - wites esale

St. Matt. x., 41.—(A.S.) Se dhe underfehdh witegan
 on witegan naman, he
 onfehdh witygan mede.

(Nh.) Se dhe onfoes dhone witge
 in nema witges, meard
 witges dhe onfoes (vel,
 he onfoedh).

[It should be explained that the Northumbrian version (from the Lindisfarne MS.) follows the Latin order of words, being an interlinear translation.]

Locally a disturbing influence would be the presence of Norse settlers in the West Kirby district; their pronunciation and declensions might account for 'Gravesberie' in the Domesday record instead of 'Grevanberie.'

The objections having been thus met, at least partially, there remains to be shewn some reason for asserting the derivation from the 'greave's fort.' Wirral, like the rest of Cheshire, was, in pre-Norman times, part of Mercia and subject to

the Earls of Mercia, who were practically kings of central England. The Earls would have a number of subordinates or deputies; and there is nothing extravagant in supposing that the Wirral deputy might have been known as the 'greave,' considering that this is the northern form of the word, whose duties would be those of the bailiff or seneschal of Norman times. Domesday Book informs us that the Wirral manor of the Earls was Eastham, and that the Earls of Chester succeeded them in it. In earlier times this manor must have extended as far as Tranmere on the Mersey side, and occupied quite half the area of Wirral; but portions were cut off, and so we find Pontone (Poulton) and Storeton independent, and in the parish of Bebington, while Brimstage, though isolated, remained in the parish of Bromborough, the ecclesiastical counterpart of Eastham. Now Storeton, Mr. Harrison says, means 'the great tun,' so that the place must have been very important even from its origin. What then is more probable than that it was given by the Earls of Mercia to their greaves or deputies? The name and the later history support this theory; for after the Conquest Storeton was held by Nigel of Halton, who was one of the most trusted 'barons' of Hugh, Earl of Chester, and is said to have been his marshal and constable (Dugdale's Monasticon, vi., 315); and later, when Wirral was afforested, Alan the Forester took up his abode there, apparently as a matter of course. Mr. Cox, in his account of Storeton in the *Cheshire Sheaf* (p. 106), has noticed this point and a number of others all indicating the dominating position held by the place; at the same time he insists on its strictly English character, i.e., its affinities were with Eastham rather than the Norse West Kirby settlements.

How far does this lead us? It makes it fairly probable that Storeton was from its origin the residence of the great man of the district, the greave or chief executive officer of the Earls of Mercia. Domesday Book tells us that in 1066 the manor was held by a certain Dunning; now at the same time Greasby also was held by a Dunning, and there can be little doubt that he was identical with the Storeton man, for the same Nigel held both Greasby and Storeton in 1086. The Earl of Chester succeeded the Earl of Mercia at Eastham; and his trusted Nigel succeeded Dunning at Storeton and Greasby; the suggestion is that Dunning and his predecessors in title were the trusted 'greaves' of the Earls of Mercia. If this be allowed, then the

appropriateness of the interpretation of Greasby as the 'fort of the greave of the district' becomes obvious. It would appear that the owner of Storeton, itself central enough for Wirral but on the very boundary of the English portion as distinct from the Norse, wished to have an advanced post, and chose a spot which commanded the landing-places both at Meols and at Caldy; here he built his fortress, and its name would naturally be Gravesberie or Greasby. The map in Watkin's 'Roman Cheshire' shews an ancient roadway (sometimes said to be Roman) leading from Greasby to Meols; and it is still a place of cross roads.

It will thus be seen that if the suggested interpretation can be sustained a little ray of light will be let in upon the obscurity of the early history of Wirral; and the chance of doing so makes the matter worthy of discussion.

J. B.

ORIGINAL DOCUMENTS.

[300] ADMISSIONS TO ST. JOHN'S COLLEGE, CAMBRIDGE.

January, 1629, to July, 1665.

(Continued from No. 294.)

62. *John Maisterson, s. of John M., gent., of Nantwich; b. at Nantwich, bred at Repton; adm. pensioner, Moh. 22, 1644, a. past 17.
94. Peter Manwaring, s. of Henry M., esq.; b. at Charingham [Kerminoham], bred at Macclesfield; adm. fellow-commoner, Sept. 13, 1649, a. 18.
94. Edward Manwaring [brother of above]; adm. fellow-commoner same day, a. 17.
90. David Peers; b. in Salop, bred at Chester; adm. sizar Oct. 12, 1648, a. 21.
132. Richard Piggott, of Northwich, s. of Richard P., master of Shrewsbury School; bred at Shrewsbury; adm. pensioner May 21, 1657, a. 16.
16. Henry Ridgway, s. of Henry R., husbandman, of Brereton; b. at Brereton, bred at Sandbach (private school); adm. sizar, May 2, 1634, a. 20.
22. Thomas Royle, s. of John R., yeoman, of Davenham; b. at Rope, bred at Northwich; adm. sizar Nov. 4, 1634, a. 16.
- 148.—Edward Seddon, of Chester, s. of Wm. S., clerk; bred at Sedburgh; adm. sizar Sept. 10, 1660, a. 15.

*Subsequently Fellow of the College.

25. William Shaw, s. of Ralph S., yeoman, of Sandbach; b. and bred at Sandbach (private school); adm. sizar May 12, 1635, a. 15.
163. Albion Shrigley, of Macclesfield, s. of Thos., S.; bred at Macclesfield; adm. sizar Moh. 24, 1664, a. 18.
- 63.—Richard Steele, s. of Robt. S., husbandman, of Barthomley; b. at Barthomley, bred at Northwich; adm. sizar Apl. 1, 1642, a. about 15.
142. John Sworton, of Witton, s. of John S., husbandman; bred at Witton; adm. sizar July 2, 1659, a. 18.
127. Randolph Tench, s. of J. T., of Nantwich; b. and bred at Nantwich; adm. sizar June 14, 1656, a. 16.
116. Thomas Trafford, of Burton, s. of Henry T.; bred at Chester; adm. sizar June 20, 1654, a. 16.
95. John Warren, s. of Edward W., baron of Stockport; b. at Poynton; bred at Anderton; adm. fellow commoner Apl. 2, 1650, a. past 17.
37. Humphry Whittingham, s. of Thomas W., clerk, of Warmingham; b. at Sparrowgreve; bred at Chester, "regis ibi quondam alumnus"; adm. sizar Oct. 7, 1637, a. 15.
21. Thomas Wilbraham, s. of Roger W., esq., of Dorfold; b. at Bretton, Flintshire; bred at Nantwich (private school); adm. fellow commoner Oct. 21, 1634, a. 16.
43. Samuel Wrench, s. of Ralph W., yeoman, of Davenham; b. at Davenham; bred at Northwich; adm. pensioner, Nov. 4, 1638, a. 17.
142. Edward Wright, of Stretton, s. of Fras. Wr gent.; bred at Wem; adm. pensioner, June 9, 1659, a. 15.
114. William Yeannes, of Staley, s. of Hugh Y., drover, bred at Manchester; adm. pensioner, Mch. 11, 1654, a. 19.

[Note: The large number of sizars seems to require explanation. It appears that about half (often more) of the entries each year were thus described, so that the Cheshire proportion (31 out of 53) is about the average. In some cases the son of the squire, on going up to the University was accompanied by a son of a tenant or neighbouring yeoman; the latter, entered as a sizar, would receive his education free in return for various services rendered to the squire's son. Thus, Richard Legh (aged 15) was accompanied by Thomas Bowden, of Lynn (aged 20).]

The following schools and masters are mentioned:—

Chester—Mr. Vaughan; Mr. Greenhalgh; Mr. T. Chaloner; Mr. Liptrott
 Congleton—Mr. Munton
 Lymn—Mr. Richardson

Macclesfield—Mr. Bould ; Mr. Croasdale
 Mottram—Mr. Echells
 Nantwich—Mr. Shenton ; Mr. Simonds ; Mr.
 Chaloner (went to Newport)
 Northwich—Mr. (Richard) Piggott (went to
 Shrewsbury) ; Mr. Hulme
 Stockport—Mr. T. Combes
 Witton—Mr. Cotton

Private schoolmasters are mentioned at
 Chester (Mr. Glendall), Sandbach (Mr. Tudman,
 Mr. Boden), and Wrenbury (Mr. Harwar).

*Plundered Ministers' Accounts, Vol. II (Record
 Society.)*

The following is the succession of masters and
 ushers at Chester School :—

Mr. John Greenhalgh, master (£22 with £36 addi-
 tional) and Mr. John Packe, usher (£10
 with £9 additional)—Dec. 1650 (pp 5, 6,
 &c.)

(There were 24 free scholars—p. 33.)

Mr. John Sherlocks, usher (for 1½ years ending 25
 March 1655 ; actually stayed till May 1st—
 (pp. 56, 184, 187)

Mr. Richard Vaughan, master May 1, 1655, to
 March 1656-7 (pp. 84, 192). Mr. John
 Jolley, usher, elected Apl. 1655 (p. 83)
 Mr. Ralph Heath, usher, Nov. 1, 1655
 (p. 122)

Mr. William Liptrott, master, March 13, 1656-7
 (p. 192) Mr. Thomas Wyrall, usher, March
 13, 1656-7 (p. 192)

(I do not know whether there is a history of
 the school at Chester ; if not the above may be
 useful.)—Yours, &c, T. E. B.

[301] MARRIAGE REGISTERS OF ST. OSWALD'S,
 CHESTER.
 1619.

Thomas Beck and Ales Mercer, May 2
 Richard Rosyngreave and Mary Nycholl, May 15
 Richard Carington and Alles Janion, June 1
 Raffe Hylton and Jane Lewys, June 29
 Howell Griffith and Elizabeth Spicer, July 19
 Adam Eccles and Mary Fludd, July 30
 William Good and Dority Peeres, Aug. 1
 Richard Wasingham and Margaret Barton, Aug. 1
 Robert Ensedale and Elyn Robysonne, Aug. 24
 William Cooke and Anne Shentonne, Sept. 21
 John Howell and Anne Hekyn, Oct. 10
 John Fletcher and Sara Johnes, Oct. 23
 John ap Edward and Jane Higginet, Oct. 2
 William Gliffard and Bathshua Byfyeld, Oct. 14
 Thomas Burrowes and Mary Lanekeshire, Nov. 14
 William Seifton and Margaret Hutchinsonne,
 Nov. 18

William Syddall and Ales Dunn (?), Nov. 23
 Robert Robysonne and Emme Wittle, Dec. 28
 John Wryght and Katheryn Grymes, Feb. 10

OCTOBER 19, 1898.

ORIGINAL DOCUMENTS.

[302] COTTON LETTERS.

(Combermere MSS.)

(Continued from No. 293.)

[Mr. Brereton to Sir Robert or Thomas Cotton,
 Esq.]

Sept ye 3rd, 1708.

I wish we could be assured as to ye Lane by ye
 Intack tho bounded by ye Coppyhold yt it be not
 parcell of ye wast belonging to ye freeholders of
 Wrenbury ou frith : tho to me according to its
 boundary nothing is plainer yn yt its [i.e., it is]
 parcell of Newhall Ldship. but Its [i.e., it is] good
 to be satisfied in ye plainest matters.

We had some discourse of ye wateroo[u]rse by
 wch I find Hassall is a proud sawey lyeing & spite-
 full fellow & deserves to be humbled, but those
 suites are extremely Chargable. Mr. Savage has
 promised to get me wt evidence he can to prove it
 an Auncient watering place [for cattle] and yn if
 you please I desire he shall hear from me who
 am Sr

Your most obliged humble Servt
 BEARDME BRERETON.

[Apparently a note by Thos Cotton to Mr.
 Brereton.]

Mr. James Bailly (1), Mr. Wilson (2), Henry
 Woolrich (3), Tho : Woolrich (4), Mr. Larden (5),
 Mr. Caldecutt (6), Mr. Wickstead (7), yourself (8),
 Mr. Starkey (9), and John Sproston (10) [are]
 Charterers in Wrenbury cum frith.

Aunciently Sr. John Wrenburys whose Ishue
 male failing, by a Daughter & heire match'd to
 another family which failed also ye males, so 3
 daughters were Coheires, one marri'd Starkey,
 another Minshull of Erdeswicke & and ye 3d
 [third] to Newton of pownall all whose heires sold
 to prticular persons as Mr. Wilsons, Coll Maassies
 ancestors, one Wade, & others. My Grandffather
 purchas'd ye remainder of Minshulls, & my father
 ye like from Newtons from their Heires. So if
 there were any Royalty (which never appeared)
 Mr. Starkey can only claim a 3d [third] part & my
 father ye other two.

[Sir Robt. Cotton to Thomas Cotton Esq.]

Septembr ye 7th 1708.

Dear Son,

The discourse you lately had with J: S: [John
 Savage] of Mr. Starkey's being reputed Lord of
 Wrenbury recalls to my remembrance a Complaint
 that was made [to] Sr Tho: Mainwaring [of
 Baddiley] who gave me notice of it, to ye end I
 might Joyne with him in restoring an auncient
 poor woman who lived in a Cottage on ye wast in
 Wrenbury frith (as I take it) not far from John

Golborn's. Her complaint was against one Wade a freeholder near yt Cottage, who had taken forceable possion of ye sd Cottage of which she was peaceably possessed of, & kept her out by force.

Upon this a Warrant was sent to ye Sheriffe to sumon a Jury before Sr Thos. Mainwaring and me, to take Cognisance of the same, & make return of their verdict as ye Law directe. Accordingly I came to Wrenbury at the time appointed & found ye Jury or many of them there, but Sr Thomas was gone to view ye Cottage. which he found looked up, & none in ye house that answered to open ye door; of which Sr Thomas gave me notice att his coming into Becketts house in Wrenbury the place apointed, for ye Sheriffe & Jury to appear; which accordingly they did; & ye Sheriffe made returns of ye precept &c. After some discourse Sr Thomas whisper'd me in ye eare & told me he believed Wade would send ye key, being advised yt if he stay'd to abide ye extremity of ye Law, it would be of much charge & trouble to him, besides his being put out of possession, & ye poor Woman restored.

But dureing all these transactions there was not any mention of Mr. Starkeys haveing any pretence to this Cottage, or Intack, or any other Royaltie in Wrenbury, tho' as I remember he was presente.

Wade or his ancestor purchased from some of ye Minshalls. I took ye oath of a Justice in Cheshire about 47 years agoe: this was some years after, tho' not many; so that I fancy Jo: Savage may remember something of it, at least by report; he was allwayes enquistive, tho' you knowe his (e) trimming way.

I believe ye Coppyholders wth ye freeholders in ye frith may have time out of mind Inter Comoned together; but I take the soyle of ye lane between the Copie-holde to be in Newhall Lordship; & where one side is coppyhold the other freehold, I conceave ye middle of ye lane to be ye boundarie between them.

This was all writt before ye post brought yor letter with Mr. Brereton, whose letter to me I presume yo have seen. I pray give my thanks to Mr. Brereton for his care in enforming himself in these affaires, and desire him to continue his care as occasion offers. I approve of ye motion Mr. Starkey makes to have these differences ended by a reference, as Mr. Brereton mentions, & shall agree to refer my concern to Mr. Maisterston being a learned Gentlem & Counillor at Law of much reputation in all respects & a Neighbour to all parties concerned, who[m] I desire you, at a proper time, to moove, to take yt trouble upon him, with my very affectionate respects to him.

(e) *Trimming*, that is time-serving. The word was then a new word. George Savile, marquis of Halifax, who died in 1695, is said to have coined the word *trimmer*.

I presume Mr. Starkey will discover his Charter from King Charles ye 2nd, if he have any such, as Mr. Brereton mentions; which may reduce ye things in dispute to a narrower Compass between us. Mr. Fletcher says my Ld Cholmondeley has a finer [P final] grant of like nature; but I will not trouble you any more on this occasion at this time; leaving this to your consideration; yo being concerned as well as I who am yor affectionate ffather,

ROBT. COTTON.

For Tho. Cotton, Esqr

I pray communicate ys to Mr. Brereton: & what title did Wade set up?

[Sir Robt. Cotton to Thomas Cotton, Esq.

Undated; but probably between the 7th and 11th Sept., 1708.]

[Dear Son,]

As to what I write of wades foriole entry, there was no dispute of Title, only complaint before Sr. Tho. Mainwaring and me as Magistrates, but old Mr. Starkey [i.e. Arthur Starkey] was present, & made no pretence to any title [to that Cottage nor any Royaltie in Wrenbury, this I Speake of my own Knowledge in answer to John Savage, who said he was reputed Lrd. of Wrenbury time out of mind, had such an entry been made on any waste in Newhall or Wrenbury in my presence, do you think yt. I or any man would not have taken notice of it, & as to any Cottags. or enclosers, I take them Generally, to be in ye confideracie with Mr. Starkey, they paying 6d. or 12d. a yeare for an Intack or house worth a noble [6s. 8d.] or 10s. a yeare, & their wives as Mr. Starkey contrived it to have 2 or £3 out of ye poore Dole. So yt. I take it, the being too inquisitive among them is but fishing for Evidence against my selfe, but if they tell you false as to the enclosing or erecting any Cottage they may be disproved by neighbours &ot and their Evidence may Invalide. but I leave this to your consideration on further advice, but I am still of opinion yt he has no title—neither from King Charles nor nobody Else.

mine and my wives Blessing to yo and my Daughter & ye Children with Bobb & Catties Duty ends from your affectionate ffather

ROBERT COTTON.

[P.S.] I fancie Croxton may be as likely to tell you as any of those encroachers of ye wast if you discourse him fully, before he have his lesson from Mr. Starkey. Mr. Brereton will do well to know wheather Mr. Starkey has any thoughts of a reference. I would have you only take a short note of wt any of them say's [sic] for a memorandome which may bring other things into memory which may likewise help my memory.

(To be continued.)

NOTES.

[303] A STRANGE LEGEND OF A LANCASHIRE CHURCH.

Some 35 years ago, when riding from Rufford near Ormakirk, to Aintree, I heard a curious legend (I fancy of a character not altogether very uncommon) touching the old chapel or church of Aughton (pron. 'Afton'), by Ormakirk. I was not more than ordinarily interested in antiquities and folk-lore, at that time—my *forte* being rather vigorous exercise—so did not pay particular attention to the tradition, but thought it a good old Roman Catholic joke. I was told that, on some very ancient day, the chapel (?) during its construction was for some time constantly pulled down over night, by the devil, until, of course, at last some divine revelation caused its erection on a neighbouring hill—or I should perhaps say in a valley?—the devil being disposed of, in some romantic manner, by the pious priest. It occurs to me that perhaps 'HOLLY,' of Liverpool, could give a clearer account of this altogether uncanny business?

T. H.

This legend here related is closely allied to the story of the 'Winwick pig.' On the external wall of the tower of Winwick Church, near Warrington, is still to be seen a small carving of a pig. The legend is that the parishioners began to build the Church down on the flat land, but as fast as they built it by day a pig pulled it down by night, until in despair they commenced in an altogether new place at the top of the hill, when the nightly depredations ceased, and the pig has ever since been held in special reverence by the inhabitants. Both Aughton and Winwick were in the original diocese of Chester, so they may quite properly be referred to in the *Cheshire Sheaf*. Another tradition gives the origin of the name as from a bird (a 'Pewit' or 'Jewit') which flew over the place all the time the church was being built, crying 'Win-wick, Win-wick'!!

THE EDITORS.

[304] THE NAME OF PARKGATE.

(See Nos. 170, 204, 255, and 280.)

I always understood, from one of the seventeenth century maps I think, that a 'New Quay' of Elizabeth's day formed part of the site of Park Gate, and it was *afterwards* named, Parkgate—all on one side, like Par' Gate, as for ages they called it. Probably the Park Gate

or Park Yate, was a local name long before the New Quay was ever thought of. I forget whether there is any evidence in the neighbourhood of a Royal Chase, Warren, or Park (such as evidently Peckforton once was). Long before this century Park Gate was of course a famous bathing place. I suspect it became 'popular,' as such, centuries before that. In the last century up to about 1779, I know it was, from some amusing letters I once saw of a direct predecessor of my own, who for many years used to sojourn there *every* season; while about the year 1759 his intended wife, in company with several other spinster ladies, were walking together far out on the sands—perhaps with the intention of crossing to Flint!—when they were suddenly surrounded by the incoming tide, and would certainly have been drowned had they not been rescued by the last Mr. Starkey of Wrenbury—whose death about the beginning of this century extinguished that ancient branch of the Starkeys of Stretton. It used to be a regular exercise to walk the sands to the Welsh side, at low water; and I believe many people, every century, lost their lives in the attempt.

With reference to Note No. 280. Towards the middle of last century it took 4 or 5 hours to ride from Frodsham to Parkgate and in driving a pair it took 6 from Kingsley. On occasions it took 8 hours; and 5 or 6 from Helsby to reach Chester in the autumn, or winter?

T. H.

[305] BIDSTON IN 1785.

In an advertisement of a performance at the Theatre Royal, Manchester, which appeared in Harrop's Manchester Mercury for Tuesday, March 1, 1785, the following occurs.

"To conclude with an exact Representation of the Vessels coming round the Rock [of] Bidstone Lighthouse.—The Ceremony of the Signals.—A View of the Fort and River Mersey.—With the landing of Harlequin at Liverpool.—Yrs. X.

[306] BELFREY RHYME AT DARESBUURY.

I think the following curious specimen of belfry rhymes is worthy of preservation in your interesting and valuable notes published weekly in the *Courant*. It takes the form of an acrostic of the ancient Cheshire Church of Daresbury.

D are not to come into this sacred place
A ll you good ringers but in awful grace;
R ing not with hat, nor spurs, nor insolence;
E ach one that for every such offence

S hall forfeit hat, or spurs, or twelve pence ;
 B ut who disturbs a peel, the same offender
 U nto the box his sixpence down shall tender.
 R ules such no doubt in every church are used
 Y ou and your bells that may not be abused.

PETER PAWSON, } Wardens,
 JOHN OKELL, } 1730.
 W.L.

QUERY.

[307] THE BELLS OF CHESTER CATHEDRAL.

I would like to ask if there are any inscriptions on the new bells of Chester Cathedral; and if so, what they are and the weight of the tenor? Also the number of the bells? W. L. Birkenhead.

[308] PARISH REGISTERS OF ST. OSWALD'S, CHESTER.

1620.

John Teylier and Elizabeth Worrall, April 16
 John Hacsoun (?) and Anne Thewlyn, April 18
 Nicholas Welsh and Jane Andros, April 23
 Evan Jones and Mary Sutton, May 1
 James Shurlooke and Anne Halliwell, June 17
 Harry Wartonne and Margaret Wettall, June 24
 William Lea and Elyzabeth Fletcher, July 18
 Hugh Probyn and Anne Percie, July 29
 William Charles and Dority Brooks, Nov. 2
 Thomas Bennet and Elizabeth Williams, Dec. 2
 Edward Style and Blanch Bell, Jan 9
 John Jackson and Anne Gruffyth, Feb. 4
 Jacob Carter and Jane Fasakerley, Feb. 13
 Richard Rabon and [], Mar. 15

OCTOBER 26, 1898.

NOTES.

[309] EXTRACTS FROM THE DIARY OF THE REV. SIR HENRY POOLE, BART.

The Pooles of Poole were one of the most ancient Cheshire families. I am given to understand that a very valuable paper on the family will be read this winter before the *Lancashire and Cheshire Historic Society*. Meanwhile I should like to print the following extracts from the diary of the last baronet, Sir Henry Poole, who died in 1821. The Poole baronetcy dates from 1677, and Sir Henry was the fifth baronet. The family had deserted Poole Hall about the middle of the last century and settled in Sussex. The first visit of Sir Henry to the home of his ancestors was made in 1791, some years before he succeeded to the title, his kinsman, Sir Ferdinando Poole, being then alive. The following is his narrative:—

Sept. 5th, 1791. Left Hooke at 9 a.m. to London. Dunstable, Daventry, Kenilworth, Talbot Inn, Chester. Here we experienced a sad reverse in our accommodation, for we were fixed in a bad Inn, in a very nasty and noisy Town peculiar and noticeable chiefly from the stile in which it is built and from its antiquity. The next morning the 13th we set out to view Poole Hall, the very old and ruinous seat of the Poole family; about 8 or 9 miles from Chester. We found the mansion quite desolated and in decay and the Gardens all neglected, and a Wilderness, and indeed the Farms all round it wretchedly managed and very ill Husbanded. But the Day being fine we amused ourselves for some Hours by the side of the River Mersey and returned to a very late dinner at Chester where we again slept. On the morning of the 14th left it for Crosby.

The following extracts describe a longer visit to Poole Hall, after Sir Henry had succeeded to the title and estates:—

Left Hook on Monday, the 12th June, 1809 [?], with my Wife and 2 Daughters, and Miss Bowen, and one woman, and one Man Servant on the Dickey or Box, and one sent forward on Horseback—went with my own Horses to Cuckfield, and then 4 post Horses to Col. Clitheroe's, at Boston House, near Brentford.

Tuesday 13th, Wed . . . Thursday . . . &c. Saturday, went to Lichfield, calling to see Warwick Castle on our way, and got to Mr. Dodson's at 8 o'clock—80 Miles.

Sunday spent at Lichfield, and went to the Cathedral Morning and Afternoon. Mr. and Mrs. Nares dined with us.

Monday, reached Chester, 63 Miles, and dined and walked about in the evening.

Tuesday, 20th June, to Poole Hall—10 Miles.

Expenses.

June 14th.—Pair of Horses the day to London, with Postillions 1 12 6

Turnpikes.

From Boston House 4 Horses and Postillions to Salt Hill, 16th, Postillions included 2 11 8
 Salt Hill to Henley 2 8 6
 Henley to Benson [?] 2 18 6
 Henley [?] to Oxford 2 1 6
 At Oxford 1 18 6
 Oxford to Woodstock 1 6 8
 Woodstock to Chapel House 1 15 4
 Chapel House to Hartford Bridge, [?] &c. 2 8 6
 Hartford Bridge to Warwick 2 3 6
 At Warwick 1 2 6
 Warwick to Coleshill 3 0 0
 Coleshill to Lichfield 2 6 0
 Lichfield mending spring to Dickey 0 11 0
 Lichfield to Wolsley Bridge 1 9 0
 Wolsley Bridge to Eccleshall 2 0 0

Ecoleshall to Woore [P].....	1	15	0
Woore [P] to Nampwich.....	1	9	0
Nantwich to Chester.....	1	10	0
At Chester	3	11	0
Chester to Poole Hall.....	1	10	0
Turnpikes and Sundries	2	4	8

43 13 4

Add to this the Expense of one Servant
and Saddle Horse from Hook to
Poole Hall

2 19 4

Wednesday, 21st June.—Walking and riding
about Poole Hall and the river side and attended
milking of 56 Cows in evening.

Tuesday 22nd.—At Poole Hall, and in the
Market Cart to Hooton, and drawing pond in the
evening but caught nothing.

Friday 23rd.—Marked some Trees to [use]
for further Repairs on the Estate.

Saturday 24th.—Went to Chester with Daalby
to speak to Mr. (or Mrs.) Barker.

Sunday 25th, to Eastham Church.

Monday 26th. Business at Poole Hall and on
the property with Mr. Ashurst who dined with us,
and the Cottons in the afternoon to tea.

Tuesday 26th. Went to see Stanlow in the
morning and the Tenants and their Wives dined
with us.

Wednesday 27th. Crossed the Mersey with
Capt. Cotton and Mrs. Daalby to Liverpool, view
the Docks &c. &c.—and dined with Mr. Baldwin
at Mr. Lowndes and to Crosby in the evening.

Thursday 28th. Went to seaside in the morning
and Mr. and Mrs. Blundell from Little Crosby,
and Mr. and Mrs. Gladstone dined with us.

Friday 29th. Morning at Liverpool, and dined
at Home. The Girls and L. Poole with Mrs.
Blundel.

Saturday 30th. At home and about Crosby.

Sunday 1st July. Did Duty at Crosby, and a
large party. The Lowndes, Wm. Balwin, &c.,
dined.

Monday, (July) 2d. Went all to Liverpool,
dined and slept and went to the Play with the
Lowndes.

Tuesday 3d. Walked about Liverpool in the
morning and came in the Eastham Boat to Poole
Hall to dinner Mr. Baldwin with us.

Wednesday 4th. I went with Daalby to Chester
Horse and Cattle Fair. A great show of both but
nothing very capital in either. Saw Mr. Potts on
the subject of Commission of Sewers respecting
Stanlow Cop—or Seabank.

Thursday 5th. . . . and Miss Cotton
came here, and the Baldwins being with us we
fished some Marles pits in the morning and all
dined here, and again fished in the evening.

Friday 7 (P).—Baldwins left us, and we went to
dine at Thornton with the Cottons and the evening
being so very wet, slept there and had a good deal
of music.

Saturday 8th.—Returned from Thornton and
were at home the rest of the day.

Sunday 9.—Went early to Thornton to Church
and did the afternoon duty. A great deal of
Church Music. Returned in the evening.

Expenses going to and at Liverpool.

Boat	0	8	0
Chaise to and from Crosby.....	1	10	6
Play	0	18	0
Sundrys	1	2	6
Gowns and Shawl and Candlesticks for Daalby	4	5	6
A Book bag, Rug &c. &c.	2	16	6
At the Blind Asylum	0	15	0
Tenants expenses at Liverpool	0	9	0
Boat back.....	0	9	0

12 5 0

Monday 10, at Home (Poole Hall). Doing
business with Mr. Ashurst. Jones came to dinner.

Tuesday 11.—Went in the Canal Boat with the
Cottons to Chester, and spent the day with Mr.
and Mrs. Humberston, Mrs. Cotton's Son and
Daughter, Mr. and Mrs. Jones from Wales with us.

Wednesday 12th.—Went, and Mr. Cotton
with us, to Eten, Lord Grosvenor's, the finest
modern Gothic Buildings in the Kingdom and well
worth seeing.

Returned to Chester and then home to Poole
Hall. Saw Mr. Ashurst in the evening.

Boat to Chester	0	6	0
Bill at Chester	4	2	6
Chaises included and also Tenants and Servants.			

Gown for the Dairy Girls at Poole

Hall as Fairing	1	17	6
	6	6	0

Thursday 13th. The Cottons from Thornton
and Miss Majendie, Mr. and Mrs. Humberston
from Chester dined here, and spent a very pleasant
day, and the servants had a Dance in the Evening
in the Hall.

Friday 14th. Rode to Hooton and to a view of
some Lands which were proposed to be exchanged
with Sr Tho Stanley, but left all to be settled by
Mr. Curry and Mr. Jackson.

Saturday 15th. Rode with my Daughters to
Park Gate and to Gayton, Mr. Glegg, and to
Pooten, Mr. Green.

Sunday 16th, did duty at Eastham Church.

Monday 17th. Cotton from Thornton dined here.

Tuesday 18th. Left Poole Hall with great regret
for Withington.

(To be continued.)

[310] THE COTTON LETTERS.

(See No. 264.)

To 'pretend' a claim, is an old legal
term set up in the pleadings, and implied
nothing beyond a 'claim'; it was not an in-

situation. Maisterson, in a document in a preceding *Sheaf*, is miscalled Maisterton—which indeed the name may originally have been in early Norman times, if some small manor or hamlet of the name then existed. The family had, since the Conquest, always lived in Nantwich, and never held any manorial estate, and ranked as armigers. It was Saxon, according to Dr. Ormerod, and I suspect was disestablished and disendowed, like a church. This Mr. Maisterson was probably a younger son. He was, as was Wettenhall, an attorney-at-law that is, not one having a power of attorney, nor yet created an attorney for a 'livery of seizin! These Wettenhalls, since Edward III.'s time, were also of Nantwich, being a younger branch of the early extinct knightly House of Wettenhall. Some of the names exist in London, and a Baron Wetnal, or Whettnall, of the Belgian legation in London was not improbably of the same family. One of the Nantwich line married the issueless widow of the last of the Mainwarings of Peover, who was also devisee, or donee, of the estates of that family.

Mr. Beardmore Brereton was apparently an attorney and solicitor as well as land-steward of the Combermere Cottons in 1708—unless Sir Robert's son was really the agent? Brereton's law is certainly very sound upon the question of double heriots, and came to the conclusion that any modern lawyer must instantly come to on reading Sir Robert's evidence. This correspondence is exceedingly interesting.

The style of address in the letter was quite common. I have an attorney's letter (dated about 1680), to his client—a poor gentleman of Kingsley, at least not a rich one—in precisely the same terms—a mannerly style such as that which some years before had succeeded the quarrels of sticklers for precedence in Church, and State, and entertainments, and in everything else. Brereton, by the bye, was most likely some Elizabethan descendant of Brereton of Brereton. X.

[311] NOTES ON BIRKENHEAD PRIORY.

(See No. 254.)

Perhaps the *Inquisitiones Post Mortem* and charters of families all over Wirral would shew a much greater connection with this Priory—whose Cartulary, many years ago I in vain sought to find. The Barons of Dunham-Massey certainly held manorial estate in several parts of Wirral, including Backford parish originally, which appears in a charter of franc-marriage (temp.

John) penes me, with a rather large seal appendant, impressed with the figure of a lion passant, simply—their ensign, probably, long before coat armour, as we know it, was understood.

The Ferry was probably leased to the monks years before the grant of the King, as then Palatine Earl. The ferryage, at this time, seems to be about 3s. modern for a man and horse; 4d. for one person, and on Saturdays double; and 1s. 4d. for a man and 'what he could carry!' But the modern equivalent for ancient moneys is difficult to get at—prices were and are so varied that only general averages of values can give a rough product.

Norton Priory, in the 14th (?) cent., became an Abbey. It was a pardonable misnomer last century to dub it "Norton Priory." There were very few abbeys and priories in England over 400 years old at their dissolution, and some were not then entirely completed, while many were not completed for centuries after their foundation. So, on an average, their ruins are many years more ancient than were those houses when their owners were dispossessed. As long as I can recollect anything, English Roman Catholics have looked to 'their' repossession.

T. H.

[312] PARISH REGISTERS OF ST. OSWALD'S,
CHESTER.

1621.

Urian (?) Tellett and Ellen Tyrer, June 14
Christopher Tyllaton and uxor ejus, June 14
Thomas Filkyn and Katharyn Page, Oct. 21
Thomas Christian and Marie Roberts, Jan 6
William Pierson of Putin pish and Margaret
Lowe of this pish, Jan. 14
Richard Jenkensonne and Margaret Willsonne
Feb. 5

NOVEMBER 2, 1898.

NOTES.

[313] EXTRACTS FROM THE DIARY OF THE REV.
SIR HENRY POOLE, BART.
(Continued from No. 309).

The following extracts relate to another visit to Poole in 1812.

July 6th, 1812. Left House (Hook) with my wife and eldest daughter in the Chaise, &c.

* * * * *

8th. At Lichfield, we stayed with our friends the Dodsons, from Wednesday afternoon till Friday morning, and then proceeded to Chester, and from

Chester to Thornton. We reached Mr. Curry's all right on the 10th.

11th. Rode with Mr. Curry to Poole Hall, and abt Premises.

12th. At Church at Eastham. Gave the Ringers a guinea.

13th. Business with Mr. Ashurst, and rode round the Farms of both the Maddocks with him and Mr. Curry, and also took a Survey of a road to Whitby proposed to be altered and changed.

14. Spent the day, and dined at Poole Hall, and drawing various Marle pits, and catching a great many large Eels but no Fish of any size. Riding also about the land with Dealby.

15. Went a large party to Chester Fair, intending to see Eaton but could not get permission. Returned to Thornton to dinner.

16. Rode with Mr. Curry to Puddington to see Mr. Ashurst, and to settle some business with him, and to sign Notices to the Tenants in Wallasey to quit in Order to sell, when Mr. Ashurst thinks a most convenient Season.

17. Went with Mr. Curry to meet T. Judworth abt. Stanlow and to view the Grips or Groins that had cost me so much Money, and was greatly disappointed in their appearance, or rather non-appearance for they were quite filled up with mud except just a ridge of stones on the surface where the Grips were formed. But Mr. Curry said this was as it ought to be. However on riding quite the length of the Cop, and observing how exposed it was in many places to the Inroads and violence of the Water at High Tides, and how possible, and even probable it was that what had already cost so much might in a very short time be so again and knowing that, independent of such accidents, the keeping the Cop or Bank was a heavy annual expense, it occurred to me, that it would be wiser to sell them than keep such precarious Property; and on consulting Mr. Curry and Mr. Ashurst upon it, I found they were both clearly of the same opinion, and for the same reasons, adding also that it would sell at a high price, give us a much larger Income from Interest of the Money than it would give in Rent, and that all the Risks of the Winds and Waves, w'd be done away. I therefore desired Ashurst when he looked it over, to ascertain Rent, also to make an estimate of its value at the *Hammer*. In the meantime I w'd make up my mind whether to keep or sell it, but in every point of view it now appears the most advisable to sell, for the Money will be ready when wanted for any purpose and I do not consider it as such a Part of the Family Estate as to excite any unpleasant sensations at parting from it, it having been a Purchase by the Pooles from the Bunburys, independent of the Ancient Demesne of Poole and Poole Hall. And as it is extra-parochial (Abbey Land) and

both Tithe and Tax free, it will probably fetch a very High price, and Mr. Ashurst thinks this a very good time to sell, because trade being dull, the Liverpool people who are opulent, seem much disposed to lay out their Cash in Land, which never sold higher than at this Time. The Wallasea Land it is also thought will sell reasonably well in small Lots, being much in demand by these Liverpool People for Gardens and Villas, and other Purposes and it is strongly recommended to purchase a Field or Fields adjoining Poole Hall Property, whenever it, or they, are to be sold.

21st to Liverpool — seeing sights and after dinner came (a fine sail) up the Mersey to Eastham and to Thornton.

23rd. Rode with Charlotte to Poole Hall and dined at Thornton.

[314] LEASOWE CASTLE.
(See No. 225.)

Wallasey was anciently pronounced 'Walley.' The patriarch of the family of that name is seemingly erroneously called, by some, a Welshman, thus making the probable Norman owner the bestower of his surname upon his manor and township, at a time when local surnames were being acquired by user, from big and little places of all sorts. I should suppose that Wallasey meant the 'Welsh Isle,' in Saxon times, from bodies of Welshmen having occasionally seized it as a base for their incursions into that part of Wirral? But 'Kirkby - Walley,' (?) if it originally applied to Wallasey (I speak away from Ormerod), would alter this opinion to the general one.

"Leasowe Castle"—a rather affected designation—was, up to quite recent times, known as 'Mock-beggar Hall'—originally from the prominence of the old tower—long before any house adjoined it. It deceived all the cadgers who 'padded the hoof' across Wirral, from Chester and Liverpool. There are many 'Mock-beggar Halls' still in existence—several in Yorkshire, I believe, and one near Winster, co. Derb. The last consists of a spire-shaped rock, in a very rocky locality. Mynheer Boodee, who had the Leasowe house about the year 1800, was a retired Dutch West-Indian sugar-planter, who then still held his niggers and plantations, which his handsome daughter, and heiress, and her husband, the late genial General Sir Edward Cust, Bart., K.C.B., eventually virtually lost after the Emancipation Act. The Tarletons, Gladstones, and others, of Liverpool, were also in the same boat; for all seem to have been only partially recompensed under the Act.

The tower date, 1593, I don't think Mr. Ormerod mentioned at all. Certainly his editor saw it, and mentioned it; for, during one of many visits, over 30 years ago, General Cust first pointed it out, as a curiosity. The interior of the tower was then, and for long years afterwards, draped all the way up with various flags—which the owner accounted for by reason of his 'uncle Tobyism.' They were all so close together they presented a curious sight, and helped to warm the tower in the winter! The eccentric hobbies of his wife were miniature dolls, all variously dressed, and distributed chiefly about the fire place of a sitting room, where she had a glass bowl of gold fish. Just under the very summit of the tower interior was, and I suppose is still, the incised date '1593' referred to by 'Holly.' I always had an idea that Ferdinando Stanley (the poisoned) built the tower (on the site of an older erection that was possibly a Peel, or place of refuge in anxious times) as a private place of embarkation for Ireland and Wales? One cannot well conceive that a tower, so narrow for such a purpose, should have been specially built as a race 'grand stand' (as was General Cust's opinion), when scarcely half-a-dozen people could occupy the top storey with any degree of ease. Its height, however, to view a long, straight course of some couple of miles would be quite an advantage to two or three spectators. The dining-room ceiling and wainscot belonged to the famous, and infamous, 'Star Chamber,' and was given to General Cust on the burning down of the old Houses of Parliament.

T. H.

QUERY.

[315] WHO WAS MAYOR OF CHESTER IN 1643-44?

Having recently had occasion to go carefully through the various local accounts of the siege of Chester (1643-46), I have come across what, in the absence of adequate elucidation, amounts to a very grave historical inaccuracy. What I am now desirous of ascertaining is the individuality of Chester's chief magistrate for the year 1643-44.

Hemingway, in his 'History of Chester,' vol. 1, p. 234, gives Thomas Cowper as mayor 1641-2; William Ince, 1642-3; Randle Holme, jun. (III), 1643-44; Charles Walley, 1644 and on until the fall of the city, when William Edwards assumed the reins of local government. We know Thomas Cowper occupied the mayoral

chair 1641-42, as it was in the September of the latter year he received Charles I., and we also know that William Ince succeeded, for a record remains of that alderman having presided at an 'Assemblee holden in the Common Hall of Please,' on February 3rd, 1643. Consequently the way is clear until the date of the third Randle Holme's accession to the mayoralty.

According to charter—Hen. VII. an. 21—the Mayors of Chester were ordered to be elected 'every year, upon Friday next, after the Feast of St. Dennis.' That Saint's day falling on October 9th, Thomas Cowper would have served the office October 9th, 1641—October 9th, 1642; William Ince, October 9th, 1642—October 9th, 1643; Randle Holme (III), October 9th, 1643—October 9th, 1644; but this apparently was not the case so far as Randle Holme was concerned, for turning to Hemingway's 'Narrative of the Siege,' vol. 1, p. 175, of his 'History of Chester,' I find the following statement:—

"On the 31st of January (1644-5) during the mayoralty of Charles Walley, an order of assembly was made . . . &c., &c.,"

How comes Charles Walley to be Mayor of January 31st, 1644? As I have shown Randle Holme III. entered, or should have entered, upon his duties on Oct. 9th, 1643, and should have continued them for the ensuing twelve months, a course that would effectually have prevented Charles Walley appearing on the scene in the chief civic capacity on January 31st, 1644. I have said to myself, "This discrepancy may very likely be an error, and 'Jan. 31st, 1644,' should read 'Jan. 31st, 1645.'" But unluckily this does not answer, for Hemingway is confirmed in his statement by another writer, and it is to this latter particular that I would direct the attention of the readers of the *Sheaf*.

'History of the Siege of Chester,' published by Broster and Son, circa. 1790, chapter ii, page 39.

Jan. 31, 1644. Charles Walley, Mayor. . &c., &c.,

Then in the account of the first parliamentary attack upon Chester on Sept. 19, 1644, I see on pp. 51-52, that according to Broster the rebels called on the city to surrender, but before

"the Mayor could remit an answer they (the parliamentarians) divided into four squadrons. . . . They also got possession of the Mayor's house, and the sword and mace. . . . The Mayor with honest and indignant contempt at this traiterous proceeding, remitted the following laconic answer:

Gentlemen:—Before I could acquaint the Aldermen and Citizens of this City with your summons, the shooting of your cannons did prevent your servant

CHARLES WALLEY."

This was Sept. 19th, practically a month before the election of the new mayor was due to take place. Charles Walley is specifically set down by two authorities as acting in that office on Jan. 31st and Sep. 19th, 1644 so I have reason for presuming he filled the chair during the intervening months. But where was Randle Holme III., whose term did not expire, or ought not to have by right, until the October following? It is hardly conceivable Charles Walley could have been acting as his Deputy all that time, and had such been the case it is hardly probable Charles Walley would not have been clearly mentioned as such.

It will be noticed that in this attack on the suburbs the rebels captured the City Sword and Mace—having found them in the Mayor's house, and in connection with this side of the question Charles Walley (*Cheshire Sheaf*, New Series, No. 54) pleads in his particulars to his delinquency (Royalist Composition Papers) that—

"They had at my Howse in St. John's within the suburbs when they were taken. . . . &c., &c.,"

this house in St. John's being described by Broster as the one in which the sword and mace were found.

Both Broster and Hemingway state Charles Walley to have been Mayor on Jan. 31st, 1644. Charles Walley, in his capacity of Mayor, addresses a letter to the rebel commanders on September 19th, 1644, on the occasion of the capture of the Mayor's house and the city Sword and Mace; and, further, Charles Walley refers to this in his pleadings. This being shewn, I am curious to learn why Randle Holme III. is usually quoted as being Mayor 1643-44! What could he have been doing in his year of office? If he was in reality Chester's First Magistrate during that period, then that letter which I have taken from Broster as being from Charles Walley when he was Mayor must clearly be a forgery, unless, indeed, Charles Walley was actually the Mayor, and Randle Holme III. never filled that office.

C. M. F.

[316] MARRIAGE REGISTERS OF ST. OSWALD'S,
CHESTER.

1622.

John Dannold and Kathern Cooke, April 23
William Jones and Jone Gowyn, June 2
Edward Bate and Anne Sergeant, Aug. 19
Thomas Bradberne and Jane Woodes, Sept. 1
Roger Lamm and Ellen Sterken, Oct. 12
William Bradshaw, Oct. 13
John Bedsonne and Elizabeth Bruertonne, Oct. 14
John Protherough and Alles Fisher, Dec. 10
John Wright and Anne Ithell, Jan. 26
John Connell and Margaret Erye, Feb. 18

NOVEMBER 9, 1898.

ORIGINAL DOCUMENTS.

[317]

COTTON LETTERS.

(*Combermere MSS.*).

(Continued from No. 302).

[Sir Robt. Cotton to Thomas Cotton Esq.]

Septembr ye 11th 1708.

Dear Sir,

I have yours of ye 8th with ye enclosed &c. and for [concerning] the smithy by Wrenbury mill, I did give directions to put a stop to ye building of it then taking that lane to be part of Harry filetchers tenant: but my agent goeing from me to forbid Mr. Starkey to build any thing there, Mr. Starkey desired my leave that it might be set up there, being not only a Conveniency to have ye smith near ye mill, but it would be a great convenience to passengers for shoeing their horses, which I knowing to be true and Mr. Starkey asshureing that it should come soe little into ye lane as it should be no [p hurt] to people was usually walked by yt. hedgeside to ye bridge, so that it would be a convenience to many, without prejudice to any, & my agent being of that oppinion gave consent to it. & I believe you will find ye sill next Wrenbury either within ye hedge, or close to it. soe that no part of the building is of any prejudice in any respect. But give notice to John Savage from mee not to build or lay any foundation in that Lane nor any part of ye waste at his perrill. As to his saying Mr. Wilson apply'd himself to mee to joyn with him in opposing Mr. Starkey in erecting a Cottage near his land, I assure you I never heard of any such thing, neither know, or have heard of any such thing done by him, or any one else

The building I formerly mention'd to you, yt. was erected part on Mr. Starkeys & part over ye [p Waste] into Wrenbury, wch I caused to be removed from ye heath into Mr. Starkeys Land, is over against the lane

that goes from Woodcock [Woodcot] hill to Wrenbury heath. I believe it was designed for ye dwelling house, it may be worth ye looking on it, not knowing but some more tricks may have been play'd since. I think it may be worth honest Harry and John Shaws labour to look on ye Cottages & enclosures on ye wast, and learning the time when they were taken in, and what rent paid, and how long since. But I remember none in ye beginning of my time, but yt of ye old womans yt Wade put forcible out of possession, & had Mr. Starkey done the same thing as Wade did, Sir Tho: Mainwaring & I should have been obliged to do ye same to him as to Wade.

I would not have Mr. Brereton to begin any suite at present, there being proposals of a reference. in ye meantime my Lawers will be coming to Town, and you and Mr. Brereton may learne & there may be occasion for severall actions in severall Courts.

I pray give my kind respects & thanks to Mr. Brereton, whose further care I desire, particularly to discourse Mr. Fletcher if Lord Cholmondeley has any Royalty by his Charter I will not dispute it. If not, I will make Mr. Starkey shew his, before he has it [i.e., the Royalty] quietly.

Your affectionate ffather

ROBERT COTTON.

For Tho: Cotton Esq.

[Sir Robert Cotton to Thomas Cotton Esq.]

Sept. 21st: 1708

Dear Son,

I have yours of 18th and hope you have your Cattle [P] with writeings concerning Wrenbury before this. the only old deeds I have are in a black box, which I hope is with them, and may give some light. tho' I remember not ye contents of them. I am glad Mr. Starkey is satisfied of my Copyhold right. I hope those things will be more kept to Right now in Mr. Breretons hands. give my kind respects to him with thanks for his care.

I am glad my Tenants have all sold their Cheese but Woolham, who I presume will sell ere long; and I hope you may pay your self wt [what] I owe you by bond, or so much of it as you can put out on good securitie; ye rest return to me hear [here]; yt I may dispose of it as most convenient. You need not trouble Harry to make any accot. till this Cheese money or bills come in, I suppose abt all hallowtide. I do not desire to give him more trouble then must needs. You say you could sett ye wilkaley hall & Taylors Tenement severally, if there weare a house on Taylors [tenement] If you can let me have Beringtons, it may easily be removed & made habitable there before may-day, and save a great deale of trouble both to you and my daughter Cotton.

I am very glad you sent my Cousen Maisterson a good dish of fish, Serjeant Cheshire & his Lady are my particular ffrinds, & Sr John Parker & his Lady very worthy persons.

I like well of ye reference for Wrenbury in dispute as you mention to my Cousen Maisterson, for me. & Mr. Wettenhall for Mr. Starkey, it will depend upon Mr. Starkey to prove his title, if it be on accot of his ancestor Starkeys marrying ye eldest of Oulton, ye other two sisters, of wch one married to Minshull ye other to Newton &c. had equal right with him &c. Newtons issue failing came to three sisters who weare Cohaires; one married Ward, another Mainwaring a 3rd Rudyard. Ye two first shares I bought, but Rudyard sold to Mr. Wells of Sandbach, who sold alsoe to me.

See pedigree of the family of Newton, in Ear-waker's *East Cheshire*, vol. 1, p. 128.

I wonder I heare nothink from you nor Mr. Brereton of Ld Cholmondeleys Claim. if he have ye Royaltie wt [what] does Mr. Starkey and I contend for. if Mr. Starkey have any grant from King Charles ye 2d, as he says, let yt [that] speake for it selfe.

I desire to be better satisfied of these things, who am

your affectionate ffather

ROBERT COTTON.

I desire you to ffee my Cousen Maisterson the reference as Mr. Starkey does Mr. Wettenhall yt [that] I presume is a guinea.

[Mr. Brereton to Thomas Cotton Esq.]

[Octr 8, 1708]

Honoured Sr.

As you were pleased to order me, I writt yesterday to Mr. Starkey, the Contents whereof was, that you were on Sr. Robert Cottons behalf content to accept of two thirds of the Royalty, so he would assure you, he had no intencion to prejudice ye freeholders by making any further Inclosures on Wrenbury Comon, which was ye reason you did not give him ye Answer he expected from you on your discourse with him ye Evening before. I have inclos'd, sent you his answer. you'll perceive he is cautious therein and does not repeat ye proposal but I hope he will not be so disingenious [sic] as to evade what he has said since. My Letter to him fully repeated ye proposall as above expressed, which if it had varied from his intentions he would have signified it in his Answer.

I forgott to tell you that I further mentioned in mine that on receipt of his, you would write to receive Sr. Robt. Cottons direction therein.

Sr

Inclosed I have also sent my letter for Sr Robt Cotton with ye Account relating to ye Cottagers &c for my reasons there menooned. I have not troubled Sr Robt with any remarks thereon; it would be needless (with submission) because it is now intended to goon another point. If Mr. Starkey prove a Gentleman of his word, as I believe it will be his interest so to do, if it happen other-wise, there is time enough to observe it.

The inclosed letter directed to you was given me by John Clay. I presume by the handwriting it comes from Mr. Shard in answer to wt I writt to him by yor order. Mr. Woolrich told me to day how kindly you intended to me on this account. I most Humbly acknowledge it tho' in this matter I presume it comes too late.

I am Sr. your most
obliged Humble Servant,
BEARDMORE BRERETON

Whitechurch, Octobr ye 8th 1708.
(To be continued.)

NOTES.

[318] THE SNELL FAMILY.

(See No. 231.)

'Snell' was probably at one time almost as common a name, and also surname, in the Lowlands of Scotland as in England—the Lowlanders being, of course, all Angles—though now mixed, to some slight (?) extent, with 'Scots' proper (the Erse of the Highlands—hence the name of 'Ereikine,' that of a well-known family. The general designation, 'Scotch,' is evidently a contraction of 'Scottish,' I may here add, and the objectors to that form, who say it is a *corruption* of 'Scot,' seem to be wrong).

Snelson, formerly Snelston, in Cheshire (as Nelson—Lord Nelson's ancestral place—was Nelson in Mawdesley, in Lancashire) points conclusively to the Saxon origin of Snell. Archd. Snell, I am inclined to think, was of Scotch birth, or extraction.

T. H.

[319] THE PEWING OF NESTON CHURCH, 1711.

(See No. 214.)

The petition of 1711 for the erection of pews is signed by Counsel. Mr. Roger Comberbatch (direct male ancestor of one of the two Cheshire families of Swetenham) was then, or afterwards, Recorder of Chester. He seems to have descended collaterally from the early extinct elder line of Comberbatch of Comberbatch—though there were many 'batches' of Comberbatch in those days; and there is little or no fixable evidence relating to one or the other. Perhaps the only other Cheshire Church that was pewed so early, is that of Frodsham? Its seat rolls (in the parish chest some 30 years ago) are of all dates for the last four centuries—the oldest of which shews the division of the sexes—the only practical divorce that then obtained, out of the Court at Rome, where the fees were piously applied to the support of that Church.

T. H.

REPLY.

[320] MADOX FAMILY OF FARNDON.

(See No. 295.)

The family of Maddock, Maddocks or Madox (the last two English corruptions I think of the 17th cent.), was early in Queen Elizabeth's time, seated in or near Crewe by Farndon. It was undoubtedly of Welsh origin. A short pedigree of the descendants of "David Maddock" will be found in Ormerod's Cheshire (Ed. 1882); and as "David Maddock" is a name I never before met with in Cheshire history—MSS. or print—except in the 17th cent. registers of Frodsham, I believe David, of Frodsham parish, to be one of these descendants. Some of the latter spread in a westerly direction as far as Whitby and Ellesmere Port. The first man, I fancy, came over the Border about the time of the Battle of Bosworth field—the Wars of the Roses having stirred up out of their old habitations a good many families in England and Wales, many of whom retired to London, and, having committed themselves, some became sham merchants, etc. One branch of these Frodsham Maddocks was of Tarporley parish—one of whose branches became a gold or silver smith in Chester, and his heiress married Gifford of Bell Park in Ireland, and afterwards married the Marquis of Lansdowne, another Anglo-Hibernian. The fortunes generally of the Frodsham line gradually dwindled to the rank of substantial yeomen from originally a small comfortable class of gentry.

The first Maddock I ever met with in Cheshire was one "Madoc," whose daughter married a Lawton, of Lawton, temp. Hen. VI.

I should be glad of a copy of the tombstone inscription (?), or register entry, of the Maddock, or Maddox, buried in Farndon in the 16th cent.; and also a copy of that relating to the one buried in Valle Crucis Abbey—a foundation, I believe, of the last Randle, earl pal. of Chester.

As to the etymology of the name, a Welshman would better answer the query. It was a baptismal name originally, and I suppose every soul of them who bore it would claim one of the "12 Tribes" (see *Yorke*) as head of the pretty strong clan. My paternal great-grandmother (a wiry, pretty, little brunette, suggestive of Celtic origin) was one of them, and had some old seals, bearing (on one or two) two lions passant, if I remember rightly, in pale; but I was too young and indifferent to heraldry to remember very accurately. X

[321] MARRIAGE REGISTERS OF ST. OSWALD'S,
CHESTER.

1623.

Robert Jones and Jane Cowley, May 12
Richard Davie and Katheryn Cooke, May 17
Robert Briakoe and Ellyn Teylier, June 3
William Williams and Joan Hood, June 20
Thomas Watt and Margaret Leigh, Sept. 1
Richard Teylier and Elizabeth Lea, Sept. 14
John Postell and Margery Crumwell, Oct. 6
John Mosse and Ales Davies, Dec. 6
John Jenson and Margaret Prescott, Dec. 14
Godfray Warde and Dorothy Kirse (P), Dec. 21
John Smyth and Anne Axon, Dec. 24
Thomas Woods and Alles Perrie, Dec. 29
William Clough and Elizabeth Morgell, Jan. 1
John Pickeryn and Katheryn Lancelott, Jan. 30
Stephen Haman and Margaret Erly, Feb. 2
Thomas Machell and Ales Richardson, Feb. 10

NOVEMBER 16, 1898.

[322] ORIGINAL DOCUMENTS.

COTTON LETTERS.

(Combermere MSS.)

(Continued from No. 317).

[Mr. Starkey's letter to Mr. Brerston inclosed for
Thos. Cotton Esq.]

Sr.

I shall stand ye proposall I made with you
yesterday and hope that thereon all Matters
betwixt Mr. Cotton & mee will yn [then] be settled
& rectified soe that we may live as neighbouring
Gentlemen ought to do which is ye Constant
desire of

your obliged humble Servant
THOMAS STARKEY.

7th Octobr 1708.

I'll desire Mr. Wybunbury to meet wn
[when] ever you'll lett me know two or
3 days before the time."

[Another inclosure]

An Account of ye Cottagers liveing in Wrenbury
& Wrenbury ffrith as to their tenure, with the
sayings of some freeholders and others inhabiting
there in respect to their priviledges on ye Comon
and Wast Land, lyeing in ye said Townships—

(1) *James Croxton*. Aged 87 years holds a Cottage
in Wrenbury ffrith on ye Wast in ffrith Lane, has
lived there 40 years, says he found ye ruines of
a Cottage where his now stands, but does not
remember any person lived there, says ye same
was built by an order of Sessions, that he went to
all the freeholders to get their consent and Mr.
Starkey's Grandfather amongst the rest, that he
first paid sixpence a year, and afterwards two
shillings a year ever since the Cottage was built,
Says Mr. Starkey was look't upon as Lord, Says

about ten years agoe on refusing to pay his rent
Mr. Richd Starkey unkle to present Mr. Starkey
came and distrained and forced him to pay, Says
the inclosure was made by himselfe there being
noe intack before, [says] he also pays Average.
[i.e. boon-work]

(2) *Widdow Margt. Jackson*. Aged about 65
years, a Cottage in ffrith Lane, has lived there
fforty years, pays 1s. rent to Mr. Starkey, so did
her husband before her, says a Cottage stood
there before her husband came, which was about
60 years agoe. Says last was built by order of
Sessions.

(3) *Richard Croxton* son of above James
Croxton was not at home but lives
in a Cottage at Entrance of ffrith
Lane, he built it himself, but there was a
Cottage stood there before, where one Richd.
Pinner lived, and Wilkinson lived there before
Pinner, and one Bowland Shard lived there before
Wilkinson, he pays 3s. a year rent to Mr. Starkey
for his life, the intack has been time out of mind,
also he payes 2 dayes average.

(4) *Wm. Bradshaw* of ye ffrith has a Cottage,
his Father & Grandfather before him paid a rent
to ye Starkeys, who have made him take a Lease
and give 6d. fine. An Intack belongs to it time
out of mind, he pays 2 days average and one
shilling rent.

(5) *Thomas Griffies* holds a Cottage on Wrenbury
heath, on ye right hand of ye Heath, built above 16
years agoe by said Griffies on an order of Sessions,
there was no Cottage there before nor Intack—
Says he would have made an Intack formerly, but
the freeholders pull'd it down; but now he has in-
closed near a day-math. Mr. Starkey insists that
he shall pay 4s. a year rent, 3 days Average &
2 rent hens, and threatens yt he shall be obliged
to Lease it. Tho: Griffies has sett it to Tent
[tenant] who pays him £1 10s. 6d. per ann.

(6) *John Weckey* a Cottager at Wrenbury Heath,
aged abt 50 years, his father lived in a Cottage
near adjoining to him wch had been erected time
out of mind, that his father had an old intack;
afterwards took in a-nother, and having 2 sons, vist
himself & another gave one of ye intacks to
himself & ye other to his Brother—that since his
ffather died ye old Cottage fell down & yt there-
upon he & his Brother (who died lately) each of
them built one Cottage for themselves to each
Intack. Says he does average, & pays 1s. rent.
both Cottages are built further on ye Comon than
ye old intacks were made. Says his ffather paid
rent to Mr. Starkey as long as he can remember."

"These queries look formall, like Interroga-
tory's for a Commission. If too formall it will
make people too Cautious what they say: for
Coll'. Cotton. [P Col. Charles Cotton, brother of
Sir Robert.]

[323] THE FAMILY OF MELES OF GREAT
MELES AND WALLASEY.

The following document from the Additional MSS. in the British Museum may be worth putting on record.—Yours,

GENEALOGIST.

Know that I John of the Meles (*Johannes del Meles*) of Walasegh Lord of Mykel Melys have give to Isabella daughter of John son of Henry of Litherland all messuages, lands, tenements, rents, services etc. that I have in the township and fields of Liverpool and in what other township and place in Lancashire soever. To hold for the whole term of her life from the Capital Lords of those fees etc.

Witness, Richard del Crosse, then Mayor of Liverpool, Nicholas Blundell, John Osbaldeston, Robert de Derby, of Liverpool, Robert de la More, of Liverpool, Nicholas the Clerk of Liverpool, Henry de Mossok, Wm. de Eccleston, Clerk, etc. Given at Liverpool, Monday in the octave of Easter, II. Hen: 4 [P] [1410].

NOTES.

[324] COTTON LETTERS.
(See No. 302.)

Perhaps a few comments on these interesting letters may be worth a few lines. The cottage referred to in the letter of September 7, 1708, stood on certain disputed waste lands or commons. Sir Robert Cotton calls it (meaning its site and curtilage) an 'Intack' (with 17th century spelling for Intake—too often a 'take in!') in Newhall, which goes, as he thinks, to strengthen his case. But, for that matter, it might possibly have been a purchase in fee from Starkey of Wrenbury, who claimed to be Lord of Wrenbury. Cotton, however, asserted that there were three Lords. We know there were anciently three co-heiresses; but it remained, and still remains (P), a question if these ladies' estates in the Manor of Wrenbury carried with them (as they would at common law or by custom) equal shares of the Lordship. This did not of course always follow, for the common law, or custom, was not always allowed to operate, as we shall see hereafter. In the case, for instance, of a 'Barony' by Writ it would, under co-heirship, fall at once into abeyance, so far as the descent of the 'title,' with a mere seat in Parliament, is concerned. Yet the far more ancient Barony by Tenure, and also the equally more ancient Lordship (or Manorial, as distinguished from Baronial Lordship), which, was in fact only a lesser Barony, would not fall into abeyance; but, on the contrary, each o

the co-heiresses would respectively be entitled to be called 'baroness' and 'lady' (not baroness, &c., of a third or other portion of the barony and manor respectively) wholly irrespective of their portions, so long, at all events, as a joint-tenancy, or a tenure ancestral, existed—and this by reason of the then well-known maxim *per moi et per tout*—the possession of the one being the possession of all; chiefly because in default of a severance of the joint tenancy (whereby a tenancy-in-common would arise) the last survivor, or survivor, would inherit all the shares—unless a partition vested in each co-heiress, her or his third as a distinct inheritance. But, in the case of a kingdom (which is only a grand paramount lordship, and in remote feudal days far better understood as such than in later ages) the descent, for example, of that of England was regulated by the same feudal laws, as the descent of a fee simple (with a tenure something in the nature of the grand sergeanty of 'Castle Guard,' and on the old feudal oaths) instead of by the much better tenure of tail male—so as to avoid an heiress's marriage with an enemy—which England, however, has been lucky enough to escape, so far, except in the diabolical case of Mary and Phillip of Spain—a case of a sole heiress with no heirs apparent or presumptive, save such as came through a common ancestor's daughter. The 'Crown' would then, on failure of heirs male, have become *Elective*—which it virtually became in the 17th century by the right of National Conquest. This by the way, however.

The descent of the Lordship of Wrenbury by common law may have been arrested by settlement or by device, under which the eldest daughter would, perhaps, have taken the whole manor—with a lesser portion of its territory by way of equality of partition—whether arranged under settlement, or subsequently by deed or deeds of partition. But, these deeds, if they ever existed in the Wrenbury case, seem to have perished, as in numerous other cases. However, the Starkeys claimed to be lords of the whole manor—the whole Lordship—and a few centuries earlier, would perhaps have tried Sir Robert Cotton in their own court (had it possessed rights of in-fangtheof and out-fangtheof and a good gallows, like my Lord Baron of Dunham Massey and others) and hung him for petty treason!—as (seriously) so many were, in every feudal relation in life, from grande treason to the King to the lesser one of treason to the meane 'lords of creation.' In those days fees and heriots

were worth something; but, as they were of fixed value, they never rose with market values, and a penny was a penny still, although in some things else it is now worth a sovereign. So that the eldest co-heiress taking the fief would always have value for her partition; still, her remote descendants would find that a penny was only a penny, after all.

But, this particular cottage was said to be in Newhall—a name suggestive of, originally at all events, a small hamlet and inferior manor. Whether this was so or not, it is not improbable that it was a member of the greater manor of Wrenbury, perhaps by some ancient subinfeudation to a stranger or to a younger son, for homage and fealty and suit and service at his paramount lord and father's court. If Mr. Starkey could have shewn this, he would have had a fair chance of sustaining his claim in the absence of proof of any existing manorial rights belonging to Newhall. But, where such rights and privileges have once lapsed by non-user, they cannot be restored—and a manor or barony stands for ever thereafter in the category of the 'reputed'—as an 'extinct volcano!' Whatever Mr. Starkey's claim, he might at all events be credited with the discovery of his grandfather's ignorance of his family's rights, rights which (at that time of day) practically no limitations would bar—nor even, it may be added, at the present day in cases of concealed fraud.

T. H.

[325] THE CONGLETON QUACK DOCTOR.

(See No. 272.)

I find the following reference to Samuel Troutbeck in Head's *Congleton, Past and Present* :—

'Samuel Troutbeck was an apothecary, living in Mill-street; where, behind his premises, the Wesleys built their first chapel. He was a zealous supporter of the cause, and was allowed to act as a local but not an itinerant preacher. He took the oaths required under the Conventicle Act of 1762, but continued his communion with the Church of England up to his death, which occurred in 1785, at the age of 82. Mr. Wesley preached his funeral sermon from 'Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord.' His name occurs among a list of the members of the society in 1759.

Let us hope, for the credit of the society, that the advertisement printed some weeks ago was put out before he met with the Wesleys.—

Yours, WM. FERGUSON IRVINE.

Birkenhead.

REPLY.

[326] INSCRIPTIONS ON CHESTER CATHEDRAL BELLS.

(See No. 307.)

In reply to W. L.'s enquiry I have pleasure in sending the following particulars of the Bells in Chester Cathedral, from notes of my own, made in 1873.—Yours,

F. A. BRASSETT SALT.

Birkenhead.

Eight bells to the peal (and one odd bell which is rung for the daily services). Peal in key of C. The old tenor bell (commonly called the curfew bell) was cracked when being rung for service, and was recast in 1867, as were also the treble bell, the 2nd, 3rd, 4th, and 7th bells. On the 22nd March, 1873, the Chester Society of Ringers rang the first peal ever rung in the Cathedral, consisting of 5,040 true and complete changes of grandsire triples, in 3hrs. 29mins. The peal was composed and conducted by F. Ball; 98 bobs 2 singles.

There is a carillon machine, by means of which one man can chime the eight bells by turning a handle of a cylinder covered with iron spikes (similar to a large musical box), which catch and pull down wire rods attached to the clappers at the side of the bells. The following are the inscriptions on the bells :—

Treble bell.—Fusum, 1867, Warner & Son.

2nd.—Do. do.

3rd.—Do. do.

4th.—Do. do.

5th.—Refusum A.D. 1604. Denuo Refusum A.D. 1827. Operante L. Rudhall.

I sweetly toling men do call. To taste on meats that Feeds the Soole.

6th.—Nos sumus Constructe ad Laudem Domini 1606. Decanus et Capitulum Cestrie me Fecerunt Anno Dni 1606.

7th.—Fusum 1867, Warner & Son.

8th (Tenor bell).—Refusum A.D. 1867. Opera J. Warner et Fil London. Benevolentia Decani Anson.

9th.—Gloria in Excelsis Deo. 1626.

Weight of tenor bell 35cwt.; diameter 4ft. 10½in.; height to the crown 3ft. 6in.

[327] MARRIAGE REGISTERS OF ST. OSWALD'S, CHESTER.

1624.

Mr. Thomas Willmson Scholmaster and Jane Denson, April 23

John Washingtonne of Tarvyn Pishe and Eilyn Skelleton (?) of this parish, May 6

William Murrey and Elizabeth Jenkyn, Aug. 1

Hugh Shawe and Jane Turner, Aug. 9
 Edward Roberts and Anne Hees, Aug. 23
 Mr. Owen Winne and Mrs. Grace Williams,
 Aug. 25
 Alexander Danson (?) and Prudence Hunt, Sept. 6
 Richard M'docke (?) and Anne Holland, Sept. 20
 Bryan Crosse and Jane Anglesyr, Oct. 18
 Robert Skellitonne and Elizabeth Price, Oct. 19
 William Richardson and Jane Roberts, Nov. 21
 Richard Williams and Alles Shookledge, Dec. 4
 William Nicholl and Ellen Seywell, Dec. 6
 Thomas Schrickley (?) and Elizabeth Sale, Dec. 19
 Raphe Ashton and Katheryn Robynson, Feb. 15
 Charles Faringtonne and Margaret Sale, Feb. 28
 William Walshman and Elizabeth Madson, Feb. 28
 William Hasselhurst and Katheryn Pew, Mar. 1

NOVEMBER 23, 1898.

NOTES.

[328] A JOURNEY FROM DUBLIN TO CHESTER 107 YEARS AGO.

The following is taken from the *Nineteenth Century* for the month of May of the present year. The extract is from the diary of a young lady named *Jane Hester Reilly*, about the age of seventeen. Her father, John Reilly, was a member of the Irish Parliament for Blessington at the time of the Union. She travelled with her mother, an English lady, from Dublin to London, by Parkgate. The diary is said to be punctuated just as the young lady had written it. She little thought that after one hundred and seven years had passed away her work would appear in a leading review, and that it would further interest many readers of the *Cheshire Sheaf*. The description of the voyage is both interesting and humorous. Many of the passengers were disciples of George Fox, who had an aversion to gambling. The young lady's mother was fond of a game of whist. The game, however, aroused the ire of a little Quaker, who had retired to his berth; which he left in his 'red night cap' to confront the gaming table, and effectively put an end to the game by preaching a homily on the sin. Again we have a graphic picture of the landing at Parkgate. The bustle at the Custom House is intensified by the landing of two packets. The chaises on the beach are waiting to convey passengers to the inn. We have further a sad scene of a ship on fire sailing into the bay; and in addition to the landing of private conveyances, the 'Chester Stage,' ready to convey passengers to the city.

GEORGE GLEAVE.

THE DIARY.

Friday, May 6th, 1791. At ten at night, came down to the Packet House. We set off in a little open boat down the river and found it very pleasant, being a fine warm night, went down into the cabin, when we got on board the ship and mother played cards. We got under way at two o'clock past midnight, and then went to bed and were not the least sick, but were kept awake all night by a drunken passenger.

Saturday. We got up at nine, went on deck and saw the Wicklow Mountains faintly on one side and Holyhead on the other. We spent the day very pleasantly on deck, eat heartily, Mr. Benson played the flute, we passed many ships in the course of the day and towards evening the *Queen* passed pretty close. We saluted her with one gun and hoisted our Irish colours; about the same time we were so near Holyhead as to enable me to take a slight sketch of the coast which is rocky with blue mountains appearing behind; a little later we had a fine view of the Skerry Islands with the light house on top of them; all the Welsh coast we passed that evening is bold and rocky, but not a tree to be seen. We went down into the cabin after sunset. Part of the passengers went to bed. Mother and some gentlemen whom we had got acquainted with sat down to whist, and others looked on, I began to net, a little odd figure of a Quaker in a red night cap got out of his berth and came over to the table where we sat and began to preach against gambling in general but particularly when we were in danger of going to the bottom. Mother prevailed on the gentlemen to leave off, and we sat down to supper; our party at table consisted of Mr. Dawson Mr. Benson a good sort of civil young man Mr. Evans an elderly man whom mother had once known, a rough good sort of quizz his son, his father said he was agreeable going to the Temple, Dr. Thomas a good humoured fat person with very laughing eyes, Mrs. Collier a short broad woman with a cross countenance but something in her manner which indicates a better heart than you would at first suppose and rather agreeable, a bouncing female Quaker who was very lively and pleasant and Mr. Galbraith a young gentleman who wore a short blue jacket over a long grey coat, there were besides in a berth just by us Mrs. Thomas wife of the parson, an ugly quiet little woman too sick to eat. In another berth was a Miss Hoar a tall handsome English woman who luckily for her fellow passengers was very sick, as we found the next morning she would have talked us all to death; there were many other passengers particularly Quakers; at ten o'clock we had finished our supper and part of us went on deck; there was rather a better gale than we had before, the moon was just setting and was a most beautiful sight; the Captain told us we were just crossing Beaumaris bay; we did not stay long on deck but came down and went to bed at twelve o'clock; the ship was so quiet there was not a voice to be heard.

Sunday 8th. I awoke at four o'clock and heard good smart breeze; it was a little lowered at five and finding I could not sleep and wishing to see the Welsh coast I got mother to get up and went on deck; the sun was not long risen we were near the coast which had altered its appearance much since we saw it the preceding evening. It was more cultivated but still bold; we were told we had got on a good way in the night and had passed the Bar of Chester; Mother and I got into the carriage and while we were there a small merchantman passed us so close as to be near breaking it. Some of our ropes got entangled with it but we were soon disengaged; about eight o'clock while we were at breakfast it became quite calm and we waited for the tide to carry us down the River Dee to Parkgate. At this time we had the coast of Wales on the right which had not changed its appearance that morning but continued a steep shore much wooded and here and there some houses; on the left we had sandbanks; at a distance the coast of Lancaster; when we got into the river it was much nearer but not a pleasing object as it seemed to consist of steep banks of barren sand; we were here shown the mast of a ship which had been wrecked in the late storms coming out of Liverpool; it continued fine and we were carried by the tide at a very pleasant rate down the river; we passed a large Dutch vessel. After sailing close enough to the coast of Lancaster to see some fine houses we arrived about ten o'clock at Parkgate but the tide not being quite in we could not get close to the shore, but went some part of the way in a small boat and were carried by the men the rest of the way. We found chaises on the beach to take us to the Inn where we dressed as soon as we could get the luggage from the Custom-house; our fellow passengers soon dispersed; some of our friends went on in the stage to Chester. While we were dressing there came a merchantman into the harbour (I suppose the one we had passed in the morning as it was coming slowly the same way as we were) on fire and the whole time we were there they were striving to save the cargo and sink her. Just as we were setting off from Parkgate the *King* arrived in the harbour. It had left Dublin twelve hours later than the *Prince of Wales* in which we sailed but had more of the breeze which blew up in the evening than us. Mr. Montgomery and his sisters were in it and Mr. and Mrs. Pomeroy. We set out for Chester at two o'clock with excellent horses and saw some coal mines at a distance and passed through Neston a neat little village. The country from Parkgate is flat and not remarkably planted but the neatness of the houses pleased me, the frightful wooden ones also surprised me much at first as they are striped and figured in a most ridiculous manner. The road is narrow and bad; towards Chester it grew broader but was very bad still. Chester appears a fine old town as you drive

into it. We dined at the White Lion Inn with some of our sea friends; it is a very good one and the man who keeps it is remarkable for his fine carriages; we saw many quite elegant. After dinner we walked to King-street to Mr. Gray's. We supped at nine which appeared odd to me, but I was very glad to get to bed as I was very much tired and more giddy with the sea than I was when on it.

Monday—After breakfast Mrs. Gray took us out in her chaise to see the town. We went first to the Castle where we met Mr. G. and got out of the carriage; here we were first shown the model of a new jail that is to be built after the plan of Howard's; there is a great deal of it done which we saw from the room in which the model was; it will be most magnificent. We next walked to the inner Castle yard, which is a fine fortification very high and looks down on the river Dee and has a fine prospect. We here saw the convicts who were working at the new jail all dressed in yellow jackets and hats with chains on their legs. We then got into the chaise and drove to the East Gate, which is an extremely fine arch. We here got upon the walls which encircle the town and are broad enough for two people to walk abreast on them. There is on one side of them a small parapet wall and on the other a slight paling and we walked along them for some way; though it is the public promenade for all the beaux and belles in Chester, it is by no means pretty, only one peep at the Dee and its banks; there are here and there little watch towers which are now converted into resting places for the Masters and Misses of the town to flirt in; they were once used for a very different purpose. We next walked in the Rows which are piazzas under which you may walk all through the town with shops on either side, they are like every thing else in Chester very old; we next went to the Cathedral which is Gothic and very old but in tolerable repair; what entertained me most were some little figures round the Bishop's throne, whose heads we were told had been cut off by Oliver Cromwell, but were found some years since and put on again. There is a fine tapestry altar piece of St. Paul. We then drove into the court of the Bishop's Palace where there was nothing remarkable but the gate into it, a fine old Gothic arch. Mrs. G. took mother and me out in the evening to see the Linen Hall which is thought a good one. She then took us to where we could have a good view of the race course, which is small but prettily circumstanced. There is near it another fine new arch under the walls. When we came home I was so sick I was obliged to go to bed.

Tuesday 10—Left Chester at nine o'clock Mr. Dawson riding with us; he had been so good as to wait to conduct us part of the way. As we left the town we had a fine view of it as it stands on the banks of the Dee. We found the roads bad but were recompensed by a fine cultivated country, a good deal of planting and a fine

view of Besan Castle; it stands on the top of a very high steep mount which raises its head beyond the near trees, which together with some more blue distant mountains would make a good picture. It changes its appearance often as you go along and is in all points of view beautiful. We also passed a neat little village with a beautiful church, it is called Acton. We came next to Tarporley a neat village where we changed horses, but did not alight. The road from Tarporley to Nantwich (our next stage) is better than the others and lies through a cultivated country, but there is not much variety. We did not lose sight of Besan Castle till we had passed Tarporley some time. Nantwich is an old town chiefly built of wood, we did not get out there either."

REPLIES.

[329] INSCRIPTION ON THE FONT IN WARBURTON CHURCH.

(See Nos. 138, 144 and 182.)

With reference to Boileau's enquiry as to the meaning of the inscription, "William Drinkwater the Keeper, 1695," on the font, I am glad to be able to tender a reasonable explanation, especially after my own laboured attempts in No. 144.

By the courtesy of the Rev. G. Egerton-Warburton, Rector of Warburton, I am enabled to append the following extracts from the church register, which clearly shew that 'the Keeper' simply meant the park or game keeper. The office seems to have been hereditary in the family of Drinkwater for some time. Mr. Egerton-Warburton tells me that there are several other instances in the Register where the designation 'The Keeper' occurs, and adds "The Keeper would probably be for the Warburton estate of the Warburtons of Arley. The date the inscription is 1603" not 1595. The extracts are as follows:—

Richard son of Richard Drinkwater the keeper buried April 21 1654.

Arnold son of Richard Drinkwater the keeper born July 5 1656; baptized July 30th 1656; buried Dec. 15th 1656.

William Hey keeper buried May 10 1638.

Thomas Rowlinson the keeper buried July 10 1666.

Yours,

WM. FERGUSON IRVINE.

Birkenhead.

[330] THE MAYOR OF CHESTER IN 1643-4.

(See No. 315.)

The answer to C.M.F.'s questions will be found in a paper by the late Mr. Earwaker on the Holme family (*Chester Arch. and Hist. Soc.*, iv., 129), where it is shewn that Randle Holme, jun., was Mayor in the year 1643-4, and the date of the siege is given as "September, 1645, to February, 1646." The date "January 31, 1644," in the old style then used, corresponds to January 31, 1645, in the new style.

J. B.

[331] MARRIAGE REGISTERS OF ST. OSWALD'S, CHESTER.

1625.

Thomas Hevell and Grace Brookes, April 18
Antony Taylier and Margaret Symar, April 20
John Glukeruth (?) and Jane Lawton, May 9
Roger Phillipps and Jane Davye, May 15
Peter Martyn and Jane Quayntrye, May 16
Thomas Grymes and Katheryn Heath, May 26
Thomas Hughson and Moode Daggett, June 7
Richard Jacksonne and Anne Boulton, June 7
Robert Owsenworth and Ellen Crosten, Jan. 18
Richard Davies and Elizabeth Hatwode, Jan. 29
William Ellis and Jane Cooke, Jan. 29
John Pryce and Margaret Fyndley, Feb. 20

NOVEMBER 30, 1898.

NOTES.

[331A] BIRKENHEAD PRIORY.

(Continued from No. 286.)

We may now turn to the consideration of some of the minor remains, and try to elicit from them some traces of the lost history of the Priory.

First comes the Font, of which we have three fragments of the bowl. It is of Norman date, and somewhat rudely ornamented with concentric semicircles. The presence of this font demands explanation. It was not the usual custom of the Benedictines to seek very secluded sites for their monasteries, nor was it customary in monastic churches without parochial duty to provide a font, yet the font found here is coeval with the original foundation, and leads to the conclusion that in this district, afterwards found almost uninhabited, there was originally a lay population of whose existence we have no other trace. Tranmere, the nearest village, is one of great antiquity, but was then included in the parish of Bebington, of which the Monastery of St. Werburgh's, at Chester, held the advowson. Moreover, the monks had there only rights of pasture and common. Bidston had an earlier Church of its

own, as had also Wallasey. Hence we can only gather from this broken font that Birkenhead had at its foundation a population of greater extent than it had at a later period.

Another feature pointing to the same conclusion is that among the very numerous grave slabs that have been found, there were several bearing the figure of a sword, and one or more figured with a pair of shears, shewing that knights, who of course were laymen, and women had received sepulture within the precincts. These provisions can hardly have been made for the wayfarers who used the ferry, which is not recorded to have been held by the Priory till 1285. This subject of the population and social condition of Birkenhead in the middle ages, at present a closed book, seems to be worthy of further research.

The periods of the re-building and extension of the Priory are also to be gathered only from its remains. The portion left to us of the Norman buildings are good and massive, but are singularly devoid of any ornamental detail. They are simplicity itself in style, although at the date of their erection the Norman fashion elsewhere was already entering the more ornate and elaborate Transition period to the Early English. The presence of Norman mason-marks *in situ* on this work forbids us to suppose that it has, at a later date, had its ornament pared down and cut away. It may, therefore, be assumed that the Priory was not at this period rich.

From 1285 to 1322 the grants and regulations for the Ferry were made, and coincident with these years, we find the costly and beautiful re-building of the church and lady chapel, and nearly all the other Priory buildings. In 1277 came the royal visit of Edward I.; and it seems fair to assume that during and subsequent to the Welsh wars, and at the time when the royal wagons of Edward III. were kept at the Priory, the revenues were increased by the Monks' prosperity. The complaints made by them that they were troubled by the numerous travellers, who in their turn complained of their bad entertainment by the Monks, and the consequent building of separate houses of accommodation seem to tell the same tale. And we may fairly infer that the great building operations and the richness of the work then made, mark the years of prosperity and the devotion of their funds to these works.

A further remark may be made as to the quality of the building, and the various conditions in which it is found. In some of the

work the walls are laid with fairly good mortar, while in others, chiefly in the later additions, not only is the mortar poor, but the joists and beds, instead of being finished, were filled up with sand, earth, and broken stone. So much was this the case that some parts have required entire reconstruction with the original stones in the repairs made by the Corporation, as much of the building was ready to fall to pieces. This curious variation, which is also found in Chester Cathedral and other ancient buildings in Cheshire, may be due to the scarcity of lime during the troubles in Wales. The nearest limestone, except that of Wales, is found in Derbyshire, and the condition of ancient roads made its introduction costly. Along the shores of the Dee and Mersey are many traces of lime burning, and old kilns still exist in places remote from the supply of limestone. These shew that it was the custom to collect and burn sea shells, thus proving that stone lime had anciently been difficult to obtain. A further proof of these conditions may be found in the Edwardian Castles of Wales. Flint was first built, and the mortar is poor; the later castles, when the interior of the country was reached, contain a superfluity of mortar and lime.

The grave slabs, bearing for the most part incised crosses, have been spoken of, but there is, with a single exception, no trace that any of them has ever borne an inscription. Hence we are unable to find the names of those they were intended to commemorate. The inscribed stone is that of Prior Rainford.

(To be Continued.)

ORIGINAL DOCUMENTS.

[332] ADMISSIONS TO ST. JOHN'S COLLEGE, CAMBRIDGE; PART II. (1665-1715).

(Continued from No. 300.)

- p. 196 Charles Aldcroft b. at Knutsford, s. of Charles A., gent.; ed. at Manchester; adm. sizar Dec. 17, 1709, a. 24.
42. John Alport, of Overton, s. of Rd. A., gent., deod.; ed. under Mr. Brankar; adm. fellow-commoner, June 28, 1672, a. 16.
65. Robert Alport [bro. of above]; ed. at Newport, Salop; adm. pensioner Sept. 3, 1677, a. 18; fellow-commoner July 23, 1679.
4. Samuel Alsager, of Hassall [Sandbach], s. of Ralph A., deod.; ed. at Bartholmley; adm. sizar May 21, 1666, a. 19; pensioner June 19, 1667.

97. Thomas *Aston*, b. at Madeley, Staffs., s. of Willoughby As, Bart.; ed. at Weston [near Nantwich]; adm. fellow-commoner. May 12, 1684, a. 18. [Thomas Aston succo to baronetcy Dec. 1702; died Jan. 16. 1724.]
104. John *Aston* [bro. of above], at Madeley, ed. at Weston; adm. pensioner Feb. 3, 1685-6, a. 17.
154. John *Bassnet*, b. at Weaverham, s. of John B, husbandman; ed. at Chester; adm. sizar, June 22, 1700, a. 17.
7. Thomas *Beely*, of Stockport, s. of William B., gent.; ed. at Manchester; adm. pensioner Apl. 11, 1667, a. 17.
180. John *Beresford*, of Derbyshire, b. at Stockport, s. of John B, esq., of Ashbourne; ed. at Ashbourne; adm. pensioner May 27, 1706, a. 17.
184. Francis *Beresford*, b. at Stockport [brother of above]; adm. pensioner May 26, 1707, a. 17.
71. Ralph *Bowker* b. at Caton, Lancs., s. of James B., clerk, of Marple; ed. at Stockport; adm. sizar June 27, 1678, a. 17.
116. Christopher *Bridge*, "Cestrensis, b. at Tillington [Tillingham], Essex, s. of Robert B., clerk; ed. at Chester; adm. sizar June 4, 1689, a. 17.
169. William *Briscall*, b. at Tarporley, s. of Michael B., clerk; ed. at Manchester; adm. sizar June 30, 1701, a. 20.
82. James *Bromfield*, b. at Somerford Booths, s. of Thomas B., yeoman, ed. at Congleton; adm. pensioner May 20, 1681, a. 20.
125. Thomas *Brooke*, b. at Chester, s. of Henry B., esq.; ed. at Chester; ad. pensioner March 21, 1691-2, a. 17.
137. Philip *Brooke* [bro. of above], b. at Chester; ed. at Manchester; adm. pensioner Oct. 26, 1695, a. 16. [afterwards fellow.]
190. William *Broome*, b. at Haslington, s. of Randolph B., husbandman; ed. at Eton; adm. sizar July 3, 1708, a. 16.
[See Bartlow Worthington *Historical Collector* ii, 65.]
7. John *Bunnel*, of Tarvin, s. of John B., husbandman; ed. at Chester; admin. pensioner Meh. 13, 1666-7, a. 18.
- *2. James *Burroughs*, of Cholmondeley, s. of James B., yeoman; ed. at Bunbury; adm. pensioner June 27, 1672, a. 21.
123. Thomas *Burroughs*, b. at Chester, s. of John B., merchant; ed. privately; adm. pensioner June 2, 1691, a. 16.
29. Hugh *Burscoe*, of Nantwich, s. of George B., yeoman; ed. at Nantwich; adm. sizar June 13, 1670, a. 19.
148. Thomas *Cartwright*, b. at Ripon, s. of Thomas C., bishop of Chester dead; ed. at Sedburgh; adm. sizar June 22, 1698, a. 18.
[The father was made Dean of Ripon in 1675.]
160. Charles *Cholmondeley*, b. at Vale Royal, s of Thomas C., esq.; ed. at home there; adm. fellow-commoner Oct. 13, 1701, a. 16. [Ancestor of Lord Delamere.]
43. John *Dalton*, of Eastham, s. of John D., yeoman; ed. at Chester; adm. sizar March 4, 1672-3, a. nearly 18.
17. Francis *Davenport*, co. Cheshire, s. of Edward D., physician; ed. at Manchester; adm. pensioner July 14, 1668, a. 17.
116. Humphrey *Davenport*, b. at Bramhall, s. of William D., gent.; ed. at Stockport; adm. pensioner June 17, 1689, a. 19.
132. Humphrey *Davenport*, b. at Stockport, s. of Edward D., gent.; ed. at Manchester; adm. pensioner Jan. 29, 1693-4, a. 17.
42. Thomas *Dawson*, of Farndon, s. of John D, yeoman; ed. at Wrexham; adm. sizar June 28, 1672, a. 18.
173. William *Dod*, b. at Malpas, s. of William D, clerk; ed. at Madeley (Mr. Brancker); adm. pensioner Meh. 22, 1704-5, a. 18, [Buried at Malpas Jan. 16, 1739, s.p.]
218. Henry *Eaton*, b. in Cheshire, s. of Henry E.; ed. at Northwich; adm. sizar May 16, 1715, a. 18.
106. Leonard *Egerton*, b. at Boughton, s. of Peter E., esq.; ed. at Manchester; adm. pensioner Apr. 22, 1686, a. 17.
78. Samuel *Gally*, b. at "Birtson (?)", Cheshire" s. of Richard G., husbandman; ed. at Wrexham; adm. sizar May 31, 1680, a. 19.
76. John *Grasty*, b. at Wistaston, s. of Samuel G., rector of Brougham, Westmorland; ed. at Appleby; adm. sizar Feb. 5. 1679-80, a. 19.
114. Henry *Greenhalgh*, b. at Chester, s. of Thomas G., esq.; ed. at Stockport; adm. pensioner Oct. 19, 1688, a. 17.
114. Orlando *Greenhalgh* [brother of above], a. 14.
93. William *Hale*, b. at Ince, s. of John H., husbandman; ed. privately at Weston; adm. sizar May 30, 1683, a. 20.
4. John *Hancock*, of Belton [nr. Whitechurch], s. of John H., dead; ed. at Bartholmley; adm. pensioner May 21, 1666, a. 17; fellow-commoner June 24, 1670.
122. John *Hancock*, b. at Chester, s. of John H., clerk (D.D.); ed. by his father; adm. pensioner June 2, 1691, a. 17.
123. Thomas *Hancock*, b. at Astbury [brother of above]; a. 16.
163. Ralph *Hancock*, b. at Chester [brother of above]; adm. sizar June 30, 1702, a. 16.
163. William *Hancock*, b. at Chester [brother of above]; a. 14.
178. Pusey *Hancock*, b. in London [brother of above]; ed. at the Charterhouse; adm. pensioner Meh. 19, 1705-6, a. 16.
74. William *Handforth*, b. at Newton, son of William H.; ed. at Stockport; adm. sizar June 17, 1679, a. 19.

75. John Handforth, b. in Cheshire, s. of Robert H., husbandman; ed. at Stockport; adm. sizar Sept. 15, 1679, a 16.

181. John Hiccock, b. at Wervin, s. of John H., husbandman; ed. at Trafford; adm. sizar Aug. 22, 1706, a. 18.

75. Edward Holland, b. at Malpas, s. of William H., clerk; ed. at Chester; adm. fellow-commoner June 27, 1679, a. 17.

(To be continued.)

[333]

COTTON LETTERS.

(Combermere MSS.)

(Continued from No. 822.)

[Sir Robt. Cotton to Thomas Cotton, Esq.]

Octobr 12 : 1708.

Dear Son,

I have yours of ye 9th & others enclosed, & am Content to leave it to you to Compound for ye Herriotts with ye widdow Smith, tho' I do not well understand wt yo wroite of a bill: but he was much in falt to leave Croxtons out of ye rental & Hugh Owen reed ye rent I doubt for many years. What has he left his eldest son? his mother brought him a portion, & was bred from a Girl with my wife—a very good young woman. I hint these things to yo, leaveing you to settle all with reason & equitie, see far as I am concerned.

I am very well satisfied of Mr. Brereton, his stating things some time to ye worst, enables us and sometimes him to answer ye most materiall objections against us. I search'd ye offices to find whether King Charles ye Second made any grant to Mr. Starkey's Grandfather of any Royalty in Wrenbury, or indeed of anything there, as this Mr. Starkey told Mr. Brereton yt [that] he had done, but there is no such thing to be found in yt office where any such things are entered, & for Lord Cholmondeleys grant, it is but a Lease and enter'd in a nother office, but not knowing in wt raigne to search for it, did not think it worth my trouble & charge to search for it, not doubting but he has a grant.

But I am still of oppinion Mr. Starkey has none You would have done well to have lett me known as neere as you can ye time of erecting these 8 Cottages, by whose authority erected. I do not remember yt [that] I ever hard [heard] of more then two, & those both by order of session. I find by severall printed Copies of ye generall Survey of England, commonly call'd doomesday book that Willelmus de Malbedeng held Wareneberie from Earle Hugh, this Will was ancestor to ye Barons of Namptwich, & Wareneberie is generally understood for Wrenbury. ye first mention I find of Newhall is in Dugdale Baronage of England page 746, where he says yt Bandle Earle of Chester and Lincolne, ye greatest subject of England in his time granted ye Lordship of Newhall to Henry de Aldetheley or Audley, whose descendants long enjoyed ye same, this was granted about ye end of ye Raigne of K. John or

begining of Henry ye 3d for H: ye 3d raigned above 40 years after ye death of ye last Bandle Earle of Chester. now according to ye observations of ye antiqueries of those times those towns which are not named in domesday booke, and have since had names, weare look'd upon as waste then, but have been since enclosed. See that tho' ye Lands in Wrenbury wear enclosed, those in Newhall Lay open together till ye Copy holds weare parted & a way leftopen between them. this I think fitting to offer to yor & Mr. Brereton's Considerations & leave ye managment to your direction. I desire you to write to Mr. Lloyd about sending my two young mares in time.

Ye Chine of beef was as good as ever I eate [ate].

pray thank my Daughter for all ye good things, my prayers for you all with Bobb & Catties Duty & service ends this.

from your affectionate ffather

ROBT. COTTON.

Mr. Offley came well to town last night. ye roads never better.

(To be continued.)

[334] MARRIAGE REGISTERS OF ST. OSWALD'S, CHESTER.

1626.

William Robynson and Ellen Hawsteth, April 11
Thomas Grymedich and Mary Boultonne, April 23
Christopher Dannett and Elizabeth Massye, May 19
William Gaskyn (?) and Elizabeth Halliwell, May 21
Hugh Price and Margery Symcocks, July 9
Nicholas Browne and Mary Ploume, Aug. 6
William Boswell and Jane Johnson, Sept. 7
Brian Crossen and Jane Anglisher, Oct. 18
Thomas Wittle and Mary Hollmes, Oct. 30
Thomas Davies and Jane Madooke, Nov. 4
Reece Peeres and Jane Warten, Nov. 26
William Partrich and Elizabeth Gorten (?), Nov. 27
John Sellers and Marie Ambrose, Dec. 26
Hugh Ellise and Maud Finchett, Jan. 6
Robert Marler, of Manchester, and Anne Hall, Jan. 24
Robt. Burges and Elizabeth Hollinshed, of Budworth, March 6

DECEMBER 7, 1898.

NOTES.

[335] BIRKENHEAD PRIORY.

(Continued from No. 831.)

The earliest stone found formed part of the pavement outside the Prior's Hall. It was recovered and proved to be a large coped Norman stone tapering towards the foot. After the dissolution, it had been moved from the church, and used to form the base of a screen of stone at the north end of the hall.

It was then deeply grooved in the form of a cross, not however to insert a cross, but to form sockets for mullions and tracery panels made from the spoils of the church. Pieces of the adapted moulded work were found in the grooves.

The third stone consisted of the springing of the arch of a canopy of a recessed tomb, with a crocketed hood mould of oak leaves and panelled side pinnacles of late second pointed date. It has evidently been a structure of beauty and importance; it lay loose below the earth of the refectory floor.

The pleas for the dissolution of the English monasteries were based upon charges of superstition and luxury. Among the minor finds at Birkenhead, we have some slight clue to the manner of living of its inmates that do not seem to justify the latter charge against them, although this priory was among the earliest dissolved. We have already seen that at a time when their revenues might be supposed to be increased, they spent in the thirteenth and fourteenth centuries large sums on rebuilding and adorning their Church. For their own meetings they retained the simple Norman House, but built over it the large Scriptorium for literary work. From the Church we have found many tiles of fine make incised with a beautiful vine pattern; but in the domestic buildings there is no indication that any of the floors were other than beaten earth, while the floor of the Crypt below the Refectory is the natural uneven rock. Thus they were not luxuriously lodged. The rules of the Benedictines were strict as to diet and clothing. Each monk was allowed one pound of bread daily, and a little wine, and they had in addition milk, eggs, fish, and two kinds of porridge. To the sick and weak only was flesh meat allowed. Doubtless many of the monasteries departed from their simple rules and adopted idle and sensual habits; not so at Birkenhead, if we may credit the suggestions of the traces of their domestic life. Among the ruins were found many fragments of green and brown glazed pottery. The greater part of these belonged to skimming dishes for milk, and other dairy ware. There were found no wine or beer cups of the period of their tenure. A barrel-shaped jar, adapted for covering, may possibly have served for honey, but no other luxurious appliance has come to light. On the other hand, the late Tudor age was a time of great and stately houses for secular display and enjoyment, and such Birkenhead became under

the Worsleys. In the hall were found many beer cups of ample capacity, having three or more handles for passing them round the jovial table. All these are of post Reformation date, and they seem to denote that if the monks offended by their luxury, their successors could not be charged with undue asceticism.

Other indications that the monks had not widely departed, within this house at least, from the strictness of their rule, remain to us. There are two large stone mortars of hard gritstone, used for the preparation of meal for porridge. From the fact that the larger of these was built up in a post-Reformation repair, we may infer that it remained in use till the dissolution, and was then cast aside as useless for the lay-grantees of the Priory. As the monks possessed mills, it may seem to us difficult to understand why they did not resort to them for their meal. The question opens the history of a very interesting survival of primeval custom, which these rude appliances serve to illustrate, relating to the preparation of meal for food. These rude mortars differ in no respect from those found associated with early Neolithic remains. There was lately exhibited at a meeting of the Chester Archaeological Society a rude stone mill for crushing grain taken from a tumulus at Penmaenmawr, associated with various remnants of stone hammers of early type, among which were no traces of metal or pottery. In the Hebrides similar rude crushers called "knocking stones" for the preparation of meal are still in use. Mills of similar character are found in the ruins of Hissarlik, and are represented in sculptures of the Fourth Dynasty in Egypt. Thus at Birkenhead, we have a surviving link in the chain of custom reaching from the earliest ages of civilisation to the present day.

(To be continued.)

ORIGINAL DOCUMENTS.

[336] ADMISSIONS TO ST. JOHN'S COLLEGE, CAMBRIDGE: PART II. (1665-1715.)

(Continued from No. 332.)

- 185. Robert Jones, b. at Ashton-on-Mersey, s. of Randal J., husbandman; ed. at Manchester; adm. sizar June 18, 1707, a. 19.
- 85. Thomas Kent, b. at Elton in Warrington, s. of Thomas K., yeoman; ed. at Audlem; adm. sizar Oct. 25, 1681, a. 20.
- 118. John Kirkes, b. at Chester, s. of John K., currier; ed. privately; adm. sizar Feb. 20, 1689-90, a. 18.

53. John Lawton, of Lawton, s. of William L., esqr.; ed. at Coventry; adm. fellow-commoner Feb. 27, 1674-5, a. 18.
134. John Leche, b. at Carden, s. of John L., gent.; ed. at Wrexham; adm. pensioner, Sept. 9, 1694, a. 19.
125. (Sir) Francis Leicester, bart.; b. at Tabley, s. of Sir Robert L., bart.; ed. at Eton; adm. fellow-commoner Apl. 6. 1692, a. 17. [Grandson of Sir Peter L., and ancestor of Lord de Tabley.]
173. James Leicester, b. at Hale Low [Bowdon], s. of George L., goldsmith; ed. at Madeley, adm. sizar March 17, 1704-5, a. 16.
4. Thomas Lovat of "Beckley, Cheshire" [? Betley, Staffs.], s. of Richard L.; ed. at Barthomley; adm. pensioner May 21, 1666, a. 18.
139. Samuel Lowe, b. at Hartford, s. of John L., gent.; ed. at Hartford; adm. pensioner June 20, 1696, a. 18. [Afterwards fellow.]
162. Robert Lowe, b. at Newton, s. of Samuel L., gent.; ed. at Audlem; adm. pensioner Apl. 17, 1702, a. 18.
26. Henry Malbon, of Coppenhall, s. of Henry M.; ed. at Chester; adm. sizar Mich. 26, 1670, a. 19.
33. Samuel Needham, of Marple, s. of James N., farmer; ed. at Stockport; adm. sizar May 6, 1671, a. 21.
129. Peter Needham, s. of Samuel N., clerk, of Stockport; ed. privately at Bradenham, Norfolk; adm. sizar Apl. 18, 1693, a. 12. [Afterwards fellow; rector of Stanwick; a noted author; d. Dec. 1731.]
53. Joseph Oulton, of Crewe, s. of Isaac O., yeoman; ed. at Barthomley; adm. sizar Feb. 27, 1674-5, a. nearly 17.
8. Hugh Poole, of "Bury, Cheshire," s. of Ralph P., decd.; ed. at Wrexham; adm. pensioner May 4, 1667, a. 17.
187. Hugh Poole, b. at Bedvin, s. of Hugh P., decd.; ed. at "Prescot, Cheshire"; adm. pensioner Apl. 9, 1708, a. 17; fellow-commoner Jan. 22, 1711-2. [Afterwards fellow.]
69. John Raven, b. at Audlem, s. of John R., "plebeii"; ed. at Audlem; adm. sizar May 20, 1678; a. 21.
39. Thomas Rawland, of Peckforton, s. of John R., farmer; ed. at Bunbury; adm. sizar Apl. 1672, a. 17.
202. John Robinson, b. at "Meirtown, Cheshire," s. of John R., husbandman; ed. at Westminster; adm. sizar Nov. 9, 1711, a. 21.
8. Matthew Sillitoe [or Shillitoe], of Church Lawton, s. of Randolph S., decd.; ed. at Broughton, Cheshire; adm. pensioner May 9, 1667, a. 19.
29. Abraham Smith, of Audlem, s. of Gabriel S., decd.; ed. at Audlem; adm. pensioner June 16, 1670, aged 17.
150. John Stones, b. at Bebington, s. of Richard S., clerk, decd.; ed. at Manchester; adm. sizar May 11, 1699, a. 18. [The Cheshire Antiquary; died Feb. 23, 1735-6.]
136. Thomas Swettenham, b. at "Hearily" [? Alderley], s. of Thomas S., gent.; ed. at Macclesfield; adm. pensioner Apl. 8, 1696, a. 17.
211. William Vavdrey, b. at Bowdon, s. of William V., clerk; ed. at Thornton; adm. sizar Nov. 7, 1713, a. 18.
163. Humfrey Walley, b. at Chester, s. of Humfrey W., shopkeeper; ed. at Chester; adm. sizar June 14, 1702, a. 17.
106. Hugh Warren, b. at Stockport, s. of John W., gent.; ed. at Stockport; adm. pensioner Apl. 17, 1686, a. 17.
124. Humfrey Warren, b. at Stockport, s. of Henry W., clerk; ed. at Westminster (Dr. Busby); adm. pensioner Aug. 6, 1691, a. 16.
74. Henry Wigley, b. at Warmingham, s. of Henry W., gent.; ed. at Audlem; adm. pensioner May 30, 1679, a. 17. [Afterwards fellow; rector of Eccleston; d. Apl. 27, 1701.]
135. Antony Wigley, b. at Warmingham, s. of Henry W., clerk, rector of Warmingham; ed. at Tattenhall; adm. pensioner Oct. 12, 1694, a. 17.
217. Edward Wigley, s. of Henry W., "clerici Leicestriensis," ed. at Chester; adm. pensioner Nov. 17, 1714, a. 16.
155. Edward Wright, b. at Stretton, s. of Edward W., gent.; ed. at Chester; adm. pensioner Oct. 24, 1700, a. 20.
158. John Wright, b. at Stretton [bro. of above]; ed. at Chester; adm. sizar June 16, 1701.

The following schools and teachers are mentioned:—

Audlem (Mr. Colton; Mr. Evans)
 Barthomley (Mr. Caudrey)
 Broughton (P)
 Bunbury (also mentioned in Part I.; Mr. Cole master about 1630)
 Chester (Mr. Liptrott; Mr. Harper; Mr. Newton; Mr. Henchman; also private schools, Mr. Butter, Mr. Goleborn, and Mr. Hancock)
 Congleton (Mr. Brisborn)
 Hartford (Mr. Harper)
 Macclesfield (Mr. John Ashworth; Mr. Dobson)
 Nantwich
 Northwich
 "Prescot, Cheshire" (Mr. Waring)
 Stockport (Mr. Combs; Mr. Needham; Mr. Dobson)
 Tattenhall (private, Mr. Newcomb)
 Thornton
 Trafford (Mr. Gibson)
 Weston (private, Mr. Liptrott)

The following are notes on Part I. of the Admissions (see Nos. 294 and 300).

John French was ejected in 1662 from Wenvoe, Glamorganshire, died Feb. 28, 1691.

Edward Manwaring was minister of Goostrey (Urwick's *Cheshire Nonconformity*, 196).

Richard Steele, ejected minister of Hanmer, published the *Husbandman's Calling*, &c. (Carter's *Hist. of Univ. of Cambridge*, 258; Calamy's *Account* ii., 708, 2nd edn., and *Continuation* ii., 835). He died Nov. 16, 1692, aged 64; and his funeral sermon was preached by Geo. Hamond.

[337]

COTTON LETTERS.

(Combermere MSS.)

(Continued from No. 333.)

[The following statement is undated; but in the MS. it immediately follows the *Particulars of Enquiry* already given.

The date of the settlement of the dispute between Thomas Cotton on behalf of Sir Robt. Cotton, and Thomas Starkey, Esq., was 26 Octr. 1708.]

The Case.

Sr Robt. Cotton is seized of a Copyhold Lrdship called ye Lordship of Newhall in ye County of Chester, part of which lyes in ye Township of Wrenbury cu[m] frith.

about 20 years agoe [1688] one John Pemberton was seized of a Copyhold Estate belonging to ye sd maier, [manor] and scituat in Wrenbury cu[m] frith, on ye one side of whose tenemt there is a Lane leads to Wrenbury Towne.

and ye sd John Pemberton inclosed a small parcell of Land, parcell of ye sd Lane wch lies near to ye sd tenemt.

at wch time one Mr. Starkey pretending to be Chief Lord of ye soil within ye sd Township of Wrenbury cu[m] frith sent to ye sd Pemberton to pay him a Cheife [rent] for ye sd inclosure, who there upon as 'tis sd paid him ls. 6d. pr ann.

Since yn. [then] the sd. tenemt. has been sold to one Colley who leases ye same to an under ten'nt one James Tomlinson, who by ye order of Sr. Robt. Cotton L'rd of ye sd. manner of Newhall has refused to pay ye sd. Chiefe rent.

thereupon ye heir of ye sd. Mr. Starkey threatens to sett ye inclosed ground to another ten't, who lives near to it,

Also ye heir of ye sd. Mr. Starkey about a month past [early in Aug: 1708] came & brought w'th him one Joseph Hall, who cut down an ash-tree growing on ye side intack or enclosed ground, and carried it away pretending he had a right so to do as being Lord of ye soile.

1. Note ye estate in Wrenbury cu frith descended to 3 Coheirs. ye sd Mr. Starkeys ancestors married ye Eldest Daughter as prtended, & Sr Robt. Cotton purchased all or most of ye lands from those who claim'd undr ye

two other daughters, & Mr. Starkey prtends because his ancestor married ye eldest daughter, who also had ye manner house; therefore ye Royalty belongs to him.

2d Note ye sd Mr. Starkey keeps no Courts, but all ye ten'ts in ye sd Township of Wrenbury cu[m] frith appears at ye Earl of Cholmondeleys Court, also ye sd Ld Cholmondeley claims a right to waifes Estrays &ct by virtue of a late grant from ye Crowne.

3d Note all ye freeholders claime a right and have time out of mind used to get sand & clay and make Brick & digg & flea [flay] ye wast ground without asking leave.

4th. Note there is Copyhold lands on both sides ye way where ye Intack or late enclosure has been made wch Copyhold lands belong to ye manner of Newhall.

Qu: 1st The intack & lane leading there by, being on both sides bounded with Copyhold lands lying in ye Lordship of Newhall tho' in ye township of Wrenbury cu frith, will not ye Intack & yt pt of ye lane so bounded be accounted parcell of ye Ldship of Newhall.

Qu: 2d. If ye Lane & intake should be found poell [parcell] of ye wast belonging to ye freehold lands of Wrenbury cu frith, yet if it appear yt ye freeholders have equal privileged wth Mr. Starkey will it not be supposed ye sd Mr. Starkey & ye freeholders are Joynt Charterers & yt ye Royalty as to ye soile is yet in ye Crowne.

Qu: 3d. If Mr. Starkey is only a Joynt Charterer wth ye other freeholders or ye sd Intack be taken poell [parcell] of ye Ldship of Newhall tho Mr. Starkey has of late years reed some rent fro[m] ye intackers or Cottagers, can Mr. Starkey Justifie outing down ye ash tree growing on ye sd Intack, if not, in either case by whom must ye acct [sic, (?) action] be brought, by Sr Robt. Cotton, by all ye freeholders, or by ye tent [tenant] in possession [possession].

[338] MARRIAGE REGISTER OF ST. OSWALD'S CHESTER.

1627.

James Badger and Ellen Fearnall, March 26

Willm Blundell and Elizabeth Barber, March 26

John ap Edward and Ellen Taylor, March 26

John Robinson of Burton and Margaret Gardner, March 28

John Whittle and Elizabeth Austine, both of Thornton pish, April 11

Henry Tylston and Anne Boydel, April 22

Richard Pullington and Elizabeth Roberts, April 29

Thomas Boare and Ellen Hooe, May 14

William Middleton and Thomasin Mouldsdale, June 12
 Thomas Harrison and Anne Jones, June 12
 William Rainshaw and Ellen Sherlook, of Saugh-ton, June 23
 Robt. Norburie of Budworth and Margerie Low of Wea'ham, June 23
 Thomas Homes and Ellen Hughes, June 27
 John Bell and Ales Warman of Whitechurch, July 2
 Thomas Linaker and Anne Keesle, July 10
 Richard Tasker and Ellen Cliffe, July 21
 Willm Eaton and Catherine Venables of Davenham pish, July 21
 Richard Davies and Margaret Davies, July 23
 Randie Modesley and Marie Allen, Aug. 12
 William Hickson and Ellen Lecker, Aug. 21
 Richard Monson and Ann Done of Tarvin Pariah, Sept. 9
 William Selabie and Elizabeth Lewes, Sept. 18
 William Palmer and Anne Perrie, Sept. 29
 John Pickeringe and Ellen Gilberte of Croughton, Sept. 29
 Hugh Richardson and Jane Hande, Oct. 18
 John Waringe and Elizabeth Norton, Oct. 27
 John Garrat and Marie Jenkine, Oct. 29
 John Tatton (?) and Anne Medowes, Nov. 13
 Richard Dod (?) and Elizabeth Sefton, Dec. 4
 Hugh Hough and Ales Harrison, Dec. 22
 Edward Urian and Isabell Ball, Dec. 27
 Thomas Maohill and Katherine Foxley, Jan. 7
 John Griffith and Margaret Davies, Jan. 31
 Thomas Davies and Margaret Hamnett, Feb. 16
 Robert Gregg of Warrington and Elizabeth Sotherne, Feb. 26
 William Kinge and Ann Low, March 23

DECEMBER 14, 1898.

NOTES.

[339] THE GHOST AT THURSTASTON HALL.

From time to time in the public press references appear on the subject of this mysterious visitant, and as the matter seems to be one of general interest, and at the same time to have a slightly antiquarian flavour, the Editors have been at some pains to procure information at first hand on the subject.

We are indebted for the following facts to a lady who is widely known and respected in the northern mediety of the Hundred of Wirral, and whose name, were we to give it, would carry the greatest weight with all our readers. The story, which was told to this lady some years ago by the artist concerned, is given as briefly as possible, and our informant can only add that she is entirely convinced of the entire good faith of the narrator. The facts are as follow:—

A well-known and successful portrait painter was staying at Thurstaston Hall some years ago, during the execution of a commission on which he was engaged, viz., the painting of the portrait of a member of the family then renting the Hall. He occupied the room which opens on to the stairs on the left-hand side as one ascends the topmost flight, and which is said to be over what was once a refectory. The artist slept in this room for some time without being disturbed, until very early one morning he heard the door open, and on lifting his head to see the cause, espied an old woman wringing her hands in evident distress. She came forward and stood at the foot of his curtained four-post bed without speaking, and though he addressed a remark to her, saying something to the effect that she seemed to be in great trouble, and asking if he could do anything for her, she passed round to the other side of the room, pulled a bell-rope, and vanished.

The artist several times afterwards had the same experience, and although he felt it to be supernatural, he became so used to it as to lose all sense of fear; and on one occasion made a rough sketch of the apparition, which he completed afterwards: a copy of this he gave to the lady from whom this information comes.

Some time after this a gentleman, acquainted with the details of this story, was staying with some people in another part of England, whose ancestors had once occupied Thurstaston Hall, and he recognised immediately that one of their family portraits was identical with the sketch of the apparition made by the artist. It then transpired that, according to a family tradition, the subject of the portrait was supposed to haunt Thurstaston Hall. When these facts were related to the artist, he solemnly declared that he had previously neither heard of the family nor of the legend connected with it, and had, of course, never seen the portrait in question.

Such is the story, and it is told in the hopes that some more facts may be elicited that may tend to throw some light on this rather obscure question. THE EDITORS.

NOTES.

[340]

BIRKENHEAD PRIORY.

(Continued from No. 335.)

During the repairs a very interesting piece of evidence was found that indicated that the discipline of the Monks was strict. This con-

sisted of two pierced stones which formed part of the stair turret. From a recess adjoining one of these small holes, the watcher was able to see each Monk entering the Refectory. The second, pierced with a double hole, enabled their conduct at table to be seen; it also gives an indication that the tables were placed as usual on each side of the hall; but the Prior's table at the head could not be overlooked by the inspector. These stones are reset in their proper places.

There is some proof that the duty of almsgiving was not overlooked by the Monks of Birkenhead. There was an early Almonry window just at the north of the door of the Prior's house; but this seems to have been an inconvenient site, and there has been a later opening for this purpose cut through the wall of the south end of the Prior's house. The window is skewed towards the east, for the purpose of facilitating the handing out of the doles with the right hand, and below it an older fireplace existed, which was partly blocked up and formed a recessed shelf for the doles. Just outside this was dug up a Nürnberg token, which was a ticket entitling the bearer to relief, but was not a coin. Near the same place was found a gold noble of Edward III. in very perfect and fresh condition. Slight traces of a low timber building exist external to the Almonry, which may have been a shelter for the applicants for relief. The apparent date of the token is late, therefore the duty of almsgiving had not fallen into disuse.

There is in the condition of the building, and in the nature of the ancient repairs, that it has undergone room for inquiry and speculation as to the reasons for certain re-buildings. For instance, the details of the Prior's Hall are middle 13th century in style, and very good work, but they have been used in a re-building which appears to have been effected within fifty or sixty years of the previous erection, and the later work was carelessly and badly put together. The larger crypt groining had parted from its south wall along its whole length for several inches, yet its foundations are on solid rock, and the vaulting is not otherwise dislocated, being good work. The question arises as to what kind of catastrophe happened to require such re-buildings, and to cause such a peculiar injury to the crypt.

Another puzzle is the inscription over the west door of the Prior's house; it is in large Roman letters apparently of Tudor date, and runs thus I Q V I T Y.

To both of these questions I have suggested solutions, but lest they should appear fanciful and not of sufficient authority, I leave them as open questions for the readers of the *Cheshire Sheaf*, and invite explanations. I do this because I think the inscription was intended for a riddle for the sympathetic to unravel.

E. W. Cox.

[341] ADMISSIONS TO ST. JOHN'S COLLEGE,
CAMBRIDGE.

(See No. 336.)

The names of Hugh Poole of *Bury* Cheshire, son of Ralph Poole, admitted May, 1667, aged 17, and Hugh Poole, of *Bedvin*, son of Hugh Poole deceased, admitted April, 1708, aged 17, both appear in the list. If these may be taken as samples of the accuracy of the list, they sorely detract from its value. *Bury* and *Bedvin* are both meant apparently for *Bebington*. The first Hugh Poole was son of the Rev. Ralph Poole, Rector of *Bebington*, 1647—1662, and his baptism occurs in the Register (recently edited by Mr. Sanders and Mr. Irvine) on the 18th September, 1649. He was subsequently Rector of the parish from 1687 to 1708.

The second Hugh Poole was a son of the last mentioned Hugh, and was baptised at *Bebington*, August 26, 1691. He was also Rector of the Parish (1716-39).—Yours, M. H. S.
Liverpool.

[342] JOHN STONES, THE CHESHIRE
ANTIQUARY.

In the interesting list of admissions to St. John's College, Cambridge, printed in "The Sheaf," No. 336, occurs the following:—

"John Stones, b. at *Bebington*, s. of Richard Stones, clerk, decd.; educated at Manchester. Admitted sizar May 11, 1699, aged 18. [The *Cheshire Antiquary*; died Feb. 23, 1735-6.]"

As Stones was an antiquary of some distinction during the early part of the last century, the following notes may interest your readers:—

The Church Register at *Bebington* gives the following entry of his Baptism under date 1680-1:—"Johannes filius Richardi Stones, hujus Ecclesiae, Rectoris, Feb. 10." The Rev. Richard Stones, father of "The Antiquary," was Rector of *Bebington* from 1662 until his death in 1688. His mother was Amicia Dobson, apparently from *Liverpool*, who in 1648 married, at *Bebington*, the Rev. Ralph Poole, Rector of the Parish, and on his death in 1661 she married the Rev. Richard Stones, at *Bebington*, 9 June 1663, as her second husband.

The Rev. John Stones was presented to the Rectory of Coddington in 1710, and held this together with an appointment at Chester Cathedral, until his death in 1736.

Ormerod in his notice of Coddington writes. "John Stones, M.A., was a minor canon and sacrist of Chester Cathedral, and a laborious antiquary, although his merits are somewhat overrated by Dr. Gower, who places him 'at the head' of those of his own 'age and century,' which gives him a very undue preference to Dr. Cowper, of Overleigh, and Dr. Williamson. The collections of Mr. Stones are chiefly contained in two small quarto volumes, in the custody of the Dean and Chapter of Chester. A third volume (a large folio) was bequeathed by him to the rector of Coddington for the time being with a charge written in the volume, that if it should fall into other hands, the persons obtaining it would restore it, as they expect justice in this world, or mercy in another. After this tremendous anathema, it is somewhat singular that the following leaves should almost exclusively be blank paper. The contents of the quarto volume are chiefly transcripts from the Harl. MSS., and are of considerable value; but they can scarcely be deemed worthy of the eulogium which has been bestowed upon them, of being altogether one of the richest and purest gold, selected from the antiquarian mine, with consummate judgment and an intimate knowledge of the subject."

It would seem from some correspondence in the first volume of the *Sheaf* (Mr. Hughes' series) that these two MS. volumes, which Ormerod mentions as being in the Library of the Dean and Chapter are now missing. It would be interesting to know whether this is so or not.—
Yours, &c., GENEALOGIST.

[343] MARRIAGE REGISTERS OF ST. OSWALD'S
CHESTER.

1628.

Robert Hughes and Margaret Corkhill, April 19
Robert Shurlaker and Joan Low, April 20
Henrie Yonge and Katherine Trafford, June 23
Robert Carre and Isabell Bell, June 26
William Drinkwater and Elizabeth Knowles,
August 21
Edward Lightfoot and Anne Linaker, Aug. 23
William Okell and Ales Shuttleworth, Sep. 29
Hugh Houghton and Isabell Jackson, Oct. 15
William Williamson and Margaret Gregge,
Nov. 27
Mr. Fulke Salisburie and Anne Levesley, Nov. 27
Humfrey Bedford and Anne Withinton, Dec. 23

John Bunnell and Alice Barlow, Dec. 29
John Jones and Jane Medowes, Feb. 2
John Beavan and Margaret Bennett, Feb. 17
Thomas Jones and Anne ap Evan, Feb. 15

DECEMBER 21, 1898.

ORIGINAL DOCUMENTS.

[344] THE COURT ROLL OF THE MANOR
OF HOOSE IN 1812.

The following document, giving as it does the names of the residents in Hoose 86 years ago may interest some of our readers:—

IN THE MANOR OF HOOSE, } To wit.
IN THE COUNTY OF CHESTER.

29th Octr. 1812. THE COURT LEET AND COURT BARON of BETTY SWAINSON the wife of JOHN TIMOTHY SWAINSON Esquire was held at JAMES EVERARD'S in and for the said Manor of Hoose aforesaid on Thursday the twenty-ninth day of October one thousand eight hundred and twelve Before me.

1st Court Geo. Walker Gent
53d Geo. 3d. Steward of the sd Court

The Names of the Residents.

Thomas Davies	Wm. Martin
John Barlow	Henry Seed
Thomas Fulton	Charles Copple
Martha Shaw Pub.Ho.6d.	John Eccles
Samuel Smith	Jas. Everard, P.H. 6d.
John Bird	Natth. Huntington, P.H.
Wm. Beard	Thos. Williams [6d.
John Smith	Edward Jones
Mary Barlow Empty	Thomas []

Manor of Hoose—to wit.

The Jurors sworn on the part of our sovereign Lord the King, and the Lady of the Manor at this her first Court, 53 Geo. 3d, 29th October, 1812.

Charles Copple	Foreman, Sworn.
John Barlow	Henry Seed
John Chatterton } Sw.	John Smith, jun. } Sw.
John Eccles	John Smith, sen.
Sam Smith	Natth. Huntington
Wm. Bird } Sw.	Thomas Williams } Sw.
Joseph Little	Wm. Martin

The Jury in the first place present—That all manner of Royalties in and appurtenant to the said Manor or Lordship of Hoose aforesaid in Right belong to the sd Betty Swainson wife of John Timothy Swainson Esqre and to no other person or persons whatsoever—Also that all residents within ye said Manor ought to make their appearance and do Suit and Service at the Court Leet and Lawday once a year as usual vizt. : within one Month after Michaelmas day whenever they shall be summoned by the said Lady her Steward or Bailiff—Or Else Without lawful excuse be Amerced at the Discretion of the said Court to the Use of the said Lady.

We present all persons within the said Manor who ought to do suit and service (vizt : all except women and children under fourteen years of Age) and the said Court Doth Amerce them in two shillings and 6d. each--for not appearing. We present all persons neglecting or refusing to attend to transplant or plant Millgrass after notice given to them by the proper Officer as usual and do Amerce them in ten shillings.

We present John Peers for not Ditching between the Water Hoose and Middle field which we ordered to be done by John Peers before the 1st day of June next, under the penalty of 1/6 p. customary rod.

We present Joseph Little for not making his fence between his and John Smith's junior's field and we order him to Do it before the first of December next, under the penalty of 2/6 per customary rod.

We present to the Office of Constable for the Township of Hoose James Everard, Nathaniel Huntington and John Barlow--and James Everard and John Barlow are Chosen and Sworn into the office.--G.W.

Charles Coppal	Joseph Little
John Barlow	Nathl. Huntington
John Chatterton	Henry Seed
John Eccles	John Smith
Saml. Smith	John Smith
H. William Bird	Thos. Williams
Wm. Martin.	

[345] COTTON LETTERS.
(Combermere MSS.)
(Continued from No. 887.)
[Bond dated 21 Oct. 7 Anne 1708]

NOVERINT Vniversi p'sentes me Thoma' Starkey de Wrenbury in Com. Cestr. Ar. teneri et firmit'. obligari Roberto Cotton de Combermere in Com. Cestr. Mil. et Baronett. in Quingentis libris bone & Leg'is Monet'. Magna Britannia solvend'. eid'm Rob'to Cotton aut suo certo attorn'. Executor'. Adm'istrator'. vel Ass' suis ad q'm qui'. [quam quidem] soluconem bene & fideliter faciend'. oblige me Hered'. Executor'. et administr' res meas firmit p[er] p'sentis sigillo meo sigillat Dat'. vicesimo primo die Octobr. anno regina dms. nre. Anne magne Britanie etc. Regine Septimo annoque Dom 1708.

TRANSLATION.

[Be it known to all present that I, Thomas Starkey of Wrenbury in the county of Chester, Esquire, hold and firmly bind myself to Sir Robert Cotton of Combermere in the county of Chester, Knight and Baronet, in £50 of good and legal money of Great Britain paid to the same Robert Cotton, or his Attorney, Executors, or Assigns, to whom the same payment well and faithfully made binds me and my heirs, executors, and administrators by these presents. Sealed with my seal and delivered this 21 Oct. 7 Anne 1708.]

THE CONDITION of this obligation is such That whereas certaine variances & disputes have been lately & are now depending between ye above named Sr Robt. Cotton & ye above bound Thomas Starkey concerning ye Royaltie Lordship or manner[*sic*] of Wrenbury and Wrenbury cu[m] frith soituat & being in ye sd County of Chester and heretofore reputed to be ye Inheritance of Sr. John Wrenbury Knt deced & Whereas Thomas Cotton Esqe son of ye sd Robert Cotton by ye direction of ye sd Sr Robert Cotton and ye sd Thos. Starkey on his own behalfe have in a friendly manner reason'd & discoursed together concerning ye respective rights of ye sd Sr Robt. Cotton and ye said Thos Starkey as to ye sd Royaltie Lordship or manner of Wrenbury and Wrenbury cu[m] frith and ye sd Thomas Cotton on ye pt of ye sd Sr Robt Cotton and ye sd Tho: Starkey on his own behalf have agreed and concented as followeth, vizt: That ye said Sr. Robert Cotton & his heirs hath a right, & is to have & enjoy to him & his heirs two third parts, ye whole in three parts to be divided, of ye said Royaltie Lordship or man[n]er of Wrenbury & Wrenbury cu[m] frith; & two third parts, ye whole in three parts to be divided, of all ye Com[m]ons wast grounds ffishings Waters waifes Estrays Treasure Trove Deodands & all other proffits privileges advantages & appurten[an]ces belonging to ye sd Royaltie Lordship or manner of Wrenbury & Wrenbury cu[m] frith

And that ye said Tho: Starkey & his heirs hath a right and is to have And enjoy to him & his heirs one third pt, ye whole in three parts to be divided, of ye sd Royalty Ldship or maier of Wrenbury & Wrenbury cu[m] frith, and one third part, ye whole in three parts to be divided, of all ye Com[m]ons wast ground waters fishing waifes Estrayes Treasure Trove Deodands & all other proffits privileges advantages & appurtenances belonging to ye said Royaltie Lordship or manner of Wrenbury & Wrenbury cu[m] frith

And whereas there have been erected & are now standing upon ye Comons and wast ground of ye sd Lordship or manner of Wrenbury and Wrenbury cu[m] frith ye severall Cottages hereafter menconed yt is to say--

one Cottage now in ye possion of Tho: Griffies
one other now in ye possion of Richd. Croxton
one other now in ye possion of James Croxton
one other now in ye possion of John Whekey
one other now in ye possion of Anne Whekey
one other now in ye possion of Richd Jackson
& one other now in ye possion of William Bradshaw

now it is agreed between ye sd Thos. Cotton (on ye pt of ye said Sr Robt. Cotton) and ye sd Tho: Starkey on his own behalf yt ye sd Robt. Cotton & his heirs shall have & enjoy to him & his heirs ye sd three severall Cottages hereafter menconed yt is to say--

ye sd Cottage in ye possion of ye sd Tho: Griffies

ye sd Cottage in ye possession of ye sd Rich: Croxton & one other Cottage in ye possession of ye sd James Croxton

And yt ye sd Tho: Starkey and his heirs shall have & enjoy to him and his heirs ye sd four severall Cottages hereafter menconed yt is to say— one Cottage in ye possession of John Whekey one Cottage in ye possession of Anne Whekey one Cottage in ye possession of Rich: Jackson & one other Cottage in ye possession of William Bradshaw

And whereas there is a certain p'cell of Land lying in ye Town of Wrenbury now used as a bowling green in ye possession of Arthur Lester it is therefore further agreed by ye said Thos. Cotton (on ye behalf of ye sd. Sr. Robt Cotton) and by ye sd. Thos. Starkey (on his own behalf) that ye said Sr. Robt. Cotton & his heirs is to have & enjoy to him & his heirs two third parts, ye whole in three parts to be divided, of ye said p'cell of Land or bowling green; and also to receive out of ye profits arising from ye said p'cell of Land ye rent or summe of *four pence* pr. ann. over and above his said two third parts: & ye said Thos. Starkey & his heirs is to have & enjoy to him & his heirs one third pt, ye whole in three parts to be divided, of ye said p'cell of Land or bowling green discounting & allowing only out of his said third pt ye said sum of four pence per ann. payable at ye feast of Christmas And also it is further agreed yt ye sd pcell of Land now used as a bowling green shall be continued for ever hereafter as a bowling for ye pastime of such persons as shall come to ye green and yt ye trees now growing or standing there shall not be cut down or destroyed by ye sd Sr. Robt Cotton or his heirs, or ye sd Tho: Starkey or his heirs If therefore [The MS. here breaks off. The part wanting is probably the usual legal phraseology at the end of a Bond, viz., that if either party failed to comply with the above conditions £50 should be paid by the defaulter to the other party.

The stipulation contained in the last paragraph relates to Wrenbury village-green, which is still un-enclosed as in ancient times.]

JAMES HALL.

Lindum House, Nantwich.

NOTES.

[346] CHESHIRE EMIGRANTS TO AMERICA IN THE 18TH CENTURY.

In an interesting periodical, entitled *The Literary Era*, published in Philadelphia, U.S.A., is a column devoted to historical and genealogical subjects ably edited by Mr. Albert Cook Myers, of Swanthmore College. In the November issue are printed some interesting certificates presented at the monthly meeting of the Society of Friends in Chester, Pennsylv-

ania, in the early part of the last century. Among these there are several which are worth reprinting as they refer to Cheshire men.

In the first place at a meeting held in the second month 1688, two names occur, with a suspiciously Cheshire look about them, viz., Randall Vernon and Thomas Minshall, while Walter Fancit, probably a misprint for Faucit, is suggestive of North Lancashire and West Yorkshire.

"Ye 28th of ye 9 month 1689. Joseph Carter late of Newton in Cheshire in old England produced to the satisfaction of the meeting."

This no doubt refers to the Friends' meeting held at this time at Newton in Frodsham parish, and the following is another reference to the same meeting:—

"Mordecai Maddock 1 mo. 30, 1702, dated 9 mo. 7, 1701, late belonging to Newton meeting, Cheshire, England."

And finally we have—"John Smith, 11 mo., 1701-2, late belonging to ye meeting of Pownall See [sic for Fee], Cheshire, England."—
Yours &c.,
GENEALOGIST.

[347] NOTES ON THE ADMISSIONS TO THE ST. JOHN'S COLLEGE, CAMBRIDGE. (See No. 382.)

Charles Aldcroft, adm. sizar 1709, aged 24, was probably afterwards the Rev. Chas. Aldcroft, Rector of Wallasey, 1718-1748, and Curate of St. Mary's-on-the-Hill, Chester, 1723-1734. He died in 1748, and was buried at St. Michael's, Chester, 11th Nov. An amusing and rather discreditable case, in which the Rev. Charles Aldcroft and his second wife figure, was printed in Vol. II. of *Wirral Notes and Queries*, p. 43.

John Gresty, son of Samuel Gresty, Rector of Brougham, Co. Westmorland. It would be interesting to know if this Rev. Samuel Gresty was the same as the Incumbent of that name who held the living of Woodchurch for some years during the Commonwealth, and is said by Calamy to have been ejected therefrom in 1662.

Another interesting entry is that of Thomas Cartwright, son of that wretched creature Bishop Cartwright.—Yours, &c.,

Liverpool.

M. H. S.

QUERY.

[348] THE MAYOR OF ALTRINCHAM'S
BREECHES.

Can any *Sheaf* reader explain a grave reflection cast upon the wardrobe of the chief magistrate of Altrincham by Sir Walter Scott? In 'The Heart of Midlothian' Mistress Dolly Dutton, the Cheshire dairymaid, whom the Duke of Argyll sends to Inverary to teach the arts of cheese and butter-making, remarks, in Chapter xlv., "As we say in Cheshire, I was like the Mayor of Altringham (!), who lies in bed while his breeches are mending, for the girl did not bring up the right bundle to my room." There surely must be an ancient legend somewhere referring to the sartorial resources of the Mayor of Altrincham.—
Yours, &c., C. C.

[349] MARRIAGE REGISTER OF ST. OSWALD'S,
CHESTER.
1634*

Thomas Birkenhead and Margaret Cleaton of
Runckhorne, April 8
Thomas Okell and Alice Norman of Buncorne,
April 8
Thomas Middleton and Jane Hamnett of Saighton,
April 8
Richard Robinson and Katherine Kings of
Chorlton, April 16
William Coop and Elizabeth Kinsey of Warming-
ham, April 17
Robert Brereton (P) and Elizabeth Cleaton of Stook-
port, April 18
Thomas Highfold (P) and Elen Stockton of Acton
parish, May 1
Thomas Moores and Elizabeth Lawrenson of Tarvin,
May 2
Thomas Robinson and Abigail Crosse, June 18
Richard Burroughes and Jane Anion, June 19
William Rathbone and Katherine Healy, June 20
William Hande and Jane Gelder, July 1
James Smith and Ellen Tittle, July 3
John Worrall and Jane Wright, July 28
William Bennet and Katharin Becke, Aug. 31
Richard Platt and Ellen Jonson, Sept. 30
Thomas Seale and Margaret Adamson, Oct. 25
John Walker and Sarah Basfield, Nov. 10
Thomas Davies and Frances Worrall, Dec. 26
James Walton and Jane Grice, Dec. 30
William Bighe (P) and Anne Partington, Feb. 2

* The preceding five years are missing in the Register.

DECEMBER 28, 1898.

NOTES.

[350] WIRRAL AFTER FIFTY YEARS.

On an afternoon in October, we left the Liverpool landing stage at two o'clock, in view of visiting the ancient ruins of Caergwre Castle. The route chosen was that by the Great Central Railway from Seacombe. The writer had not crossed the extreme end of Wirral for over fifty years; then Leasowe, Moreton, and Meols presented a wild and uninviting appearance; now, however, the country is both fair and fertile, and is further enhanced by villa residences, and flourishing towns on either hand. The aristocracy of Wirral in those days lived far apart, for it was common to see the knight of Leasowe travelling as far south as Denwall to visit the Stanleys.

As we approached the town of Great Neston, formerly the Wirral metropolis, our eyes rested upon the old 'windmill,' begrimed, dismantled, and woefully forlorn. It stands (like the one on Bidston Hill*) a complete wreck of its former usefulness. We remember it in better days, when its four blanched sails lent a charm to the landscape; and when the miller looked blithely on, as the sails went rapidly round.

From Neston station, the train sped along the embankment, leaving the hamlets of Little Neston and Ness on the one side, while on the other in all their serene and autumnal beauty, were the hills of old Cambria. It is with a feeling of delight we find that a station is about being built near the village of Burton. A most beautiful locality. We knew the village when it contained two full-licensed public-houses. Now, however, there is no resting place. We recollect a windmill at Burton; perhaps in its structure one of the most unique. Burton Mill was one of the meeting places for Sir Thomas Stanley Bart, of Hooton's foxhounds. As there were several covers in the neighbourhood it taxed the experience of Joe Howard, a popular huntsman, to drive Reynard into the open.

The train hurried through the promontory and once-famed land mark, 'Burton Head,' gliding smoothly on to the Salt Marsh, washed

* The mill on Bidston Hill has been recently completely restored by the liberality of one of the residents.—EDITORS.

but a few years ago by the tidal river. This marsh (now a vast plain) has been rapidly turned, or is being turned, into glebe. What a change since Lucian, the Monk, wrote 'Chester hath by God's gift a river to enrich and adorn it, the same fair and fishful hard by the City Walls, and on the south side a rode and harbour for shippes coming from Gascoine, Spain, and Germany.'

As is well known, the Dee estuary has been gradually silting up since the time of Richard II. Two hundred years, ago it flowed from 'Blacon Point' (where there was some litigation about a sturgeon that was caught) to Hilbre, along the Cheshire shore. There was then at Burton Point, through which we have just passed, 'six feet of water at low water of a spring tide.' When the river Dee was enclosed, in the early part of the last century, some thousands of acres were reclaimed. Many under Shotwick have been taken within our recollection, and many more will be taken within a short time. The green streak is heedlessly creeping onward, and if the silting up of the river goes on as rapidly in the next sixty years as it has gone in the past, the once fashionable bathing place, Parkgate, may have pleasant ornamental grounds in the front of it. We cannot cross this marsh without a little further digression. The historic castle of Shotwick stood close by. In the year 1280 King Edward the First lodged in this castle. He was there, on the authority of Canon Morris, on 'September 5, 15, 16, 17,' while superintending the building of Flint Castle. In *Cheshire Sheaf* (No. 254) we read, King Edward visited Birkenhead Priory in 1277, from which we may infer the King spent much of his time in this locality. These marshes, that are so wonderfully traversed to-day, were the scene of fierce strife between the two nations. Of that strife, the many castles that have existed on each side the river Dee bear ample testimony. Shotwick Castle was in ruins at the time of Leland. Shottewich Castell on the very shore longing to the King and thereby ys a park. 'Camden' thus describes it:—'At the entry into it, (Wirral) on the south side, standest Shotwick, a castle of the king upon the salt water.' In 'Hulbert's Cheshire Antiquities' we have an interesting view of this castle as it stood in the beginning of last century.

After a run of but a few minutes from Neston Station across this historic ground, and over

the ponderous bridge that spans the narrow stream of what was the famous river Dee, the train drew up at Connah's Quay, and then travelled upwards through stations bearing names unfamiliar to the English tongue. The view from above Hawarden old castle down to the Dee estuary was most magnificent, but as this article is only intended to deal with the Hundred of Wirral we will conclude, possibly reserving our remarks on the ancient Castle of Caergwile for some future occasion.

ORIGINAL DOCUMENTS.

[351] ABSTRACT OF WILLS AT THE PROBATE REGISTRY, CHESTER.

The following short abstracts may be interesting to some of your readers. John Parr, of Trafford, was probably a younger son of the Parrs of Backford, the successors of the Masseys of Backford and Timperley. There is a curious reference to a marriage arrangement in this will which gives us an insight into the strangely matter-of-fact way in which alliances were made at this time. This characteristic is, however, even more fully shewn in the next will, that of Robert Warrington, of West Kirby parish.—Yours, &c., GENEALOGIST.

xxix Oct. xxvii Elizabeth [1585]—JOHN PARR of
TRAFFORD co Chester.

One halfe I give unto my wife and the rest equally devided betwixt my tow daughters An Parre and Margret Parre my wife Jone Parre and my daughter Ane Parre shall Rease unto my daughter Margaret Parre &c &c Itm my will is that whosoever doth marry my daughter Ane Parre shall give unto my daughter Margaret Parre xlii to be payed unto her at twoe equall payments the one xli the first yeare after he doth marry my daughter and the other xli the next yeare after.

My will is that the xixs. iiijd. that William Prise gave unto mee to bee delivered unto his sonne Thomas Prise when he shall come to lawfull yeares and if he die before my will is that the sayd xixs. iiijd. to be delivered unto my daughter Margret Parre.

My Uncle William and wiffe shall have my clothes
Itm I give unto the use of the church ijs.

Unto John Calueby one hoope of barleye

Exrs. my wife Jone Parre and my daughter An Parre desire my neighbours John Hely and Thomas Gyles to be overseers

Witnesses

Richard Gyles

Jhon Twisse

Thomas Davyechild [?]]

Inventory of the goodes &c of Jhon Parre deceased the 3d of November prayesd by foure honest men viz Thomas Gest Thomas Rogers Jhon Helye and Thomas Gathye the ix of December 1585
Sums of all this xxliij. xs. xjd.

"In the name of God, Amen : 8 Nov., 1609.

I, ROBERT WARRINGTON, of Newton cu' Larton, yeom', etc.

Item : I give iij shylynges and iiijd. towards the buyinge of a cove for the maintenynce and reliefe of the poore of the p'ishe of West Kirbie.

Item : I do give and dispose of the lease of my house and all my intereste therein containyd unto Elizabeth the my nowe wief dureinge her sole and chaste wydowehood.

Item : Provided if William Warrington my sonne happen to marrye with anie woman dureigne the widowehood of his sayde mother, with the consent and likinge of his sd. mother, Wm. Glegg, of Caldie Grange, gent, Henry Younge of Semcum, Robt. Young, and John Young, of Frankbye, yeomen, then the sayde William Warrington shalbe maynteyned with his wief and issue at the house, with meat, dryncke, lodgings, and apparrell, sufficiente so long as they shall agree, and upon ther disagreement Elizabeth to have her third part of howse, goods, accordinge to the custome and use of the countrey, and Wm. Warrington to have the other two partes.

Item : I leave to Robert, John, George, and Thomas Warrington my sonnes, and Ellen and Alice Warrington my daughters, to every one of them xxvii. of lawfull money of England to be payde them when they shall accomlishe the full age of xliij yeres.

And whereas I have taken the wardship of Wm. Guyle and am to dispose one of my daughters to him in marriage, I do hereby appoint that William Warrington, my sonne, shall have the same bargaine and the accomplishmente thereof in full manner and form as it is covenanted and agreed upon by me, Robt. Warrington aforesaid, and Wm. Glegg aforesaid, and others.

Whereas I have taken a piece of land of Wm. Newbott, of Newton, late in the tenure of one Thos. Platt, and have payde for the same the sum of xixli beforehand, my will is that Wm. Warrington shall have the occupation of the same land until the said Wm. Guyle shall come to the years lawfull to be married, and then the said land to go to the Wm. Guyle, provided if the sd Wm. Guyle shall happen to die before he come to be married, then John Guyle or the next lawful heire to that house in Newton shall have the aforesaid land, and pay the sum of xixli to my Executors.

And whereas I have purchased a parte of land being at the low heath ende late in the occupation of Wm. Guyle deceased, I leave the same to my

sonne, Wm. Warrington and his heires male, and in default of such then to descend to my seconde sonne, Robert Warrington and his heires male, and in default of such to descend to 3d. son John, and 4th son George, and 5th son Thomas.

Exor : William Warrington my sonne.

Overseers : Wm. Glegg, Henry Younge, Robert Younge, and John Younge.

Witnesses :

John Younge
Robert Younge
Nich. Setchell, cler.

Dettes due unto me.

Ann Younge of Caldie Grangevli.
Wm. Newbott, of Newton.....viii.
Robt. Newbott, of Caldeivli., viijs.
Robt. Goodicar, of Thurstaston.....xs.

Inven. by Wm. Rabone, Robt. Younge, of fraunxby, Ric. Coventrie, of Caldie Grange, Rich. Totty, of Newton, yeom., 28 Nov. 1609.

S.T., oxvli. xjs. iiijd.

Proved xxiv. Feb., 1609.

In the name of God Amen. 27 April 1611.

I RICHARD RICHARDSON of Little Sutton, in Werral husbandman etc.

"Lease of lands etc. in Little Sutton granted by Sr. Wm. Hatton late of Holdenby in countie of North'ton Kt, to Elizabeth my wief & Peter my sonne."

Exors : Wife Elis. & son Peter.

Loving cousins Wm. Richardson & Hugh Brotherton of Utkinton overseers.

Wit : Hugh Brotherton Raphe Smethurst & Wm. Richardson.

Inventorie by Hugh Cowell and Robert Edmundson Robert Powell and Wm. Valentine xxvii June.

Dettes due by test.

Robert Harviexjli.
Thomas Cottonxli.
Mr. Savage for a heriotiiijli. xs.

Proved i. July 1615 by Peter B. (powers reserved).

[352] MARRIAGE REGISTERS OF ST. OSWALD'S, CHESTER.

1635.

Robert Williams and Jane Parrie, March 30
Phillipe Griffin and Margaret Barton, March 30
John Williams and Dorithie Good, April 7
Richard Griffith and Margaret Peeres, May 7
George Hill and Jane Newbie, June 8
John Turner alias Hobson and Ales Davis, Aug. 9
Willm Taylor and Elenor Heighfield, Oct. 21
John Taylor and Elizabeth Madeley, Jan. 12
Tho. Becke and Elizabeth Skalsbricke, Jan. 15
John Davis and Margaret Evurton, Feb. 9

INDEX.

A.

A'Wood, —, 12
 Ab Eythell, Ellen, 80; Griffith, 80
 Acksonne, John, 54; Katherine, 54
 Acton, —, 73, 75; *see also* De Acton
 Adams, Ales, 14; Rev. Charles, 48; Eliz., 38; Isabel, 48; James, 48; John, 48, 61; Margaret, 48, 49; Margerye, 19; Mgarret, 87; Rev. Peter, 48; Rev. Randal, 48; Rev. Randle, 48; Richard, 49; Rev. Richard, 48, 49; Rev. Thomas, 48
 Adamson, Margaret, 143
 Adleton, Anne, 32; Henrye, 32
 Akerley, Eliza, 58; Harry, 58
 Akers, John, 83; Katheryn, 83
 Alan, the forester, 113
 Alans, *see* Fitz Alans
 Albanies, The Counts of Arundel, 70
 Albany, *see* De Albany
 Albright, Jane, 38; John, 38
 Alcock, Captain Edward, 38
 Alcocke, Eliz., 20; Mode, 54; William, 19
 Aldcroft, Charles, 132, 142; Rev. Chas., 142
 Alderofte, Edd., 34; Katherine, 34
 Alderley, —, 73
 Aldersay, Jane, 72; William, 72
 Aldersey, Elizabeth, 33; Ald. Ffoulk, 11; Ald. John, 11; Margaret, 47; Samuel, 33; Thomas, 47; Ald. Wm., 11
 Aldetheley, *see* De Aldetheley
 Alen, Elenor, 61; Eliz., 29; Margaret, 61; Wm., 29
 Alexander, Margaret, 72; Raffe, 72
 Allatt, Anne, 34; John, 34
 Allcocke, Maude, 96
 Allen, Marie, 138; Ralph, 19; Raphe, 19
 Allerton, Alles, 74; Thomas, 74
 Alport, John, 132; Rd., 132; Robert, 132
 Alsager, Ralph, 132; Samuel, 132
 "Altrincham," "The Mayor of," 143
 Amberley, Margaret, 93; Wilm., 93
 Ambrose, Marie, 134
 Amerie, *see* De Amerie
 Ancocke, Ellen, 29; James, 32; Maytrie, 32
 Andertonne, Mary, 83
 Andrews Lancelot, 47; Mary, 47
 Andrews, Lancelot, 47; Mary, 47
 Androe, Mary, 100
 Androe, Jane, 118
 Angleser, Margaret, 46; Richard, 46
 Anglesyr, Jane, 129
 Angliasher, Jane, 134
 Anon, Harry, 32; Jane, 32, 143

Anne, Queen of England, 23, 40
 Annion, Elizabeth, 103; Katherine, 56; Prselow, 29
 Anson, Decanus (Dean), 128
 Anyon, John, 63
 Ap Bedward, Elizabeth, 83; John, 83
 Ap Edd, Benet, 56; Syslie, 56
 Ap Edward, Ellen, 137; Jane, 115; John, 115, 137
 Ap Evan, Anne, 76, 140; David, 50; Hugh, 76; Jane, 50
 Ap Fenn, Hugh, 106; Jane, 106
 Ap Harry, Eliz., 61; Rees, 61
 Ap Jevan, Kynvericke, 19
 Ap Rees, Edd. ap Dd., 29; Ellen, 29; Morris, 50; Wynifred, 50
 Ap Richard, Katherine, 64; Katherine, 61; Robert, 61
 Ap Thomas, Bevis, 46; Marget, 46
 Ap William, Ellen, 106; Howell, 38; Margaret Verghe, 38; Thomas, 106
 Arden or Arderne, Sir John, 17, 18
 "Argyle," "Duke of," 143
 Arnway, Sr. John, 33
 Arundel, The Albanies, Counts of, 70
 Arundels, The, 70
 Ashley, M.E., 47
 Ashmore, Margery, 69
 Ashon, Eliz., 69
 Ashton, Jane, 37, 87; Marget, 19; Richard, 19; Wm., 53; Rev. —, 65
 Ashurst, —, 119, 121
 Ashworth, John, 136
 Askew, Jane, 45
 Asmall, Humphrey, 95; Margaret, 95; Robert, 95
 Aspinwall, Alice, 98
 Astbrooke, Margaret, 53; Peter 53
 Aston, John, 133; Thomas, 84, 133; Thomas, Bart., 133; Thos., 111; Willoughby, Bart., 111, 133
 Aubrey, —, 77
 Audley, Lord, 80, 88, 89; Lord James, 80; Lord Nicholas, 89; —, 64; *see also* De Aldetheley
 Austine, Elizabeth, 137
 Avvers, —, 33
 Axon, Anne, 126

B.

Badger, Ellen, 137; James, 137
 Bailly, James, 115
 Baldwin, Eliz., 98; Elizabeth, 93, 98; Ralph, 93, 98; —, 119
 Ball, Anne, 16; F., 128; Isabell, 138; Thomas, 39; William, 18; Ald. William, 18
 Balwin, Wm., 119
 Bamville, —, 33
 Bamville, —, 65

Banbery, Hugh, 17; Margerie, 17
 Banester, Ales, 56; Anne, 32; Mary, 14; Maudlen, 32; Richard, 32
 Banestre, Jacob's, 4
 Bangor, The Abbotts of, 81; Robert, Bishop of, 35
 Bankes, Ales, 80; Alles, 85; Jane, 72
 Banyon, Alles, 75
 Barber, Elizabeth, 137; Peter, 80; Rose, 80
 Barker, Rev. John, 44; —, 119
 Barley, —, 34
 Bar'oe, Katherine, 64; Richard, 64
 Barlow, Alice, 140; John, 140, 141; Mary, 140
 Barlowe, Thomas, 37; Dr. —, Dean of Chester, 3
 Barnes, Anne, 32; Eliz., 17; John 61; Marget, 61; Nicollas, 17; Rowland, 32
 Barnshaw, Thomas, 111; Wm., 111
 Baron, William, 16
 Barrow, Daniel, 52; —, 41
 Barry, —, 65
 Barrymore, Earl of, 65; Lord, 44
 Barton, Elizabeth, the "Maid of Kent," 12; Elizabeth, 72; Margaret, 115, 145; Robert, 72
 Basfield, Sarah, 143
 Basford, Elizabeth, 61; Wm. 61
 Basnet, Mary, 91
 Bassnett, John, 133
 Bate, Anne, 123; Edward, 123
 Bath, Earl of, 89; The Earles of, 88; William, Earl of, 88
 Batho, Edward, 50; Thomason, 50
 Batrick, Oliver, 45
 Batrich, Ann, 85
 Baule, Alice, 23; Anne, 76; Eliz., 27; Elizabeth, 76; James, 23; Moode, 76; Thomas, 76; Wm., 27
 Bavan, Ales, 22, 58; Elizabeth, 46; John, 46; Randle, 58; Sara, 46
 Bavand, Ald. Richard, 11
 Baxter, Ann, 96, 100; James, 100
 Baylie, Sir James, 60; John, 16
 Bayne, —, 34
 Beamond, Anne, 50
 Beaumont, —66; *see also* De Beaumont
 Beard, Wm., 140
 Bearemore, Alice, 23
 Bevan, John, 140; Margaret, 140
 Bebington, Elizabeth, 76; Henry, 87; *see also* De Bebington
 Bebynton, *see* De Bebynton
 Beck, Ales, 115; Thomas, 115
 Becke, Elen, 27; Elizabeth, 145; Katherin, 143; Marget, 34; Robert, 34; Tho., 145; William, 27
 Beckett, —, 116

- Bedford, Ales, 20; Anne, 140; Humphrey, 140; Wm., 20
 Bedson, George, 52; John, 52; Tho., 52; Thomas, 52
 Bedsonne, Elizabeth, 123; John, 123
 Bedward, *see* Ap Bedward
 Beeley, Thomas, 133; William, 133
 Beeston, Hugh, 5
 Bell, Ales, 138; Blanch, 118; Isabell, 140; John, 138
 Bellesby, *see* De Bellesby
 Belline, —, 33
 Bellingean, Marget, 34
 Bellott, —, 3
 Bellotus, Cuthbertus, Archdeacon of Chester, 3; Dr. Hugo, Bishop of Chester 3
 Belyn, Jane, 20; Thomas, 20
 Benbow, Capt. John, 38; —, 21
 Benet, Ales, 33; Anne, 34; Cathern, 50; Eliz., 50, 56; Jane, 45; John, 45; Letice, 20; Marget, 53; Robert, 50, 53; Thomas, 34; Wm., 33
 Benette, John, 96
 Bennet, Anna, 80; Elizabeth, 96, 118; Ellen, 19, 87; Isabel, 48; Jane, 86; John, 52, 86; Katherin, 143; Robert, 19; Thomas, 48, 86, 118; William, 143; Wm., 86
 Bennett, Christopher, 16; James, 53; Margaret, 140; Thomas, 61; Widdowe, 100
 Bennion, Deborah, 10; Elizabeth, 10; Jonannes, 10; John, 53; Samuel, 10; William, 10
 Benson, —, 129
 Bentley, Elizabeth, 92
 Beresford, Francis, 111, 133; John, 133
 Berian, Marget, 20
 Berington, —, 124
 Betley, Ales, 93; Thomas, 93
 Be'tley, Eliz., 101
 Betson, Thos., 87
 Betterley, —, 34
 Bickerton, Ales, 112; Will, 88
 "Biddlemoor Men," 65
 Biddulph, Sir Michael, 17
 Bighe, Anne, 143; William, 143
 Bill, Elen, 54; Water, 54
 "Bill o' Tom o' Jack's," 43
 Billinge, Robert, 88; Robt., 88; Rev. Thomas, 72
 Billinton, Edward, 87
 Billintone, Edward, 87; John, 87
 Bingley, Marget, 22; —, 42
 Birch, Geo., 98; John, 90
 Birchall, Eliz., 56; Lawrence, 56
 Birche, Elizabeth, 20; George 20
 Bircley, Widowe, 16
 Bird, H. William, 141; Henry, 16; John, 140; John, Bishop of Chester, 13, 30 55; William, 16; Wm., 140
 Birde, Jane, 16
 Birkenhead, Corporation of, 45, 81; Lieut.-Col. H., 38; Margaret, 143; Thomas, 143
 Birkenshaw, Abbot, John, 8
 Birtles, Jane, 32
 Bishenhead, Ellen, 42
 Biston, Elen, 58; John, 58
 Bithall, Jane, 17; John, 17
 Black Prince, Edward, The, 80
 Blackburn, Rev. Thomas, 90
 Blackie, —, 112
 Blacklach, Rebecca, 92; Rebeka, 98; Samuel, 92, 98; Steaven, 9; Stephen, 92
 "Blacksmith," "The Rev., of Gretna, 65
 Blacon, Kathren, 112
 Blage, —, 39
 Blaken, Katherine, 27
 Blankney, —, 41
 Blanne, Ales, 32
 Blaunchet, Anne, 61; John, 61
 Blechynden, Theophylach, 47
 Blundel, —, 119
 Blundell, Elizabeth, 137; Ellen, 58, 72; James, 58; Jane, 50; Nicholas, 20, 127; Rev. T. B. H., 102; Thomas, 50; Willm., 137; —, 21, 119
 Blunderville, *see* De Blunderville
 Blynstane, Ellen, 72; George, 72
 Blynstone, John, 69; Margery, 69
 Boare, Ellen, 137; Thomas, 137
 Bocking, Rev. Dr., —, 12
 Boden, —, 115
 Bodon, John, 20
 Boker, Ales, 34
 Bold, or De Bolde, *which see*
 Boleyn, Anne, wife of Henry VIII., 54
 Bolland, Arthure, 72; Martha, 72; William, 52
 Bolton, Mary, 85; Thomas, 85
 Bonner, Edmund, Bishop of London, 13
 Boodé, —, 59
 Boodeé, "Mynheer," 121; —, 121
 Boore, Margerie, 100
 Booth, G., 37; George, Lord Delamere, 17; Thomas, 5
 Boothe, —, 2
 Bore, William, 20
 Boroyer, *alias* Knippersley, 34
 Bosier, Anne, 32
 Bosley, —, 34
 Bossome, Edwd., 6
 Bostock, Dr., 21
 Boswell, Jane, 134; William, 134
 Bould, —, 115
 Boulst, Anne, 131
 Boultonne, Mary, 134
 Bourcher, —, 89
 Bowden, George, 111; Thomas, 111, 114
 Bowe, Arthur, 87
 Bowen, —, 118
 Bowker, Rev. James, 133; Ralph, 133
 Bowton, John, 85; Parnell, 95
 Boydell, Anne, 12
 Bradberne, June, 123; Thomas, 123
 Bradborne, —, 34
 Bradford, William H., 58
 Bradhurst, Katherine, 58
 Bradnall, Jane, 69
 Bradsha, Doritie, 61
 Bradshaw, Col. H., 38; William, 123, 141, 142; Wm., 126; Rev. Wm., 53
 Bradshawe, Eddward, 42; Ellen, 42; —, the "Regicide Judge" of Charles I., 73
 Brankar, —, 132
 Brassie, Ane, 53
 Brave, Marget, 34; Thomas, 34
 Brayne, —, 41
 Braynes, Ales, 74; Margaret, 83; Robert, 74
 Brearton, —, 2
 Breck, Ann, 90; Rev. Thomas, 90
 Brenton, Lowry, 74
 Breretin, Elizabeth, 143; Robert, 143
 Brereton, Beardm, 109; Beardme, 109, 115; Beardmore, 88, 89, 120; Beardmr, 105; Beardmre, 125; John, 111; Sir Ralph, 45; Vryan, K., 84; Sir William, 16; Wyllom, (Vic.), 84; —, 97, 108, 110, 116, 124, 126, 134
 Brerwood Ald. Robert, 11
 Brassy, John, 96
 Bretherton, Hugh, 145
 Bretland, John, 111
 Brette, —, 41
 Bretten, F. J., 23
 Brewster, Edward, 61
 Briche, John, 87
 Brickill, Marget, 29; Omfrey, 29
 Brid, Katherine, 54
 Bridd, Marget, 20
 Bridge, Christopher, 133, Hugh, 111; Robert, 111; Rev. Robert, 133; Rev. Thomas, 111
 Bridgett, —, 12
 Bridgeley, Eliz., 27
 Brindley, —, 46
 Brinson, Grace, 56
 Brisborn, —, 136
 Briscall, Rev. Michael, 133; William, 133; Wm., 53
 Brisco, Daniell, 52; Thomas, 52
 Briscoe, Thomas, 52
 Briakoe, Ellyn, 126; Robert, 126
 Briskow, Will., 52
 Brock, Wm., 53
 Brodhurst, Elizabeth, 98
 Bromfield, —, 41
 Bromfield, Daniel, 45; James, 133; Thomas, 133; Rev. Thomas, 39
 Bromle, Katherine, 34; Randle, 34
 Bromley, Anne, 38, 50; Eliz., 54; James, 29; Richard, 38; —, 41, 45
 Brooke, Ann, 96; H., 37; Henry, 133; John, 96; Philip, 134; Thomas, 133
 Brookes, Grace, 131
 Brooks, Dority, 118
 Broome, Joane, 61; Randolph, 133; William, 133
 Brosko, Ellen, 22
 Broster, Ales, 46; —, 41, 123
 Broster and Son, 122
 Brotherton, Hugh, 145
 Broughton, Edward Delves, 80; Emma, 101; Sir Thomas, Bart., 101; Alderman Valentine, 11; *see also* Delves-Broughton
 Broune, Thomas, 96
 Brown, Thomas, 37
 Browne, Ellen, 45; Margaret, 14, 58; Marget, 20; Mary, 134; Nicholas, 134; Wm. 20; —, 34
 Brownell (11 other renderings of this name are given, viz.:— Brownell, Brownhill, Brownhil, Brownhill, Brownll, Brown hill, Brown'hill, Brownh', Brownh, Brown., and B.)
 Ales, 101, 102; An, 102; Ann, 98; Anne, 92, 93, 101; Anthony,

97; Edmund, 92; Edward, 92, 98, 101, 102; Eleanor, 93, 98, 102; Elianora, 102; Eliz., 101; Elisab., 101; Elizabeth, 92, 93, 98, 101, 102; Elizabetha, 102; Ellen, 98; Ellenor, 98; Gu., 101; Guil., 101; Rev. Guil., 101; Gulielmus, 102; Rev. Gulielmus, 102; Hannah, 93, 98, 102; Helen, 92; Helle, 102; Henry, 97, 102; Humfry, 102; Jane, 92, 93, 101; John, 93, 97, 98, 102, 103; John, Recorder of I. of Man, 93; Joseph, 97, 102; Joyce, 92; Margaret, 92; Margrett, 101; Maria, 102; Mary, 92, 93, 98, 101, 102; Rev. Nat.', 102; Rev. Nath., 102; Rev. Nathalia, 102; Nathaniel, 92, 93, 97, 98, 101, 102; Rev. Nathaniel, 93, 97, 98, 102, 103; Nathanielis, 101, 102; Rev. Nathanielis, 102; Nathaniell, 101, 102; Nathanielis, 101; Rev. Nathanielis, 101; Rev. Nathaniel, 103; Rev. Nathias, 102; Rev. Nathlis, 102; Rev. Natlis, 102; Nicholas, 93, 102; Rebecca, 92, 93, 102; Rebecka, 101; Rebeka, 98; Rebekah, 102; Rebekca, 101; Richard, 103; Susana, 101; Susanna, 92, 101; Tho., 102; Tho's, 101; Thomas, 92, 97, 98; Thos. 97; Rev. W., 102; William, 92, 93, 97, 98, 101, 102, 103; Rev. William, 92, 102, 103; Rev. Willm., 101
Brownett, Elynn, 76; Richard, 76
Bruen, Richard, 53
Bruertonne, Elizabeth, 123
Bruscoe, Hugh, 87
Brushfield, T. N., M.D., 81
Bryan, Anne, 83; John 83
Bryn, *see* Lo Bryn
Buckley, Joseph, 52; Sir Rich., 45
Bucksie, Rev. Nicholas, 8
Bukoy, Rev. Nicol'us, 31
Bukke, Henry, 96
Buksey, Rev. Nicolaus, 31
Bulkey, Mary, 50
Bunbury, Sir Henry, 32; Thos. 45
Bunnel, John, 133
Bunnell, Alice, 140; John, 140; Mode, 19
Bunwell, Thomas, 92
Burchell, Ane, 53; Thomas, 53
Burchenhead, Ellen, 88
Burches, George, 49; Rev. Hugh, 49; Margaret, 49
Burchills, — 41
Burgis, Anne, 22; Eddward, 22
Burgers, Anne, 54
Barges, Elizabeth, 134; Ellen, 80; Margrett, 103; Robert, 20; Robt., 134; Wm., 98
Burgess, Henry, 39; Wm., 53
Burke, — 47
Burnell, Robert, 92
Burronghes, Jane, 143; Richard, 143
Burronghs, James, 133; John, 133; Thomas, 133
Burrows, Mary, 115; Thomas, 115
Burscoe, George, 133; Hugh, 133
Burscowa, Wm., 86
Bursley, Thomas, 52

Cathedral, Rev. Ralph, 111 ; Samuel, 111
Catherall Ralph, 111 ; Richard, 53 ; Samuel, 111
Castro, Jane, 58
Caudrey, —, 136
Caveley, Elenor, 61 ; Hughes, 61
Cawley, Elizabeth, 106 ; Robert, 6 ; —, 6
Celler, Anne, 80 ; Kaffe, 80
Cestren, Johannes, Bishop, 85
Cestrians, Samuel (Bishop Peploe), 22
Chadderton, Bishop of Chester, 45
Chalkin, Wm., 53
Challoner, Ales, 96 ; Thomas, 18
Chalmondly, Thomas, 111 ; Thos., 111
Chalner, Eliz., 20 ; Thomas, 20
Chaloner, —, 114, 115
Chamberlayne, Alles, 112 ; George, 112
Chambers, Ellen, 61
Chansler, —, 56
Chantrell, Anne, 85 ; Darcy, 20, 21 ; Robert, 85
Charles, Dority, 118 ; William, 118
Charles I., King of England, 28, 73, 122
Charles II., King of England, 17, 23, 38, 60, 70, 89, 116, 124, 134
Charnack, Tho., 52
Charnak, Tho., 52
Charnook, Samuel, 52
Charnocke, Thomas, 86
Chatterton, John, 140 ; Dr. —, Bishop of Chester, 3
Chaulner, Elen, 27 ; Robert, 27
Chauntrell, Ales, 46 ; Alice, 16 ; Anne 61 ; Arthur, 29 ; Katherine, 29 ; Margerie, 45 ; Margery, 45 ; Margret, 19 ; Paule, 46 ; Rogor, 14 ; William, 16
Cheshire, Margrett, 106 ; Ralph, 106 ; Sergeant, 124, —, 124
Chesshyre, Sir John, 90 ; Rev. Robert, 90
Chester, The Abbots of, 81 ; Earls of, 113 ; George, Bishop of, 35 ; Hugh, Earl of, 113 ; Hugh Lupus, Count of 75 ; Hugh Lupus, First Earl of, 43 ; The King, Earl of, 53, 96 ; King Richard II., Earl of, 75 ; Nicholas, Bishop of, 44 ; Randle, Earl of, 125 ; Rarulph, Earl of, 97 ; —, Earl of, 70
Chester and Lincolne, Randle, Earle of, 134
Chest'r, John, Bishop of, 85
Chetham, Thomas, Bishop of Sidon, 13
Chippendale, —, 24
Cholmondeley, Charles, 45, 133 ; Dean, 3 ; Earl of, 137 ; General, 44 ; Lord, 96, 105, 110, 116, 124, 134, 137 ; Thomas, 133
Chrimes, Robt. 111 ; William, 111
Christian, John, 91 ; Marie, 120 ; Sicelle, 91 ; Thomas, 120
Church, Dean, 25
Churton, Elizabeth, 10 ; Grace, 96 ; John, 10, 23, 27 ; Rev. John, 10 ; Margaret, 23, 27
Cingley, Grace, 76 ; Nicholas, 76
Clappam, Eddward, 44 ; Katherine, 44

Clare, Rt. Hon. Countess Dowager of, 48
 Clark, John, 8
 Clark (Clarke or Clerk) Thomas, last abbot of St. Werburgh's, and first Dean of Chester, 8, 9, 13
 Clay, John, 125
 Clayton, —, 34
 Cleato' Henerye, 5
 Cleaton, Eliz., 56; Elizabeth, 143; Margaret, 143
 Cleave, Thomas, 49
 Cliff (Clyffe or Clyve), William, L.L.D., Dean of Chester, 13, 24, 25, 26, 30, 31, 55
 Cliffe, Ellen, 138
 Clitheroe, Col., 118
 Clough, Ald. David, 11; Elizabeth 126; William, 126
 Coate, Alexander, 5
 Cocokone, Alice, 64; Germane, 64
 Coddington, Wm., 52
 Coghlan, —, 101
 Colter, Catherine, 50; Wm. 50
 Coke, Rev. (Syr) Thomas, 95; —, 107
 Cokeson, Richard, 87
 Cole, —, 136
 Colley, Henry, 96, 97, 111; —, 105, 137
 Collie, Anne, 56; Margaret, 34
 Collier, —, 129
 Collingwood, Rev. William, 31
 Colly, Elizabeth, 93; Randle, 93; —, 97
 Colton, —, 136
 Coly, Henry, 87
 Comberbach, R., 52
 Comberbatch, Roger, Recorder of Chester, 125
 Combermere, The Abbots of, 81; Field-Marshal Lord, 9; Lord, 9; Mary Woolley, Viscountess, 9
 Combes, George, 54; Margaret, 16; Margett, 54; —, 115
 Combs, —, 136
 Coney, Ales, 23; John, 23
 Conger, Grace, 76
 Connell, John, 123; Margaret, 123
 Conney, John, 52
 Constantine, —, 41
 Conway, Christopher, 26
 Conwaye, Elen, 22
 Cooe, Ellen, 88; John, 88
 Cook (Coke), —, 107
 Cooke, Ales, 69; Anne, 115; Elinor, 29; Elizabeth, 80; Ellenor, 112; Jane, 131; Joanne, 44; Katherne, 123; Katheryn 126; Lowry, 80; Margaret, 83; Nicholas, 80; Peter, 29; Robert, 44, 112; Tho., 52; William, 80, 115
 Cookeson, Ales, 93
 Coop, Elizabeth, 143; William, 143
 Cooper, Sisley, 87
 Copeland, Ales, 80; Nicholas, 80
 Coppal, Charles, 141
 Copple, Charles, 140
 Corbet, Ffr. Maria, 41; Capt. Vincent, 38
 Corker, Ellen, 80
 Corkhill, Margaret, 140
 Cormen, Elen, 58
 Cornes, Anne, 50; Isabell, 32
 Cortmore, Ricous, 26
 Costie, Ellen, 96

Cotes, George, Bishop of Chester, 31; Rev. George, afterwards Bishop of Chester, 13
 Cotgrave, Ald. William, 18
 Cotgreave, Ales, 91
 Cotter, Katherine, 58
 Cottingham, Jane, 32; Richard, 32
 Cottingham, John, 86; —, 33
 Cotton, Ales, 38; Capt., 119; Col. Charles, 126; Coll, 126; Eliz., 56; Admiral Francis Vere, 9; Sir Geo., 88; George, 26, 55, 88; Sir George, 25; Hughe, 56; Margerie, 58; Matilda Hester Mary, 9; Sr. Rich., 88; Sir Richard, 55, 88; Sir Richard, P.C., Comptroller of the Royal Household, 26; Sir Robert, 88, 89, 96, 97, 105, 108, 110, 115, 116, 120, 124, 126, 127, 141; Sir Robert Salusbury, Bart., M.P., 45; Robertus, 141; Sir Robt., 105, 108, 109, 115, 116, 123, 124, 134, 137, 142; Thomas, 88, 89, 96, 105, 108, 109, 110, 115, 116, 123, 124, 134, 137, 141, 145; Tho., 116; Thos., 126, 142; —, 115, 119, 124
 Cottons, The, 31
 Coventrey, Jane, 88; Katherin, 80
 Coventrie, Ric., 145; William, 57, 58, 60, 74; Willm., 70, 71
 Coventry, Rich., 15; Richard, 15, 16; William, 60, 74; —, 41; *see also* De Coventry
 Coventrye, Harry, 14; Margaret, 14; Richard, 15, 16
 Covinen, Ellen, 22
 Cowdocke, Elizabeth, 76; Margaret, 58; Richard, 58
 Cowell, Hugh, 145
 Cowes, Margaret, 53; Robert, 53
 Cowley, Ales, 23, 72; Elen, 64; Jane, 126; Katherine, 42; Margaret, 56; Thomas 64
 Cowper, Ales, 69; Ann, 14; Elen, 58; Elizabeth, 56; Ellen, 14, 22; Margerye, 14; Richard, 56; Robert, 14; Sam., 53; Thomas, 22, 122; Thomas, Mayor of Chester, 103; Dr., —, 140; —, 41, 55
 Cox, E. W., 64, 81, 139; —, 113
 Coyntree, Anne, 86
 Coyntrey, Ellen, 45
 Cragge, Ellen, 96; John, 96
 Craghan, Jane, 27; Thomas, 27
 Cranke, John, 58; Margaret, 58
 Craven, Francis, 111; Fras., 111
 Crew, Edward, 111; John, 111; —, 21
 Crewe, John, 45; (or Crew) Sir John, 17, 18
 Crewen, Jno., 53
 Croasdale, —, 115
 Cricket, —, 41
 Crofoote, Anne, 58
 Croftes, Katherin, 93; Thomas, 93
 Crofton, Jane, 14; —, 85
 Croghan, Margett, 61; Nicollas, 61
 Cromell, John, 27; Katherine, 27
 Cromwell, Eliz., 56; Lord General, 38; Oliver, 130; Ld. Oliver, 2; Randle, 56; —, 28, 100
 Crosbie, Henrye, 61; Mary, 61
 Crosby, —, 20

Crosse, Abigail, 143; Ales, 100; Bryan, 129; Jane, 69, 129; Susanna, 64; Thomas, 69; —, 44; *see also* del Crosse
 Crossen, Brian, 134; Jane, 134
 Crosten, Ellen, 131
 Croughton, Elizabeth, 44; Margaret, 83; M'gerie, 61; Thos., 52; —, 34
 Crouther, *see* Le Crouther
 Crowton, —, 41
 Croxon, James, 52
 Croxton, James, 109, 126, 141, 142; Richard, 126, 141, 142; Col. T., 38; —, 109, 116, 134
 Crumpe, Catheryne, 75; Elizabeth, 76, 93; Ellen, 76; Hugh, 103; Margrett, 103; Raffe, 75
 Crumwell, Margery, 126; —, 12
 Crye, John, 42; Katherine, 42
 Cryer, Ellen, 103; John, 103
 Cudworth, George, 111; John, 111
 Cummerbach, Rogr., 52
 Curmin, Elizabeth, 103; William, 103
 Curry, —, 119, 121
 Cust, Sir Edward, Bart., 59; General Sir Edward, K.C.B., 121, 122; Lady —, 121
 Cutts, —, 60

D.

Daalby, —, 119, 121
 Daggett, Doritie, 61; Thomas, 61
 Daggett, Moode, 131
 Dale, Grace, 58; Harry, 96; Katherin, 93; Margaret, 96; Omfrey, 58
 Dall, Jane, 52
 Dalton, John, 133
 Dannat, Elizabeth, 44; Joane, 23; Richard, 44
 Dannett, Christopher, 134; Elizabeth, 134
 Darnold, John, 123; Katherne, 123
 Danport, Jane, 72
 Danson, Alexander, 129; Prudence, 129
 Danvers, Sir Tho., 44
 Darby, William, Earle of, 11; —, 33
 Darwall, Jane, 88; William, 88
 Davenport, Ales, 53
 Davenport, *see* De Davenport
 Davenport, Edward, 133; Francis, 133; Humphrey, 133; William, 133; Wm., 45
 David, Margaret Verghe, 38; Sybill, 72
 Davies, Eliz., 27; Phillip, 27
 Davie, Ales, 34; Alles, 76; Ann, 80; Anne, 74; Bartholomew, 34; Ellen, 34, 42, 96; Jane, 37; Jevan, 20; Katherine, 61; Katheryn, 126; Luce, 42; Marget, 20; Richard, 37, 126
 Davies, Agnes, 14; Ales, 126; Alles, 72; Anne, 42; Elenor, 85; Elizabeth, 74, 131; Frances, 143; Grace, 58; Jane, 64, 109, 134; John, 42; Katherine, 22; Margaret, 138; Margaret, 138; Raffe, 72; Richard, 131, 138; Roger, 74; Samuel, Organist of Chester Cathedral, 44; Thomas, 45, 134, 138, 140, 143; —, 1, 3

Davis, Ales, 145; John, 145; Margaret, 145
 Davison, Elen, 56; Willia., 56
 Davye, Jane, 131
 Davyechild, Thomas, 144
 Dawes, Sir William, Bp. of Chester, and Archbishop of York, 51
 Dawson, John, 133; Thomas, 133; —, 129, 130
 Day, Arthur, 100; Sialye, 100
 Daye, Elen, 56; Peter, 56
 Dayne, William, 5
 De Acton, Adam, 73; Philip, 16
 De Albany, Wm., 70
 De Aldetheley (or Audley) Henry, 134
 De Amerie, Sr Richard, 34
 De Beamont, Adam, 69
 De Bebington, Henry, 87; John, 87
 De Bebynton, Henry, 87; William, 96
 De Bellesby (or Belesby), Walter, 70
 De Blunderville, Randle, Count of Chester and Lincoln
 De Bolde (or Bold), Thomas, Constable of Chester Castle, 16
 De Coventry, Walter, 70
 De Davenport, Henry, 53
 De Derby, Robert, 127
 De Eccleston, Wm., 127
 De Foxwyst, Vivian, 87
 De Hallum, Sr. Thomas, 34
 De or Del Hole, Roger, 58
 De Holes, Roger, 53
 De Kyngelegh, John, 75
 De la Mare, —, 40
 De la More, Robert, 127; —, 34
 De Lascelles, John, 70; William, 70
 De Legh, John, 16
 De Litherlond, John, 87
 De Malbedeng, Willelmus, 134
 De Manley, Richard, 87
 De Masci, Hamon, Baron of Dunham Massey, 81
 De Meoles, John, 53, 96; William, 53
 De Merton, Stephen, 95
 De Moeles, Henry, 53; John, 53
 De Mossok, Henry, 127
 De Mottershed, Edmund, 16
 De Pratell, —, 104
 De Pulle, James, 87
 De Ravenscroft, Henry, 53
 De Saynesbury, John, 53
 De Saynysbury, John, 96
 De Stanley, Chevalier John, 87; Chevalier William, 87
 De Terkynnton, Robert, 16
 De Trussel, Sir Wm., 1st Speaker of the House of Parliament, 44
 De Walay, Thomas, 87
 De Waley, Thomas, 53
 De Welton, Bertram, Bishop of Durham, 100
 De Wetenhale, John, 96
 De Wilbram, William, 96
 De Worth, John, 16
 Dea, Jane, 64; John, 64
 Dean, Ann, 80; Anne, 75; Ellen, 93; George, 93; Jane, 93; Sir John, 6; Thomas, 75, 93
 Deane, Henry, 52; John, 39; Sir (Rev.) John, 39, 40, 62, 79; Katherine, 16; Laurence, 39, 62;

Rauf, 5; Richard, 39; Richarde, 39; Roger, 39
 Dedwood, —, 33
 Deinsonne, Katherine, 54
 Del Crosse, Richard, Mayor of Liverpool, 127
 Del Dene, Thomas Le Warde, 16
 Del Donnes, Robert, 16
 Del Hogh, Christopher, 53
 Del Lee, Thomas, 53, 87
 Del Meles, Johannes, 127
 Del Meoles, John, 87; William, 87
 Del Rigge, John de Legh, 16
 Delamere, George Booth, Lord, 17; Lord, 133
 Delves, Johannes, 80; Capt. John, 38; Sir John, 80; Thomas, 73
 Delves-Broughton, Sir Henry, 101
 Dene, *see* Del Dene
 Dennis, Elizabeth, 58
 Denson, Ellen, 72; Jane, 128; Jno., 52
 Derby, Charles, Earl of, 35; Earl of, Lord of the Isle of Man, 13; Earls of, 93; Ferdinando, Earl of, 59; James Stanley, Earl of, 38; Lord, 65; Lord of, 107; William, Earl of, 59; *see also* De Derby
 Despensers, The, 44
 Dicas, Ales, 69; Randle, 69
 Dichborne, Agnes, 16; Thomas, 16
 Dickens, Dr., —, 98
 Dickson, Archibald, 93, 98; Hannah, 93, 98
 Dicus, Dowse, 61; Thomas, 61
 Ditchfield, Laurentius, 26
 Dixon, Chris., 2
 Dobb, Ales, 93; Thomas, 16
 Dobbs, Thomas, 16
 Dobson, Amicia, 139; —, 136
 Dod, Elizabeth, 138; George, 45; Rev. Dr. Nathaniel, 4; Ralph, 53; Richard, 138; Saml., 53; William, 133; Rev. William, 133
 Dodd, Ales, 34; Alles, 82; Doritie, 42; Jane, 61; Margery, 23
 Dodson, —, 118, 120
 Dogan, Christopher, 53; Elizabeth, 53
 Doncaster, —, 33
 Done, Ales, 53; Ann, 138; Major, 17; Robert, 53; —, 40
 Dorington, Ann, 20; William, 20
 Doune, John, K., 84
 Dounes, *see* Del Dounes
 Dowe, Ellen, 19
 Downam, James, 61; Marget, 61
 Downebell, Marget, 34
 Downham, Margarita, 93; Dr. —, Bishop of Chester, 3
 Downes, Helen, 92; Helle', 102; Capt. John, 38; Peter, 92, 102; Philip, 39
 Downis, Phillipp, 79
 Downshire, Lady, 9
 Dowson, Jacobus, 26
 Dracut, Henry, 91; Margaret, 91
 Draycott, John, 36, 57; Mary, 36, 57
 Drihurst, Richard, 26
 Drinkwater, Arnold, 131; Elizabeth, 140; Jane, 19; Peter, 61; Richard, 9, 131; Sara, 61; William, 9, 14, 131, 140
 Duckenfield, Colonel R., 38

Ducker, Marget, 34
 Dudleys, The, 25
 Dugdale, —, 113, 134
 Duker, Gwen, 34
 Dnn, Rev. Thomas, 55
 Duncalf or Duncalfe, Emme, 4, 5; Henerie, 20; Jefferye, 4; Jeffrey, 4; Joane, 20; John, 4, 5, 19, 20; Johnne, 5; Margret, 20; Margrett, 20; M'garet, 5; Raphe, 20; Rauf, 4, 5; Raufe, 4; Thomas, 20; William, 20; Wm., 20; —, 67
 Duncauf, Rauf, 4
 Dune, David, 22; Elizabeth, 22
 Dunham-Massey, Barons of, 120; Lord Baron of, 127
 Dunn, Ales, 115
 Dunning, —, 113
 Dunstefelt, Ales, 53; John, 53
 Dutton, "Dolly," 143; Edward, 18; John, 45; Joseph, 53; Katherine, 54; Randle, 54; Roland, 45; Sir Thomas, 80; —, 40
 Dybumberie, —, 41
 Dye, Grace, 83
 Dykes, John, 87
 Dymmock, Ald. David, 11
 Dymmocke, Mary, 16
 Dymocke, William, 18

E.

 Earbie, Ales, 61; John, 61
 Eare, Dorothea, 96
 Earwaker, J. P., 106; —, 28, 67, 92, 102, 124, 131
 Earwood, Bridget, 67
 Eaton, Catherine, 138; Edward, 88; Elen, 33, 58; Elizabeth, 20; Ellen, 88; Henry, 133; Jane, 19; John, 20; Rev. Joseph, 79; Katherine, 14; Thomas, 14, 58; Widowe, 20; Willm., 138
 Eccles, Adam, 115; John, 140, 141; Mary, 115
 Eccleston, *see* De Eccleston, 127
 Echells, —, 115
 Edd, *see* Ap Edd
 Eddowes, —, 88, 89
 Eddows, Robert, 88
 Eddwards, Gwen, 34
 Edge, Ales, 91
 Edgerton, Lrd., Baron of Eilesmare, 88; Richard, 80; Sr. Tho., Solicitor General to Queen Elizabeth, 88
 Edmundson, Robert, 145
 Edward, *see* Ap Edward
 Edward, The Black Prince, 80
 Edward I., King of England, 29, 43, 81, 132, 144
 Edward II., King of England, 81
 Edward III., King of England, 91, 132, 138
 Edward VI., King of England, 13, 25, 31, 55
 Edwardes, Ellen, 96; Jane, 20
 Edwards, Elizabeth, 83; Ellyn, 88; John, 53; Thomas, 53; William, 122; —, 11
 Edwards, The, Kings of England, 59
 Egerton, Jane, 72; John, 53; John, Baron of Court of Exchequer, 5; Lady, 45; Leonard, 133; Margerie, 17; Margeret, 16; Peter,

Egerton—continued.

133; Sir Philip, 30; Rauffe, 16; Thomas, 72; Rt. Hon. Sir Thomas, P.C., Lord Keeper, and Master of the "Bowles," 5; —, 65

Egerton-Warburton, Rev. G., 131

Egertons, The, 106

Eggerton, Richard, K., 84

Eggerton, Philippe, K., 84

Egyker, John, 34; Katherine, 34

Elcooke, Alexr., 111; Robert, 111

Ellis, Malte, 53

Elizabeth, Queen of England, 23, 43,

48, 55, 59, 65, 88

Elles, Ales, 14

Ellesby, Rev. James, 44

Ellis, Jane, 131; William, 131;

—, 41

Ellise, Hugh, 134; Maud, 134

Emerugge, —, 40

Enos, Anthonye, 19; Marget, 19

Ensdales, Elyn, 115; Robert, 115

Erasmus, 68

Ery, Margaret, 126

Erye, Margaret, 123

Essex, Earle of, 60; G. Fitz-Peter,

Earl of, 70

Eston, —, 40

Euenes, Riest (Rice Evans), 52

Evan, *see ap* Evan, 50, 76

Evanes, Anne, 106

Evans, Elizabeth, 103; Ellen, 103;

John, 22; Judith, 46; Kath-

erine, 29; Katherine, 22; Kath-

eryn, 83; Maudelen, 64; Rice,

52; Thomas, 64; William, 103;

—, 129, 136

Evens, George, 52

Everard, James, 140, 141; Jas., 140

Evervys, —, 41

Eves, Ellen, 91

Evrton, Margaret, 145

Eythell, *see* Ab Eythell

F.

Falloweis, Georg., 5

Falsha, William, 52

Families: Acton, 73, 75; Adams,

48; Alderley, 73; Arden, 75;

Aston, 29; Audelegh, 64;

Audley, 64, 97; Barrow, 6;

Bostoke, 75; Broughton, 100,

101; Brownell or Brownhill, 92,

93, 97, 98, 101, 102, 103; Bun-

bury, 121; Cartwright, 6;

Cholmondeley, 73, 75, 87; Chorle-

ton, 73; Clive, 24; Comberbatch,

125; Cooke, 29, 35, 90; Cotton,

25, 120; Coventry, 61; Davies,

11; De Barry, 65; De or Del

Hole, 58; Delves, 100; Delves-

Broughton, 100; "Derby," 56;

Done, 17, 75; Drinkwater, 67;

Duncalfe, 67; Egerton, 75;

Egerton-Warburton, 90; Elton,

73; Erskine, 125; Finch-Hatton,

3; Fimmore, 89; Fletcher, 86;

Gerard, 75, 107; Gerrard, 75;

Glegg, 63; Grosvenour, 75;

Hamilton, 70; Hapsford, 73;

Hatton, 73; *see also* Finch-

Hatton, 3; Haydock, 35; Hayes,

40; Hellesbio, 73, 75; Helsbie,

35; Hockenhill, 56; Hole, 58;

Holme, 131; Hyde, 90; Ireland,

87; Keene, 38, 47; Kingsley,

75; Kingsley, 76; Knottesforde,

73; Knowsley, 64; Knutsford,

73; Lane, 70; Latham, 65; Le

Little, 73; Le Roter, 75; Lee or

Lea, 73; Leycester, 72; Lowe,

90; Maddock, Maddocks, or

Madox, 125; Mainwaring, 72;

Maisterson, 120; Malpass, 73;

Massey, 144; Meols or Meoles,

14, 15, 16, 127; Minshall, 87;

Parr, 144; Poole, 10, 11, 27, 30,

121; Pownall, 66; Pulford, 35;

Richardson, 73; Rowley, 73;

Butter, 35, 73, 75; Smith, 65, 66;

Snell, 58, 64, 125; Staneley or

Stonelegh, 64; Stanley, 36, 64,

65, 72, 73; Stanley, 57; Thick-

nesse, 67; Thorneaton, 29; Tor-

book, 65; Torfote, 73; Venables,

27, 33, 47; Vernon, 72; War-

burton, 73; Weldon, 100;

Wettenhall, 120; Whitmore, 47;

Whitney, 6; Wilbraham, 72;

Woodhouse, 73; Wright, 35.

See also "Surnames."

Fancit (or Fancit), Walter, 142

Farrington, Robert, 111; Rt., 111

Fartlyff, Anne, 88

Fasagerley, Anne, 27

Fasaker, Anne, 85; Edward, 85

Fasekerly, Jane, 118

Fauconberg, Lord, 44

Faukner, Amye, 19

Fazaker, Ann, 96

Fearnall, Ellen, 137

Featherstonhaugh, Sir Timothy, 27,

38

Fells, Myles, 28

Fenn, *see* Ap Fenn

Fenwick, —, 38

Ferguson, James, 52

Fermors (Farmers), Earls of Pomfret,

101

Ferne, Henry, Bishop of Chester,

90

Fernes, Elizabeth, 61

Fernoghe, Ales, 54; Randle, 54

Fetherston, Sir Timothy, 38

Fetherstonhaugh, Sir Timothy, 38

ffallowe, Edward, 5

ffallowes, Georg., 5; Margaret, 5

ffletcher, Charles, 105; Edward,

5; —, 89, 110, 116, 124

ffetchers, Harry, 123

Fielding, —, 57

Filken, Thomas, 45

Filkyn, Katharyn, 120; Thomas,

120

Finch, Lt.-Col. Simon, 38

Finchet, Margaret, 56; Thomas, 56

Finchett, Maud, 134

Finnere, (or Finnore), Archdeacon

William, 89

Fimmore, Gulielmus, 90; Philippa,

90; Archdeacon William, 90;

Rev. William, 90

Fisher, Ales, 123; Ellen, 103; Jane,

34, 67; Richard, 34; Wm., 45,

67; —, 33

Fitch, Elizabeth, 64

Fitton, Ales, 58; Sir Edward, 92;

Ald. John, 11

Fitz-Alans, The, 70

Fitz-Peter, G., Earl of Essex, 70

FitzWilliams, Michael, 57

Flecher, Anne, 46; Eliz., 20, 58;

Hughes, 20; Jane, 50; Peter, 50;

Richard, 58; Thomas, 46

Fleck, Wm, 45

Fleother, John, 52

fletcher, Edwards, 5

Fletcher, Ales, 96; Elyzabeth, 118;

George, 86; Hugh, 86; John,

53, 86, 87, 115; Margaret, 76;

Robert, 86, 87, 96; Sara, 115;

Tho., 52; Thomas, 86; Ald.

Thomas, 18; William, 52, 76, 86;

Wm., 86

Floyed, Jones, 72; Robert, 72

Fludd, Mary, 115

Flymye, Gwen, 64; Thomas, 64

Foorde, Jane, 87

Forshall, Will., 52

Forshawe, Jane, 103; John, 103

Forsheue, Jane, 74; John, 74

Foster, Jane, 19; Wm., 19; —,

11, 12, 102

Foulke, Letice, 20; Wm., 20

Foulkes, Ales, 50; Elizabeth, 10;

Rauff, 50

Fowler, —, 11

Fox, Bishop, 25; Elizabeth, 76;

George, 129; John, 76, 87;

Richard, Bishop of Winchester,

and Lord Privy Seal, 11; Wm.,

53

Foxley, Katherine, 138

Foxolle, Ellen, 56

Foxwyst, *see* De Foxwyst

Francis, Marget, 38; Richard, 38

Fraunces, Elizabeth, 93; Robt., 93

Frebody, Sicely, 74

Freeman, E. A., 7

Freer, Thomasen, 22

French, John, 111, 137

Froissart, 80

Fromway, Eliz., 93; Thomas, 93

Fulleshurst, Sir Robert, 80

Fulton, Thomas, 140

Fyme, Margaret, 38; Richard, 38

Fyndley, Margaret, 131

Fynmore, Rev. Gulielmus, 90

Fysher, Ales, 74

G.

Gage, Colonel, 89; Sir Henry,

Governor of Oxford, 89

Galawaye, Jane, 19; Wm., 19

Galbraith, —, 129

Gally, Richard, 133; Samuel, 133

Gamon, John, 2, 56

Gamull, Ald. Thomas, 18

Gamwalle, Ald. Edmond, 11

Gardner, Margaret, 96; Margaret,

137; Thomas, 187

Garfeyld, Ales, 72; Eliz., 61;

Elizabeth, 106; John, 106;

Sicelie, 91

Garfild, Elizabeth, 32

Garnet, Anne, 45

Garrat, Ales, 32; Eliza., 58; John,

138; Marie, 138

Garratt, Ales, 53; Margerie, 109

Garrett, Jane, 72

Gaskell, Ales, 106; Raph, 106

Gaskyn, Elizabeth, 134; William,

134

Gasment, Margaret, 96; William,

96

Gasquet, —, 12

Gastrell, Bishop, 46, 47, 49; —, 8, 31
 Gathby, Thomas, 145
 Gauther, Margaret, 96
 Gee, —, 33
 Gelder, Jane, 143
 Gelibrond, Pat., 21
 George I., King of England, 24
 George III., King of England, 23, 24
 Gerard, Sr. Wm., 21
 Gerrard, Col. Gilbert, 90
 Gest, Thomas, 145
 Gibbs, Rev. John, 13
 Gibson, "Father," 20; —, 136
 Gifford, —, 125
 Gilberte, Ellen, 138
 Gildas, 65
 Gill, Anne, 45; Christopher, 56; Ellen, 42; Grace, 56; John, 14, 15, 16; Richard, 45
 Gillam, Ales, 34; Thomas, 34
 Gitten Ellenor, 106; Richard, 106
 Gittens, Rev., —, 41
 Gladstone, —, 119
 Gladstones, The, 121
 Glaseour, Wm., 45
 Glasier, Ald. Hugh, 11
 Gleave, Agnes, 56; George, 47, 50, 100, 129; Kathern, 20; Matthew, 40; Thomas, 49, 56; William, Alderman of London, 49; —, 82
 Glecke, Jane, 67
 Gregg, Edw., 16; Edward, 15; Gilbert, 87, 95, 96; Henry, 63, 64; Joan, 95, 96; John, 63, 64, 96; Lady, 108; Wm., 145; —, 119
 Glegge, Gilbert, 53
 Glendall, —, 115
 Gliffard, Bathahna, 115; William, 115
 Glover, Rev. Thomas, 15, 16
 Glukeruth, Jane, 131; John, 131
 Godde, —, 33
 Golborn, John, 116
 Golborne, Richard, 15
 Golbyrne, Jane, 50
 Golden, Joseph, 45
 Goleborn, —, 136
 Good, Amye, 19; Dorithie, 145; Dority, 115; William, 115; Wm., 19
 Goodacre, James, 49; Richard, 63
 Goodicar, Anne, 58; Robt., 145
 Goodigar, Richard, 64
 Goodman, John, 5; Rev. Wms., 3
 Gorten, Elizabeth, 134
 Goswell, Jane, 16; Peter, 16
 Gough, Jno., 46
 Gouldbourn, William, 98
 Gower, Dr., —, 140
 Gowyn, Jone, 123
 Grafton, Anne, 32; James, 32
 Gramwall, Ann, 19
 Grange, Ales, 20, 106; Jane, 61; Raffe, 20; Raffe, 61
 Grannors (Grosvenor), Sr. Rich., 21
 Grantham, Captain Richard, 38
 Granwall, John, 22; Marget, 22
 Grasty, John, 133; Rev. Samuel, 133
 Grasty, Randle, 5
 Gravenor, Thomas, 84
 Gray, Thomas, 88; (The Poet), 47; —, 130

Greaves, Capt. James, 67
 Greege, Anne, 51
 Greenall, Archdeacon, 40
 Greene, Edward, 86; Edwd., 86; Rev. Francis, 87; John, 56; Katherine, 56; Ald. Thomas, 11
 Greenhalgh, Henry, 133; Orlando, 133; Thomas, 133; —, 114
 Greenhalghe, John, 115
 Gregg, Elizabeth, 138; Robert, 15, 138
 Gregge, Margarette, 140
 Gregorie, Anne, 45; Ellen, 87, 91; John, 45; William, 91
 Gregory, Abram, 53; Rev. Edward, 31, 55; Lowry, 74, 80; Richard, 74
 Gregson, Matthew, F.S.A., 3; Wm. E., 22
 Gresste, Anne, 27; Hughe, 27
 Gresty, John, 142; Rev. Samuel, 142
 Grice, Jane, 143; Sammy, 61
 Griffies, Tho., 126, 141; Thomas, 126
 Griffies, Thomas, 126
 Griffin, Margaret, 145; Phillipe, 145
 Griffith, Dorithie, 29; Elizabeth, 115; Howell, 115; John, 138; Captain John, 38; Margaret, 80, 93, 145; Margaret, 138; Peires, 96; Richard, 145; Thos., 46
 Grimaldi, —, 61
 Grimsdich, Jane, 91
 Grimsdiche, Anne, 45; Elizabeth, 20; Richard, 26
 Grimshaw, Edward, 93, 98; Elizabeth, 93, 98
 Grise, Anne, 91; Jane, 50
 Griste, Marget, 29; Thomas, 29
 Grosvenor, Lord, 119; Sir Richard, 52, 60; Robert, 52; Thomas, 52
 Gruff, Eliz., 14; Katherine, 61; Randle, 61; Urselowe, 46
 Gruffie, Anne, 38; Jane, 38
 Gruffyth, Anne, 118
 Gryce, Anne, 75
 Grymes, Katheryn, 115, 131; Thomas, 131
 Grymsdich, Jane, 76; Mary, 134; Thomas, 134
 Guest Georje, 111; Rev. Randle, 111; Randolph, 111
 Guile, Margaret, 96; Marget, 29
 Gunston, Alice, 64; John, 64
 Guyle, John, 145; Wm., 145
 Gwynne, Doritie, 32
 Gibbon, Elen, 29; John, 29
 Gybbons, Ann, 80; Hector, 80
 Gybon, Jane, 19
 Gyle, Elizabeth, 72; Robert, 72
 Gyles, Richard, 144; Thomas, 144
 Gytten, M'garet, 69
 Gytim, Marget, 50; William, 50

H.

H.. Rand, 3
 Haconnn, Anne, 118; John, 118
 Haddington, Ellen, 38; Richard, 38
 Haies, Marget, 23, 27; Thomas, 23, 27
 Haiton, Ales, 46; Harry, 46; Hughe, 34; Margaret, 34
 Haiward, Ellen, 19
 Hakes, Jane, 61
 Hale, John, 133; William, 133
 Halewall, Anne, 32; Richard, 32

Halifax, George Savile, Marquis of, 116
 Halliwell, Jane, 54; Joane, 56; Katherine, 45; Richard, 54; William, 56; Wm., 45
 Hall, Anne, 134; James, 6, 9, 11, 36, 40, 88, 142; Joseph, 137; —, 35
 Halland, Elizabeth, 87; Ellis, 87; John, 87
 Halle, Elizabeth, 72
 Halliwell, Anne, 118; Elizabeth, 134; —, 14, 21, 35, 36
 Hallowed, Jane, 58; Syslye, 53
 Hallum, see De Hallum
 Halsall, Richard, 98
 Halton, —, 41
 Halywell, Jane, 19; Randle, 19
 Haman, Margaret, 126; Stephen, 126
 Hamiltons, The, 70
 Hammonnt, Anne, 37
 Hamnet, Ellen, 87; Henry, 19; Jane, 54, 143; John, 54, 86; Katherine, 56; Margaret, 138; Rauffe, 87
 Hamond, Geo., 137
 Hampton, —, 41
 Hancock, John, 52, 133; Rev. John, D.D., 133; Nehemiah, 52; Pusey, 133; Ralph, 133; Tho., 52; Thomas, 52, 133; William, 133; —, 136
 Hancock, James, 38; Jane, 29; John, 42; Luce, 42; Marget, 38; Thomas, 29
 Hancock, William, 63
 Hande, Jane, 50, 138, 143; William, 143; Wm., 50
 Handforth, John, 134; Robert, 134; William, 133
 Handley, Ales, 22; Eliz., 17; Thomas, 17, 22
 Hankey, John, 39
 Hanky, Ald., 18
 Hankye, Ales, 34
 Hanle, Marget, 19
 Hammer, Ald. Ed., 11
 Hanshall, —, 37, 38
 Hansonne, Gwen, 34; Kynrige, 34
 Harbarte, Sir Edward, 78
 Hardyman, Rev. John, 55
 Harestall, Ellen, 34; Harry, 34
 Harford, Anne, 61
 Harison, Ales, 138; Anne, 138; Grace, 16; Margerie, 14; Thomas, 16, 138
 Harley, Richard, 52
 Harper, Ellen, 88; Tho., 5; —, 136
 Harpur, Fras., 111; Isaac, 111
 Harrell, Margaret, 91
 Harrison, Elizabeth, 67; Ellen, 76; Grace, 16; Jane, 50, 103; John, 76, 103; Margaret, 103; Robert, 67; Thomas, 103; Wm., 100; —, 112, 113
 Harrop, —, 117
 Harry, see Ap Harry
 Harvie, Robert, 145
 Harvye, Thomas, 18
 Harwar, —, 115
 Haryson, Edwd., 87
 Haesall, Richard, 84; Thomas, 53; —, 26, 115
 Haeselhurst, Katheryn, 129; William, 129

Hastie, Ann, 74, 78, 83; Anne, 56, 57, 60, 70, 71; Edward, 70, 71, 74
 Haswell, Thomas, 50; William, 61, 62; W. and Son, 81
 Hatton, Sir Christopher, K.G., 3; Elizabeth, 58; Lord Viscount, 3; Mary, 2, 3, 31; Piers, 2; Thomas, 58; Sr. Wm., 145
 Hatwodge, Elizabeth, 131
 Haule, Anne, 34; Eddward, 38; Isabell, 29; Jane, 34; Katherine, 38; Mandelyn, 61; Randle, 61; Richard, 34; Thomas, 29
 Haustid, Ales, 33
 Hawarden, —, 33
 Hawes —, 41
 Hawford, Rev. Edward, 55
 Hawkstone, Sir John, 80
 Hawteth, Ellen, 134
 Haydock, Katherin, 85; William, 85
 Haydocks, —, 4
 Hayes, John, 52; Joseph, 52
 Haywood, Robert, 53
 Head, —, 128
 Healy, Katherine, 143
 Heapie, Jane, 32
 Heath, Katheryn, 131; Ralph, 115
 Heatley, Hugh, 10
 Heaton, Ricardus, 34
 Heaward, John, 87
 Hebbert, Henry 111; Wm., 111
 Heblethwaite, Rev. Robert, 55
 Hees, Anne, 129
 Heighfield, Elenor, 145; Margerie, 16
 Hekyn, Anne, 15
 Helley, Wm., 53
 Hellie, Anne, 85
 Helsby, Megge, 32; Randolph, 31, 32; T., 3, 28, 32, 35, 44, 66, 90, 105, 108; —, 11, 16, 33, 38, 53
 Hely, John, 144
 Helye, Jhon, 145
 Hemingway, —, 7, 8, 122, 123
 Henbury, Wm., 52
 Henschman, —, 136
 Henry, Matthew, 89; Philip, 89
 Henry III., King of England, 134
 Henry VIII., King of England, 7, 12, 13, 25, 54, 68, 91
 Herbert, Anne, 56
 Hereford, Herbert, Bishop of, 44
 Heskaime, —, 21
 Heskie, Anne, 50
 Heskye, Katherine, 45
 Hevell, Grace, 131; Thomas, 131
 Hexam, Ales, 54; Anne, 50; Robert, 50; Wm., 54
 Hey, William, 131
 Hiccock, John, 134
 Hicocke, Eliz., 29, 46; Rauffe, 46
 Hickson, Ellen, 138; John, 52; William, 138
 Hicson, Elizabeth, 20; John, 61; Katherine, 45; Marget, 61
 Higgen, Samuell, 52
 Higgenet, Elen, 29; Elenor, 85; Jane, 115; John, 85
 Higgins, Katherin, 27; Rauff
 Higgynson, Isabell, 83; William, 83
 Highfold, Elen, 143; Thomas, 143
 Hignett Elizabeth, 106; James, 106
 Hilson, Marget, 67; Wm., 67
 Hill, Ales, 80; Anne, 45; Elizabeth, 14, 16; Frances, 64; George, 145; Jane, 145

Hinks, Edward, 45
 Hoar, —, 129
 Hobbord, Marget, 38
 Hookenhull, Agnes, 56; Ann, 83, 84; Anne, 56; Dicke, 74; Ellen, 109; Henry, 56; John, 56, 58, 83; Richard, 56, 57, 58, 60, 70, 71, 73, 74, 77, 78, 83
 Hodgkins, John, Bishop of Bedford, 13
 Hodgkyn, Ales, 34; Elen, 56; Ellen, 50; John, 34
 Hodgson, Elen, 61; Eliz., 14; John, 14
 Hodson, Sam., 46
 Hogge, Marget, 34
 Hogb, *see* Del Hogh
 Hoghton, Grace, 61
 Holcroft, Henricus, 34
 Holdenby, —, 3
 Hole, *see* De or Del Hole
 Holes, *see* De Holes
 Holland, Anne, 129; Edward, 134; Elizabeth, 87; Ellis, 87; Esther, 52; Hugh, 87; James, 91; Jane, 91, 103; John, 87; William, 19; Rev. William, 134; —, 36
 Hollant, Ellen, 19; Marget, 61; Wm., 19
 Holliday, Elizabeth, 93, 98; John, 93, 98; Mathew, 98; Matthew, 93, 98; Nathaniel, 93, 98
 Hollinshed, Elizabeth, 134
 Holliwell, Jno., 53
 Hollmes, Mary, 134
 Holme, Henry, 85; Isabell, 85; Randle, 122, 123, 131; William, 98
 Holmes, Randle, 106
 Holwick, Rafe, 87
 Homes, Ellen, 138; Thomas, 138
 "Honest Harry," 110, 124
 Hood, Joan, 126
 Hooe, Ellen, 137
 Hoolbrooke, John, 111; Ralph, 111
 Hoowe, Elizabeth, 64; John, 64
 Hope, John, 33
 Hopkins, Rev. Richd., 111; Samuel, 111
 Hoppwood, Elizabeth, 42
 Hopton, Anne, 14
 Horace, 68
 Hore, Eliz., 61
 Hornebee, Eddward, 37; Jane, 37
 Hough, Ales, 138; Anne, 80; Hugh, 138; Jno., 79; John, 86; Thomas, 80
 Houghe, Ales, 46; Randle, 46
 Houghton, Elen, 32; Elizabeth, 112; Hugh, 140; Isabell, 140; Jane, 54; John, 34; Margerie, 34
 Houlme, Ranulph, 19
 How, Mary, 14; Thomas, 14
 Howard, Joe, 143; —, 130
 Howe, Ales, 80; Isabell, 56; Thomas, 56, 80
 Howell, Anne, 115; John, 115
 Howgreave, Elen, 32; Richar, 32
 Hue, Elizabeth, 22
 Huet, Anne, 34; Rev. John, 8; Wm., 34
 Hugh, Earl, 66; Earl of Chester, 613; Earle, 134
 Hughe, Ales, 69; Jane Verghe, 14; Thomas, 69

Hughes, Eliz., 56; Elizabeth, 19; Ellen, 138; Lanslot, 19; Margaret, 140; Owen, 56; Peter, 53; Robert, 140; T., 140; Thomas, 82; Thomas, F.S.A., 62; —, 82, 140
 Hughesonne, Jane, 61; John, 61
 Hughson, Katherin, 80; Moode, 131; Richard, 80; Thomas, 131
 Hulbert, —, 144
 Hulme, —, 115
 Humberston, Philip Stapleton, 61; Miss, —, 61, 62; —, 61, 62, 119
 Hume, Dr., 46
 Humphrey, Ellen, 100; Evan, 100
 Humsterton, Eliz., 14
 Hunt, Jane, 72; Prudence, 129; Thos., 45; William, 72
 Huntington, Alice, 64; Elizabeth, 85; Jane, 58; Nathaniel, 141; Natth., 140; William, 58, 85
 Hurleston, Dorothy, 57, 60, 83; John, 86; Rich., 45; Roger, 18, 30, 57
 Hurlston, Dorothie, 57, 74; Dorothy, 83; Roger, 57, 74
 Hurste, Ales, 54
 Hutschen, John, 53
 Hutchinson, Margaret, 115
 Huxley, George, 47; Mary, 47
 Huyt, Elizabeth, 72; Ellen, 72; Robert, 72
 Hyckes, Clement, 6
 Hyde, E., 37; Jane, 69; Robert, 69
 Hyggynson Ktheryne, 74
 Hyll, Richard, 20
 Hylton, Jane, 115; Raffe, 115
 Hynd, Anne, 50; John, 50; Marget, 61
 Hyne, Eliz., 69; John, 69; Marie, 51; Thomas, 51

I.

Ince, Ales, 22; Anne, 50; Ellen, 64, 91; Mary, 27, 100; Mandelyn, 61; Nicollas, 64; Richard, 27, 50; Robert, 22; Rondle, 100; Symone, 22; William, 122; William, Mayor of Chester, 103; —, 42
 Ingelfield, Kathren, 103
 Ireland, Ales, 46; Richard, 46; Wms., 4
 Irvine, Wm. Fergusson, 1, 4, 14, 16, 19, 30, 35, 44, 58, 64, 66, 79, 82, 84, 87, 94, 95, 96, 98, 99, 128, 131, 139
 Ithell, Anne, 123; Ellen, 22; Jane, 69

J.

Jackson, Anne, 118; Isabell, 83, 140; John, 118; Margt., 126; Rich., 142; Richd., 141; William Thompson, 43; —, 21, 22, 119
 Jacksonne, Anne, 131; Richard, 131
 Jacson, Eliz., 42; Richard, 42
 Jainson, Marget, 67; Rebecca, 102; Richard, 67; Rev. Thos., M.A., 102
 James I., King of England, 59, 90
 James II., King of England, 17
 Jameson, Edward, 46; Ellen, 46

Janian, Ales, 93; Elizabeth, 76; Richard, 76, 93
 Janion, Ales, 14, 115; Elizabeth, 80; J., 49; M'garet, 87; William, 87; Wm., 14
 Jankyson, Thomas, 53
 Janny, Robert, 111; Rev. Robert, 111
 Jarratt, Thomas, 52
 Jaxon, Elen, 56
 Jaynson, Elizabeth, 76
 Jeffrey, Ales, 27
 Jeinkyn, Margerie, 14; Peter, 14
 Jenkine, Marie, 138
 Jenkins, Rev., A.F.S.P., 37
 Jenkyn, Elizabeth, 128; Katheryne, 72; Peter, 72
 Jenkynson, Thomas, 96
 Jenson, Anne, 61; John, 126; Margaret, 126; Thomas, 61
 Jessop, Dr., —, 103
 Jevan, *see* Ap Jevan
 Jeynson, Arthur, 92; John, 92; Nathaniel, 92; Bebecca, 92; Thomas, 92; Rev. Thomas, 98; Rev. Thomas, M.A., 92; William, 92
 Jiles, Ralph, 52
 Jodrell, Edm., 112; Edmund, 112
 "John," 61, 62
 John, Jane, 69; Jevan, 69
 John o' th' Thickwithies, 67
 Johns, Ales, 91; David, 100, 109; Elen, 61; Ellen, 45; Evan, 100; Gwen, 64; Henry, 112; Jane, 16, 38, 51, 69; John, 16; Katherin, 93; Katherine, 34; Margaret, 100; Margaret, 14; Margerie, 109; Margret, 112; Michael, 61; Richard, 45; Robert, 38; Sara, 46, 115; Thomas, 46, 91; William, 51; —, 100
 Johns, Anne, 83; Dorothy, 96; John, 83, 96; Margaret, 93; Thomas, 93
 Johnson, Ales, 14, 38; Anne, 69; Elizabeth, 74; Ellen, 46; Isable, 38; Jane, 58, 67, 134; John, 52, 67; Josiah, 98; Margaret, 44, 54; Margery, 20; Margerye, 46; Margot, 42; May, 35; Rauff, 14, 38; Richard, 53; Tho., 52; Thomas, 38; Will., 52; William, 74
 Johnsson, Elizabeth, 85
 Jolley, John, 115
 Jones, Anne, 138, 140; Catherine, 19; Dowse, 61; Edward, 140; Evan, 118; Henricus, 24; Jane, 126, 140; John, 140; Jone, 123; Mary, 118; Owen, 26; Paul, 93; Randal, 135; Robert, 126, 135; Thomas, 45, 140; Widow, 52; William, 123; —, 119
 Jonesone, Henry, 16
 Jonson, Ales, 20; Ellen, 143; Hughe, 20; Margot, 20; Richard, 20; William, 52
 Joynson, Ales, 53; Richard, 53
 Judworth, T., 121
 Juett, William, 33
 Jump, M'get, 69; Rauff, 69
 Jumps, Ellen, 109; John, 109

K.
 Kanne, —, 41
 Keele, Anne, 138
 Keene, Sir Benjamin, K.B., Ambassador at Madrid, 47; Dr. Edmund, Bishop of Chester and of Ely, 47; Mary, 47
 Keeper, Tho., 14
 Kellie, Joane, 42
 Kelshall, Samuel, 52
 Kelsce, Jane, 80
 Kempe, M'gerye, 69; Thomas, 69; Widowe, 23
 Kendrick, John, 47
 Kenige, Battliche, 61; Harry, 61
 Kenioge, Jane, 67
 Kenion, Anne, 91; Nicholas, 91
 Kenred, Ellen, 85
 Kenricke, Margery, 76
 Kent, John, 112; Thomas, 112, 135; Werber, 34
 Kermud, Ellen, 85; Phillip, 85
 Kerye, Jane, 29
 Kettle, Margaret, 44; Thomas, 44; —, 41
 Kilmorey, Lord, 30
 King Arthur's Round Table, Knights of, 50
 King Charles I., of England, 28, 73, 122
 King Charles II., of England, 17, 23, 38, 60, 70, 89, 116, 124, 134
 King, Daniel, 27, 28; —, 46, 103, 104
 King Edward I., of England, 29, 43, 81, 132, 144
 King Edward II., of England, 81
 King Edward III., of England, 91, 132, 138
 King Edward VI., of England, 13, 25, 31, 55
 King George I., of England, 24
 King George III., of England, 23, 24
 King Henry III., of England, 134
 King Henry VIII., of England, 7, 12, 13, 25, 54, 68, 91
 King James I., of England, 59, 90
 King James II., of England, 17
 King Louis XIII., of France, 40
 King Philip of Spain, 127
 King Richard II., of England, 144; *as* Earl of Chester, 75
 King William the Conqueror, 33
 King William III., of England, 23, 24
 Kinge, Ann, 138; Anne, 106; Katherine, 143; Margarette, 85; Modlin, 88; Robert, 106; William, 138
 Kinsey, Elizabeth, 143
 Kiree, Jane, 16
 Kirkes, John, 135
 Kirsey, Dorothy, 126
 Knee, John, 69; M'gerye, 69
 Knight, William, 18
 Knight of Leasowe, The, 143
 Knippersley, *see* Boroyor, 34
 Knollys, William, 92
 Knowells, Jane, 32
 Knowles, Eliz., 61; Elizabeth, 140; Wm., 61
 Knutsford, —, 73
 Knutsford, Squire, 73
 Knyght, Anne, 14; Wm., 14
 Kyshe, Catherine, 19; Edward, 19, 22; Elizabeth, 22

Kynge, John, 20; Margery, 20
 Kyngealegh, *see* De Kyngealegh
 Kynninge, Malte, 53; Owyn, 53
 Kyrfoote, Anne, 58; Doritie, 32; Wm., 32, 58
 Kyrkes, Catheryne, 75; Ellen, 34

L.

Lache, Jane, 80; John, 80
 Lacies, The, 70
 Lacon, —, 108
 Laird, John, 91
 Lake, Tho., 52
 Lamb, John, 45
 Lambard, —, 112
 Lamm, Ellen, 123; Roger, 123
 Lancaster, Rev. Nathanl., 45
 Lancelott, Katheryn, 126
 Lancashire, Mary, 115
 Lane, Ellen, 96; Jane, 70; John, 96
 Lanes, The, 70
 Langfere, Wynfred, 50
 Langley, Anne, 109; Dorothy, 96
 Lansdowne, Marchioness of, 125; Marquis of, 125
 Lanson, Widdow, 52
 Larden, —, 115
 Large, Katheren, 54
 Lascelles, *see* De Lascelles
 Latymer, Arch., 103; Isabell, 103
 Launcelyn, John, 53; William, 96
 Launclet, Katherine, 14
 Laurence, Megg, 2
 Lanton, Katherin, 93; Tho., 93
 Lawrenson, Elizabeth, 143
 Lawton, Jane, 131; John, 136; Thomas, 34; Werber, 34; William, 136; —, Recorder of Chester, 6; —, 125
 Layton, William, 34
 Le, Margot, 29
 Le Bryn, Henry, 87
 Le Cronther, William, 16
 Le Mainwaryng, Thomas, 87
 Le Neve, —, 13
 Le Warde, Peter, 16
 Lea, Ales, 100; Daniel, 100; Elizabeth, 126; Elyzabeth, 118; J.W., 13; Margaret, 83; Margett, 50; Roger, 22; Sara, 61; William, 118; *see also* P'len
 Leadbeater, Peter, 45
 Leasowe, The Knight of, 143
 Leicester, William, 26
 Leche, Chancellor, 94; Dr., 95; Guilielmus, 26; John, 136; Thomas, 112; —, 41
 Lee, Elizabeth, 33, 47; Frances, 33; Jane, 34; John, 47, 53; Katheryne, 72; Magdalene, 47; Moode, 76; Nathan, 47; Robert, 33, 47; Rodger, 52; Rowland, Bishop of Lichfield, and President of Wales, 54, 55; Thomas, 33, 47; *see also* Del Lee
 Leech, John, 112
 Leech, Jane, 37; Katherine, 16; Richard, 16
 Leemings, Margot, 61
 Leene, Hanna, 52; Lawrenc, 91; Margaret, 91
 Leese, Anne, 58
 Legh, Peers, 112; Richard, 112, 114; Thomas, 112; —, 44; *see also* De Legh

- Leicester, Sir Francis, Bart., 136;
George, 136; James, 136; Sir
Peter, 136; Sir Robert, Bart.,
136; —, 41
- Leigh, Margaret, 126; Petrus, 34;
Sir Piers, 45; Thomas, 45;
Thos., 45; —, 41
- Leighe, Eliz., 17; John, 34; Marget,
34
- Leland, —, 46, 47, 99
- Lenaker, John, 63
- Lenord, Katherine, 20; Thomas, 20
- Leonart, Elen, 34
- Leonert, Katherine, 61
- Lepington, Rev. John, 13
- lepyngte, Rev. Johannes (Joh'em),
31
- Lerge, Elizabeth, 56
- Lester, Arthur, 142
- Letshawe, —, 33
- Levesley, Anne, 140
- Lewes, Elizabeth, 138
- Lewis, Jane, 82; Margaret, 72;
Rev. —, 3; —, 81
- Lewys, Jane, 115
- Ley, Elizabeth, 22; Ellen, 42;
John, 42; Lady Margaret, 76;
Margt, 53
- Leye, Margt, 19
- Lichfield, Bishop of, 81
- Lidditon, George, 80; Margaret, 80
- Lie, Anne, 80
- Lightfoot, Anne, 140; Edward, 140;
Rev. John, 90
- Lightfoote, Elizabeth, 109; Mar-
garet, 14
- Lightfut, John, 52; William, 52
- Linacre, Thomas, 14, 15
- Linaker, Anne, 138, 140; Thomas,
138
- Lincoln, Lacy, Earl of, 70
- Lincolne, see Chester and Lincolne,
Earl of
- Linnes, Sr. Walter, "first Maior of
Chester," 33
- Linney, Benjamin, 61, 62
- Liptrott, William, 115; —, 114,
136
- Litherland, Henry of, 127; Isabella
of, 127; John of, 127
- Litherlande, Elizabeth, 106; Henry,
106
- Litherlands, Ann, 100
- Litherlond, see De Litherlond
- Litler, Ald. John, 18
- Little, Joseph, 140, 141
- Littler, Elen, 33; Harry, 58;
Katherine, 58; Lawrence, 33;
Will., 52
- Litton, George, 103; Margrett, 103
- Liversaye, Eliz., 42
- Llewelyn, Ssyalie, 56
- Lloyd, Ales, 22; Anne, 103; David,
22; Rev. Dr., 61; Rev. Geoffrey,
31; Dr. George, Bishop of
Chester, 58; Sir Horatio Lloyd,
Recorder of Chester, 7; Rev.
Jefery, 31; John, 103; —, 134
- Locker, Anne, 42; Eliz., 54; Ellen,
138
- Loe, Elizabeth, 61; Marget, 50;
Thomas, 50, 61
- Loide, Thomasin, 50
- Looker, Ellen, 20; Isabell, 32;
John, 19, 32; Kathern, 22
- Lord, Ann, 96; William, 96
- Louis, XIII., King of France, 40
- Lovekin, Richard, "alias Cook," 77
- Lovelady, Ellen, 69; Thomas, 69
- Low, Ann, 138; Dr., 21; Georg, 5;
George, 5; Joan, 140; Margerie,
138
- Low', George, 5
- Lowat, Richard, 136; Thomas, 136
- Lowe, Hugh, 39; Jane, 82, 106;
John, 136; Margaret, 120;
Robert, 82, 136; Samuel, 136
- Lowndes, Rev. E. C., 14; —, 119
- Loyd, Dr., 86; Eliz., 14; Wm., 14
- Lucas, Ellen, 42
- Lucian, the Monk, 144
- Luffkyn, Jane, 74
- Lufkyn, Jane, 75; John, 75
- Lunt, John, 96; Maude, 96
- Lupus, Hugh, 1st Count of Chester,
75; 1st Earl of Chester, 43
- Lurtinge, Alles, 74
- Lye, Elizabeth, 100; John, 100
- Lyghe, Robert, 92; Robt, 101;
Susana, 101; Susanna, 92
- Lylie, —, 33
- Lyneall, Ald. Thomas, 11
- Lynsey, —, 27
- Lytherland, Prudence, 72; Robert,
72
- Lytler, Margaret, 48; —, 48
- Lyttleton, Tommy, 107
- M.
- Macadam, —, 46
- Macclesfield, Lord, 93
- Macdonald, Flora, 70
- Macer, —, 20
- Machell, Ales, 91, 126; Thomas, 91,
126
- Machill, Elizabeth, 91; Katherine,
138; Robert, 91; Thomas, 138
- Machyn, —, 13
- Mackleworth, Col. Humphry, 38
- Mackley, Elizabeth, 83; William,
83
- Madaok, Robert, 52
- Madder, Thomas, 45
- Maddock, David, 125; Mordecai,
142; —, 121
- Maddocke, Anne, 42; Margaret,
61; John, 42, 61
- Maddocks, The, 121
- Maddox, —, 112, 125
- Madeley, Elizabeth, 145
- Madoc, —, 125
- Madocke, Grace, 61; Jane, 134;
John, 61
- Madocus, —, 112
- Madson, Elizabeth, 129
- Mainwaring, George, Mayor of
Chester, 60; Rev. Peter, 13;
Sir Tho., 124; Sr. Thos., 115, 116;
Sr. Thomas, 116; Sr. Thos., 116,
—, 73, 120, 124
- Maisterson, John, 114; Thomas,
39; —, 88, 108, 116, 120, 124
- Maisterton, John, 79, —, 120
- Majendie, —, 119
- Malbedeng, see de Malbedeng
- Malbon, Henry, 136
- Maller, Ales, 100
- Malley, —, 21
- Mallorie, Rev., —, 3
- Mallory, Rev. Dr. Thomas, 90
- Malpas, Katherin, 85
- Malvesins, —, 27
- Man, Anne, 69; Bishop, 24;
Edward, 69; Elizabeth, 74; Dr.
Henry, Prior of Sheen, Dean of
Chester, and Bishop of Sodor
and Man, 11, 12, 13; Margaret,
95
- Mane, —, Pryor of Wytham, 12
- Manley, Ermine, 54; Thomas, 54,
56; —, 45; see also De Manley
- Manning, William, 19
- Mantuan, 68
- Manwaring, Edward, 114; Rev.
Edward, 137; Henry, 114; Peter,
114
- Marbury, Tho., 37
- Mare, see De la Mare
- Marler, Anne, 134; Robert, 134
- Marsh, John, 53
- Marten, Elizabeth, 32; Hughe, 32;
Pselow, 29; William, 29
- Martin, Wm., 140, 141
- Martyn, Jane, 131; Peter, 131
- Martyndale, Elizabeth, 75
- Mary, Queen of England, 13, 31, 39,
55, 127
- Masci, see De Masci
- Mason, Alles, 85; Eliz., 23, 27;
Margt, 20; Ralph, 52; William,
85
- Massey, Coll., 97, 109; George, 45;
John, 45, 84; Sir John, 55;
Peter, 53; Richard, 45; Sir
William, 55; —, 45
- Massie, Ales, 53; Anne, 45; Annie,
38; Coll. 115; George, 98;
Isable, 38; Jane, 16; John, K.,
84; Josh., 77; Margaret, 53;
Margt, 56; Robert, 45
- Massy, John, 85; Ald. William, 11
- Massye, Ann, 85; Elizabeth, 134;
Thomas, 85
- Mastersonne, Brigitte, 42
- Mathew, Anne, 32
- Mathewe, Edmund, 76; Jane, 76;
Margerye, 46; Roger, 46
- Mathewes, Jane, 83
- Mathews, William, 50
- Mawry, Richard, 53
- May, Henry, 13
- Maynwaring, Rondull, K., 84
- Maynwaryng, see Le Maynwaryng
- Maynwarynge, Thomas, 53
- "Mayor of Altrincham," 143
- M'docke, Anne, 129; Richard, 129
- Meadwell, Mary, 16; Tobye, 16
- Mealer, Ellen, 45; Richard, 45
- Meales, Anne, 56; John, 56
- Meare, Edward, 23; Joane, 23
- Mears, Elizabeth, 53
- Meddones, Hester, 93
- Medowes, Anne, 138; Jane, 140
- Meire, Rev., —, 4
- Mekin, Marget, 19
- Mekyn, Eliz., 20
- Mekynne, Joanne, 44
- Meler, Jane, 34
- Meles, John of the, 127; see also
Del Meles
- Melse, Margaret, 53
- Menwaringe, Thomas, 87
- Meoles, or Meols, Alice, 86;
Eleanor, 15; Elizabeth, 15;
Elinor, 15; Henry, 53; John,
86, 87; Margaret, 15; Margery, 15;
Mykull, 53; Susan, 15; Tho.,

Meoles—continued.

15; Thomas, 14, 15, 16; Will., 15; William, 15; Wm., 16; —, 86; *see also* De and Del Meoles

Mér. Will., 84

Meroer, Ales, 115; Ann, 20; Catherine, 51; Katherine, 29; Syslee, 14; Thomas, 29, 51

Mercia, Earls of, 113

Merige, Joane, 61; John, 61

Mershe, Elizabeth, 20; Jeis, 14; Richard, 14

Merten, Katherine, 34

Merton, *see* De Merton

Messam, Anne, 38; Wm., 38

Middleton, Anne, 58; John, 58; Peter, 6

Middleton, Jane, 143; Thomas, 138; Thomasin, 138; William, 138

Mildmaye, Sir Walter, 39

Miller, Margerie, 100; Robert, 100

Millington, Thomas, 61, 62

Millner, Margery, 82; Tho., 52

Milner, Henry, 63

Milton, Christopher, 76; Elizabeth (Betty), 77; John, the Poet, 76, 77

Minshall, Ales, 54; Elizabeth, 77; Margaret, 42; Thomas, 142; —, 97, 116

Minshall, Samuel, 45; —, 110, 115, 124

Mitton, Major-General, 38

Modesley, Jane, 46; Jeis, 14; Marie, 138; Randle, 138

Moeles, *see* De Moeles

Mohan, —, 101

Moldesworth, —, 41

Molineux, Carol, 21; Lord, 21

Molyneux, Richard, Viscount, 37; —, 65

Moneley, Anne, 29; Elen, 64; Eliz., 20; Ellen, 34; Jane, 38; Katherine, 61; Richard, 34

Monmouth, Duke of, 60

Monson, Ann, 138; Richard, 138

Montgomery, —, 130

Moore, A. W., 13; Col., 16; Edward, 82; John, 98

Moore, Elizabeth, 143; Thomas, 143

More, —, 41; *see also* De la More

Mores, William, 52

Moreton, Mary, 92, 102; Thomas, 92; William, 92, 102; Sir William, 30; Wylliam, 84

Morey, Jane, 82

Morgain, Em : Verghe, 53; Wm., 53

Morgan, Elizabeth, 103; Raph, 103

Morgell, Elizabeth, 126

Morguile, John, 29; Margerie, 29

Morie, Ellen, 45; Robert, 45

Moris, Eliz., 38; John, 38

Morrey, Rev. Peter, 51

Morris, Canon, 144; Dr., 8, 30; George (or Jno.), 45; Jane, 75; John, 42; Marget, 42; —, 13

Morst, John, 53

Morter, Elizabeth, 106

Mortimer, —, 30

Moseley, Francis, 89

Mosse, Ales, 32, 126; John, 126; Robert, 32

Mossok, *see* De Mossok

Motersam, Hugh, 72; Katherine, 72

Mothershead, Thomas, 98

Mottershead, Thomas, Sheriff of Chester, 103

Mottershead, *see* De Mottershead

Motton, Hugh, 5; Hughe, 5

Mouldsdale, Thomasin, 138

Mounford, Katherine, 44

Mountgarret, Lord, 21

Moyle, Mode, 19

Muchell, John, 19; Marget, 19

Mullis, Margerett, 69; Richard, 69

Mullynax, Alles, 82, 112; Robert, 82

Munton, —, 114

Munsens, John, 27

Munyfeild, Charles, 83; Jane, 83

Murrey, Elizabeth, 128; William, 128

Murry, Rev. Peter, 51

Musgrave, Rev. G., 80

Mutchell, Ellen, 100; John, 100

Myers, Albert Cook, 142

Myller, Margaret, 76; Nicholas, 76

Myllner, Alles, 76; William, 76

N.

Namptwich, Barons of, 134

Nares, —, 118

Naylor, Joseph, 40

Nedam, Doryty, 87

Needham, Captain, 30; James, 136; Peter, 136; Samuel, 136; Rev. Samuel, 136; —, 136

Nelson, Lord, 125; —, 49

Netet, Eliz., 93

Neve, *see* Le Neve

Newbie, Jane, 145

Newbott, Robt., 145; Wm., 145

Newcomb, —, 136

Newcome, —, 90

Newport, Elizabeth, 100; Ellen, 22

Newstead, G. C., 22, 35

Newton, Joane, 20; Lieut.-Col., 38; Rev. Thomas, 8; —, 41, 97, 110, 115, 124, 136

Nicall, Anthony, 34; Elen, 34; Elizabeth, 80

Nichol, Margaret, 85

Nicholas, the Clerk of Liverpool, 127

Nicholl, Elizabeth, 91, 109; Ellen, 129; Ellenor, 106; Richard, 109; William, 129

Nicoll, Ales, 56; Ellen, 22; John, 22, 61; Katherine, 61; Thomas, 56

Nicolsonne, Ales, 46

Nison, John, 87

Nigel, Baron, 113

Nightgale, Anne, 34

Norburie, Margerie, 138; Robt., 138

Norbury, Nath., 46

Norman, Alice, 143; Elinor, 29

Normansell, Anne, 61

Normont, Ales, 53; John, 53

Norrice, Sir Fr., 17

Norres, Gilbert, 95

Norris, Gilbert, 95; Margaret, 83; Thomas, 83

Norton, Elizabeth, 138; the Priors of, 81

Nubie, Edd., 56; Ellen, 56

Nunsonne, Anne, 37; William, 37

Nycholas, Alice, 39; Peter, 39

Nyeholl, Mary, 115

O.

Oocleahall, Isabell, 85

Offeley, Richard, 33

Offley, —, 134

Okell, Ales, 140; Alice, 143; John, 118; Thomas, 143; William, 140

Okes, Edd., 19; Mode, 19

Oldham, Hugh, Bishop of Exeter, Founder of Manchester Grammar School, 11

Orange, Prince of, 46, 100

Orm, Abraham, 98; Mary, 98

Orman, Anne, 46

Orme, Abraham, 93, 98; Eleanor, 93, 98; Mary, 93, 98

Ormerod, 6, 8, 9, 11, 12, 13, 16, 24, 26, 31, 33, 38, 53, 55, 59, 64, 66, 67, 80, 81, 87, 90, 99, 106, 120, 121, 122, 140

Ormont, James, 34; Jane, 34

Ormston, Elen, 27, 58

Orton, Elizabeth, 33; Rauffe, 33

Osbaldeston, John, 127

Otie, John, 50; Margaret, 58; Margett, 50

Oulton, Isaac, 136; Joseph, 136; —, 41

Ovidius, 68

Owen, Ann, 96; Hugh, 134; John, 26; Rev. L. E., 112; Thomas, 96

Owsenworth, Ellen, 131; Robert, 131

Owyn, Elizabeth, 83

P.

Packe, John, 115

Page, Jno., 46; Katharyn, 120; Margaret, 87

Paintamye, Sara, 53

Palmer, Anne, 138; William, 138

Parker, Anne, 47; Eliz., 16; John, 15; Sir John, 124; Lady, 124; Thomas, 47; —, 41, 50

Parnell, —, 42

Parr, John, 144

Parre, An, 144; Ane, 144; Jhon, 145; Jone, 144; Margaret, 144; Marget, 67; Margret, 144

Parrie, Jane, 145

Parsonidge, Edward, 21

Partington, Anne, 143; J., 79; Thos., 46; Wm., 87

Partrich, Elizabeth, 134; William, 134

Pasment, Alles, 83

Paspati, —, 85

Pate, Wm., 53

Pattrike, Elen, 22; Thomas, 22

Paul, St., 130

Paver, Peter, 39

Pawson, Peter, 118

Payne, Elen, 58

P'civall, Eliz., 27; Henrey, 5

Pears, Jane, 82; Katherin, 27; Owen, 82

Pearson, Annie, 38; Ellen, 45; Phillip, 38

Pecford, Anne, 64; John, 64

Pecoche, Denis, 20; Eliz., 20, 27; Margerie, 29

Pecoche, Margery, 23; Richard, 23

Peeres, Dority, 115; Jane, 134; Margaret, 145; Reece, 134

Peers, David, 114; John, 141

Pemberton, Edward, 56; Elen, 56; Jane, 34; John, 136; Marget, 46, 50; Margrett, 103; Samuel, 52; Wm., 34; —, 54, 96, 97, 105, 108
 Pembroke, Earle of, 78
 Pendleton, Elizabeth, 72; John, 72
 Penketh, Thos., 86
 Penkit, Will, 52
 Penn, Sir W., 66
 Pennant, —, 46
 Penrose, Rev. J. T., M.A., 101
 Penloe, Samuel, Lord Bishop of Chester, 22
 Percie, Anne, 118
 Percival, Rev. Robert, 31
 Percival, Ales, 20; Ellen, 42; Margaret, 14; Robert, 14; Thomas, 42
 Pergamey, Jno., 53; Wm., 53
 Perkins, M'get, 64
 Perre, Thomas, 52
 Perrie, Ales, 126; Anne, 138
 Perry, —, 25
 Perry, Bishop, 54; *see* Fitz Peter
 Pew, Katheryn, 129
 Phasakerley, Jane, 67; Josephe, 67
 Philip, King of Spain, 127
 Philipps, Jane, 131; Roger, 131
 Phillips, Phillip, 26; W.E., 61, 62
 Piccope, Rev. G. J., 9
 Picke, Ales, 32; John, 64; Margaret, 69; M'get, 64
 Pickeringe, Ales, 146; Ellen, 138; John, 138
 Pickeryn, John, 126; Katheryn, 126
 Pimier, Samuel, 53
 Pioton, Anne, 58; Elizabeth, 46; John, 58
 Piers, Rev. John, Dean of Chester, 55
 Pierson, Margaret, 120; William, 120
 Piggen, Jane, 32; John, 32
 Piggott, Margaret, 100; Richard, 114, 115
 Pike, Katherine, 34
 Pillington, Elizabeth, 137; Richard, 137
 Pilkinton, Ffran., 4
 Pillinton, Ellen, 69
 Pinner, Richd., 126
 Platt, Ellen, 143; Richard, 143; Thos., 145
 P'len (alias Lea), Margerie, 34
 Plimer, —, 21
 Plompton, Marget, 46
 Ploume, Margery, 76; Mary, 134; Thomas, 76
 Plumb, —, 20
 Plymstoe, Markeret, 87
 Pointon, Aaron, 45; Moses, 45
 Pole, —, 13
 Pomeroy, —, 130
 Pomfret, Fermors (Farmers), Earls of, 101
 Pool, Thomas, 52
 Poole, Amicia, 139; Banabye, 16; Carolus, 10; D., 10; Domville H. C., 11; Domville Halsted, 10; Dorothy, 30; Elizabeth, 10; Sir Ferdinando, 118; Rev. Sir Henry, Bart., 118, 120; Hugh, 136, 139; Rev. Hugh, 139; James, 30; Sir James, 30;

Poole—continued.

Jane, 16, 27; John, 45; John, Halsted, 10; Rev. John Halsted, 10; Lady, 118, 119; Maria, 10; Ralph, 136, 139; Rev. Rafe, 139; Sarah, 10; Capt. W. Halsted, 9, 10, 11; Rev. —, 21
 Portington, Capt. Thomas, 38
 Postell, John, 126; Margery, 126
 Postinwait, James, 53
 Pott, Peter, 98; —, 85
 Potter, Andrew, 52; John, 52
 Potts, —, 119
 Povenford, Agnes, 16
 Powell, Edward, 82; Elizabeth, 72; Jane, 61; Marie, 82; Mary, 76; M'gerye, 69; Robert, 145; Wm. Kt., 5
 Pownall, George, 66; Capt. Ralph, 38
 Pratell, *see* De Pratell
 Preece, Joseph, 46
 Prenton, Ales, 29, 34; John, 29, 56; Margerie, 56; Urian, 64
 Prescot, Margaret, 126
 Prescott, Ellen, 72; Richard, 72
 Price, Elizabeth, 129; Hugh, 134; James, 37; Margery, 134
 Pritchard, Ales, 64
 Pricket, Marget, 44
 Prickett, Ellen, 91; Raffe, 91
 Prince, Elizabeth, 22; Robert, 22
 Prince of Orange, 46, 100
 Prior of Birkenhead, 53; of St. James, Brykhead, 53
 Priors of Birkenhead, The, 53, 81
 Prise, Thomas, 144; William, 144
 Pritchard, Edward, 83; Jonathan, 94; Margaret, 83
 Pritchett, James, 53
 Pritchard, Harry, 22; Kathern, 22
 Probbin, Jane, 103
 Probin, Omfrey, 53; Sara, 53
 Probyn, Anne, 118; Hugh, 118
 Proffit, Ellen, 42; John, 42
 Protector, The, 33
 Protherough, Ales, 123; John, 123
 Pryce, John, 131; Margaret, 131
 Pulle, *see* De Pulle
 Punner, Samuel, 53
 Pygot, John, 16
 Pylke, William, 96
 Pymblet, Ales, 20
 Pyper, John, 27; Marget, 27

Q.

Quaile, Ales, 27, 64; Margaret, 69; Richard, 27; William, 64
 Quaintrie, Margerye, 14
 Quayle, Gylbert, 112; Sara, 112
 Quayntrey, Ellen, 72; Thomas, 72
 Quayntrey, Jane, 131
 Queen Anne of England, 23, 40
 Queen Anne (Boleyn), wife of Henry VIII., 54
 Queen Catherine of Arragon, wife of Henry VIII., 12
 Queen Elizabeth of England, 23, 43, 48, 55, 59, 65, 88
 Queen Mary of England, 13, 31, 39, 55, 127
 Queene Elizabeth, 83; John, 83
 Quirke, Jane, 80; Jane Verge, 14; Thomas, 14

R.

Rabon, Richard, 118; —, 118
 Rabone, Wm., 145
 Radford, Rev. Thomas, 8
 Radley, Gwen, 34; Robert, 34
 Rainford, Prior, 132
 Rainshaw, Ellen, 138; William, 138
 Ramsdale, Wm., 46
 Randle, Earle pal. of Chester, 125; Earle of Chester and Lincoln, 134
 Ranulfe, Earl of Chester, 97
 Rathbone, Katherine, 143; Thos., 52; William, 143
 Rathborne, Elizabeth, 112; Richard, 112
 Rattliffe, Maudlen, 32; Modelane, 38
 Rattlyfe, Elizabeth, 20
 Raulin, Widowe, 16
 Raulinson, Elen, 56; Peter, 56
 Raunscrofte, Raffe, 87
 Raven, John, 136
 Ravenscroft, *see* De Ravenscroft
 Ravenscroft, Ales, 42; Elizabeth, 47; Wm., 5, 47; Rev., —, 3
 Ravenscrofte, Ellen, 100
 Rawland, John, 136; Thomas, 136
 Rawlinson, Ralphe, 53
 Reade, Margaret, 93
 Reddrop, Joseph, 10
 Rees, *see* Ap Rees
 Reilly, Jane, Hester, 129; John, 129
 Rennaldes, Anne, 61; John, 61
 Rennalds, Katheryne, 72; Martha, 72; Richard, 72
 Reynddes, John, 18
 Reynolds, —, 108
 Rhodes, Dr., 89, 90
 Richard, Em. Vergh, 53; *see also* Ap Richard
 Richard, II., King of England, 144, and Earl of Chester, 75
 Richardson, Ales, 126; Edward, 39; Eliz., 145; Elizabeth, 145; Ellen, 20; Grace, 96; Hugh, 138; Jane, 129, 138; Ktheryne, 74; Peter, 145; Richard, 145; William, 74, 96, 129; Wm., 145; —, 114
 Richardsonne, Elizabeth, 72
 Richardson, Ellen, 42; Hughe, 42
 Rider, Ales, 61; Eliz., 46; Ellen, 14; Joane, 22; Marget, 32; M'gerie, 61; Roger, 22; Wm., 61
 Ridgway, Henry, 114
 Rigby, Nicholas, 98
 Rigbye, Eleanor, 93, 102; Nich., 102; Nicholas, 93, 102; Parnell, 85
 Rigge, *see* Del Rigge
 Rise, Elizabeth, 83
 Rivers, Earl, 75; — Savage, Earl, 44
 Rixon, Ales, 17; Thomas, 17
 Robert, Marget, 32; Richard, 32
 Roberts, Ales, 103; Anne, 129; Edw., 22; Edward, 129; Elizabeth, 21, 137; Jane, 129; John, 28; Lewis, 20; Margaret, 54; Marie, 120
 Robertson, William, 63
 Robin, Ellen, 58; Richard, 58

Robinson, Abigail, 143; Ales, 80; Anne, 34; Catherine, 32; Jane, 16, 61, 67; John, 52, 61, 136, 137; Katherine, 143; Margaret, 137; Marget, 20; Richard, 45, 143; Richd., 87; Thomas, 20, 143; —, 33

Robinsonne, Ales, 32; John, 32
Robinsonne, Ales, 61
Robison, John, 52
Robts, Ales, 112; John, 112; Kathren, 112
Robynson, Ellen, 87, 134; William, 134

Robynsonne, Emme, 115; Robert, 115
Robynsonne, Elyn, 115
Roe, Ales, 102; Edward, 102
Rogers, Thomas, 145
Rogerson, Ellen, 22, 34; John, 22
Roese, Elizabeth, 83; Thomas, 83
Royngreave, Mary, 115; Richard, 115

Rotingson, John, 19; Mode, 19
Rowe, Anne, 80; Wm., 98; —, 18
Rowlinson, Thomas, 131
Rowlynson, Elyn, 76
Royle, John, 114; Thomas, 114
Rudhall, L., 128

Rudyard, Elizabeth, 33; James, 47; Thomas, 33; —, 124

Rummer, Ellen, 106

Runcorn, Rev. Thomas, 31

Runkhorne, Mary, 72; Thomas, 72
Rutter, —, 75, 136

Rycroft, Ellen, 91

Ryder, Jane, 22

Rylands, J. Paul, F.S.A., 3

Rymer, —, 13, 29

Rymmor, Jane, 50

S.

Sadler, Eliz., 56; William, 56

Sale, Elizabeth, 129; James, 14; Margaret, 14

Salisbury, Anne, 140; Fulke, 140

Salluste, 68

Salt, F. A. Brassey, 128

Salisbury Elizabeth, 67

Salisbury, Urselowe, 46; Wm., 46

Sampson, John, 86

Sanders, F. 1, 31, 38; Margaret, 87; William, 87; —, 139

Sandford, —, 4

Sands, Elizabeth, 74

Sankye, Maytrie, 32

Savage, Edmund, K., 84; John, 84

Saunders, Elizabeth, 91

Savage, Earl Rivers, 44; Elen, 56; Jno., 105; Jo., 108, 116; John, 105, 108, 110, 115, 116, 123;

Alderman, John, Kt., 11; —, 44, 115, 145

Savile, George, Marquis of Halifax, 116

Savill, Lord, 78

Saynesbury, *see* De Saynesbury

Saynysbury, *see* De Saynysbury

Scarfe, Anne, 42

Scaribrick, Francis, 98

Scatterall, M'garet, 69; Richard, 69

Shrickley, Elizabeth, 129; Thomas, 129

Scott, Canon Cooper, 54; Cooper, 8; Cuthbert, Bishop of Chester, 31; Hannah, 93; Jeffry, 93, 98;

Scott—continued.

Margaret, 98; Sir Walter, 143; —, 93

Scounce, Elen, 27; Eliz., 14; Elizabeth, 20; Luce, 58; Marget, 20, 34; Thomas, 14; William, 34

Scudamore, Barons, 44; —, Ambassador in France, 44

Seacombe, —, 64

Seale, Elizabeth, 76; John, 76; Margaret, 143; Thomas, 143

Secarson, Anne, 50; Rauff, 50

Secombe, —, 64

Seddon, Edward, 114; Rev. Wm., 114

Seed, Henry, 140; Heny, 141

Seifton, Margaret, 115; William, 115

Sefton, Ales, 19; Elizabeth, 138; Jane, 72, 103; The Lords, 65

Seftonne, Margaret, 85; Richard, 85

Sekersonne, Widdowe, 72

Sellar, Daniel, 46

Seller, Margerie, 16; William, 16

Sellers, John, 134; Marie, 134

Selsbie, Elizabeth, 138; William, 138

Selvie, George, 88; Modlin, 88

Semer, Eliz., 61; Wm., 61

Sergeant, Anne, 123

Setchell, Rev. Nich., 145

Sevill, Eliz., 61; Robert, 61

Seymours, The, 25

Seywell, Ellen, 129

Sha, Anne, 50

Shakespeare, 71

Shakes, Martha, 52

Shard, Rowland, 126; —, 125

Sharpe, John, 86

Sharples, Ellen, 22; Thomas, 22

Shaw, John, 98, 110, 124; Martha, 140; Ralph, 114; William, 114

Shawe, Elizabeth, 42; Hugh, 129; Hughe, 42; Jane, 129; Sr John, 34

Sheale, Ales, 32; Alles, 75; John, 32; Nicholas, 75

Shenton, —, 115

Shentonne, Anne, 115

Shepert, Jane, 17

Sheraton, —, 24

Sherlock, Rev. Richard, 49

Sherlocke, Ellen, 138; John, 115

Shingleton, Elen, 61

Shockledge, Alles, 129

Shone, Joseph, 52

Shord, Elizabeth, 85

Shrigley, Albion, 114; Thos., 114

Shrubsole, G. W., 99

Shurlaker, Joan, 140; Robert, 140

Shurlock, Agnes, 14; Harry, 14

Shurlocke, Ales, 34; Anne, 118; James, 118; John, 34

Shuttleworth, Ales, 140

Sidon, *see* Chetham

Sillitoe (or Shillitoe), Matthew, 136;

Randolph, 136

Simonds, —, 115

Simpkin, Edward, 98

Simpson, —, 61

Skalsbricke, Elizabeth, 145

Skeat, Professor, 36, 86

Skelington, Luce, 58; Wm., 58

Skeleton, Elyn, 128

Skellitonne, Elizabeth, 129; Robert, 129

Skonce, Rose, 80

Smalleshaw, Elizabeth, 85; William, 85

Smalshawe, Marget, 44; Richard, 44

Smart, —, 85

Smethowes, Richard, 87

Smethurst, Raphe, 145

Smith, Abraham, 136; Edwd., 5; Elizabeth, 93; Ellen, 143; Gabl., 50; Gabriel, 40, 50, 136; James, 143; Jno., 53; John, 140, 141,

142; Joseph, 52; Margaret, 96;

Richard, 52; Richarde, 96;

Rev. Roger, or Robert, 8; Sam., 140; Saml., 141; Samil., 88;

Samuel, 140; Capt. Samuel, 38;

Thomas, 66; Ald. Thomas, 11;

—, 65, 100, 134; (*Alias* Torbok)

Tho., 65

Smith, Ales, 32; Catherine, 51;

Eliz., 44, 61; Elizabeth, 22;

John, 32; Katherine, 58;

Modelane, 38; Richard, 38;

Robert, 58

Smyth, Anne, 126; Elizabeth, 35,

100; Ellen, 100; Ellenor, 112;

Hester, 93; Jane, 87; John,

126; Lawrence K., 84; Sir

Lawrence, 30; Margrett, 106;

Peter, 93; Thomas, 87, 100;

Thos., 45

Smythe, Thomas, 30

Snagge, Ald., —, 11

Snape, Jane, 109; John, 109

Sneade, Richard, 26

Snell, Archdeacon, 58, 125; Rev.

Dr., 15; Dorie, 64; Edward,

64; Ellin, 64; George, 58, 64;

Archdeacon George, D.D., 64;

Katherine, 64; Lydia, 64;

Margaret, 64; Mary, 64

Snelson, John, 5

Soddon, Samuel, 52

Somersett, Edwards, Duke of, 85

Sotherne, Elizabeth, 138

Sowne, Ellen, 87; William, 87

Span, Elis, 52

Spark, —, 52

Spark, John, 45

Spark, Anne, 22; Ellen, 19, 100;

John, 6; Margaret, 46; Thomas,

52

Speed, John, 46, 99, 100; Wm., 46;

—, 82

Spencer, Ellen, 64; Richard, 41;

Thomas, 52; William, 47

Spicer, Elizabeth, 106, 115;

William, 106

Sproston, John, 115

Spursow, Ann, 83, 84; Anne, 56;

George, 56

Squire, Ellen, 20; Thomas, 20

Stafford, Hugh, 74; Sicely, 74

Standley, Anne, 85; Richard, 85;

—, 21

Stanlaw, The Priors of, 81

Stanley, Ann, 57, 73, 74, 77, 78, 83,

84; Anne, 56, 57, 58, 60, 70, 71,

73; Charlotte, dau. of Viscount

Molyneux, 37; Dorothea, 57, 74;

Dorothy, 57; Eleanor, 93, 98;

Ferdinando, 122; James, Earl of

Derby, 38; Sir John, 87; Marie,

Stanley—continued.

74, 78, Mary, 36, 56, 57, 60, 83;
Rolond, 84; Rowland, 84, 85;
Sir Rowland, 21, 45, 56; Tho.,
37; Sr Tho., 119; Sir Thomas,
Bart., 143; William, 36, 37, 56,
57, 70, 78; Sir William, Bart.,
36, 37, 56, 87; Willm., 71; —,
Bishop of Sodor and Man, 13;
—, 56, 65, 93, 95; *see also* De
Stanley

Stanleys, The, 50, 143

Stanley, John 40

Starkey, Arthur, 116; John, 108;
Richd., 126; Thomas, 88, 126,
137; Thos., 141, 142; —, 96, 97,
105, 108, 109, 110, 115, 116, 117,
123, 124, 126, 127, 128, 134

Starkie, Margaret, 69; Peter, 69

Starky, Hugh, 84

Stavert, Adam, 93, 98; Ann, 98;
Anne, 93; Archibald, 93;
Eleanor 98; Eliz., 98; Eliza-
beth, 93, 98; George, 93, 98;
Hannah, 93, 98; Lieut. John,
R.N., 93; John Brownell, 98;
Thomas, 98; William, 98;
William, High-Sheriff of West-
moreland, 93; W. J., 103

Steele, Richard, 114; Rev. Richard,
137; Robt. 114

Stelfax, Capt. Edward, 38

Stepford, Capt. James, 38

Stephens, Sir Thomas, 17

Sterken, Ellen, 123

Stevenson, Ellen, 58; M'gery, 69

Stlater, Ellen, 64

Stoakes, James, 109

Stocke, —, 41

Stocken, Margaret, 54; Margerye,
19; Richard, 19; Symon, 54

Stockton, Elen, 143

Stonda, Anne, 64

Stones, Amicia, 139; Johannes, 139;
John, 136, 139; Rev. John, 140;
Rev. Richard, 136, 139;
Richardus (Rector), 139

Stonne, Batriche, 61

Storeet, Peter, 16; —, 16

Stormouth, —, 112

Stott (Scott), Hannah, 98; Jeffry,
98

Stow, —, 13.

Strange, Lord, 65

Strettell, Ellyse, 20

Stronngieintharme, Jane, 61

Stuart, Charles 38

Stubbs, —, 13

Stateville, Ales (*alias* "The Blaz-
ing Star"), 105

Style, Blanch, 118; Edward, 118

Sudlowe, Edmund, 39; George, 39

Surnames, chiefly Norman:—

Ab Evans, 43; Acton, 73, 75;
Alvanley, 70; Arden, 70, 75;
Arderm, 70; Arkle, 69; Aur-
anges, 43; Ball, 43; Bamville,
43; Banville, 44; Baskerville,
44; Bavand, 43; Beaumont, 69;
Beaumonde, 69; Beaumont, 69;
Bellasis, 44; Belle, 43; Bellot,
43; Bellow, 104; Blounde, 69;
Blount, 69; Blunt, 69; Bohan,
44; Bohun, 44; Boileau, 104;
Boleyne, 69; Bones, 44;
Boatke, 75; Boulogne, 69;

Surnames—continued.

Boydall, 104; Brassey, 43;
Brescie, 43; Bresey, 43;
Bullen, 69; Bushell, 44; Bussel,
44; Catheral, 70; Catteral, 70;
Cecil, 43; Chorleton, 73; Clark,
67; Conserdine, 43; Constan-
tyne, 43; Corbet, 43; Corboil,
43; Cotentin, 43; Cottingham,
70; Coventry, 70; D'Amerie,
69; D'Anyers, 44; D'Arcole,
69; D'Eath, 44; D'Elves, 44;
Daniel, 44; Daniers, 44; Danyel,
44; Danyers, 44; De or del Londe,
70; De Prattel, 104; De or des
Preaux, 104; De la Tor-foot, 73;
Death, 44; Del Thykwythines,
67; Delves, 44; Doncaester, 70;
Drinkwater, 67; Dumbell, 43;
Dumville, 43; Elton, 73; Emery,
69; Estouteville, 105; Evans,
43; Evansson, 43; Feutrelle,
44; Fewtrell, 44; Fortesque, 44;
Fournville, 104; Fournival, 104;
Gamon, 43; Gamond, 43;
Gamont, 43; Gamul, 43; Gamull,
44; Garnon, 43; Gerard, 75;
Gerrard, 75; Glanville, 44;
Granville, 44; Gros Venour, 43;
Grosvenour, 43; Grosvenor, 43;
Hansford, 73; Hatton, 73;
Hellesbie, 73, 75; Hellesby, 70;
Helaby, 70; Herbert, 43;
Hesketh, 70; Hilton, 70; Holland,
70; Hulton, 70; Humberston,
70; Jackson, 43; Jolicoeur, 69;
Keeper, 14; Kingalegh, 75;
Kingsley, 76; Knottesforde, 73;
Knutsforde, 73; Knutsford, 73;
La Scelles, 70; Lanceley, 43;
Lane, 43, 70; Lascelles, 70;
Latham, 65; Lannceyn, 43;
Le Brescie, 43; Le Gros Venour,
43; Le Little, 73; Le Roter, 105;
Le Venables, 43; Le Verdon, 43;
Lee, or Lea, 73; Leycester, 72;
Liversage, 70; Lone, 43, 70;
Lyndesey, 70; Mainwaring, 43,
72; Malbeng, 43; Malbone, 43;
Malpass, 73, 75, 104, 105;
Malpasse, 104; Mascie, 43, 73;
Massey, 43, 73; Massie, 43, 73;
Maude, 43; Maupasse, 104;
Mesnilwarin, 43; Mesnilwaryn,
72; Mohald, 43; Mohaut, 43;
Mold, 43; Molineux, 43;
Orange, 43; Oredge, 43; Orred,
43; Parrot, 43; Patrik, 104;
Percival, 43; Perin, 43; Perrin,
43; Perrotte, 43; Perryn, 43;
Pickering, 70; Picot, 43;
Pierette, 43; Pigot, 43; Pigott,
43; Praers, 104; Pratellis, 104;
Preaux, 104; Richardson, 73;
Roter, 105; Roussell, 43;
Rowley, 73; Russel, 43; Russell,
43; Rutter, 105; St. Maur, 44;
St. Pierre, 44; Sampere, 44;
Sampier, 44; Sampiere, 44;
Sanpere, 44; Sanspere, 44;
Sauvage, 69; Savage, 44, 69;
Say, 44; Soelles, 70; Scudamore,
44; Seale, 44; Seymour, 44;
Sinpear, 44; Skipton, 70; Snell,
125; Starkey, 44; Staterville,
105; Tarbock, 65; Tarbok, 65;

Surnames—continued.

Tatton, 73; Throssel, 44;
Thyckens, 67; Tickle (Tittle),
67; Torbock, 65; Tor-foot, 73;
Torfote, 70; Toroude, 69;
Tottenham, 72; Travis, 44;
Travise, 44; Trossell, 44;
Trussell, 44; Vaudray, 43;
Vaudray, 43; Vaudrey, 43;
Vavasour, 70; Venables, 43, 72;
Verden, 43; Verdin, 43; Verdon,
43; Vernon, 43, 72; Warburton,
73; Warren, 69; Warrenne, 69;
Weldon, 100, 101; Welldon, 100;
Welby, 70; Wilbraham, 72;
Wile, 105; Woodhouse, 73;
Zouche, 44

Sutton, Mary, 118

Swainson, Betty, 140; John
Timothy, 140

Swanne, Elizabeth, 93, 98; John,
93, 98; Mary, 93, 98; Peter,
93, 98; Petter, 98; Phebe, 98;
Phoebe, 93; Thomas, 93, 98

Sweet, —, 36

Swettenham, Thomas, 136

Swift, Dean, 46

Sworton, John, 114

Swyft, Elizabeth, 75; William, 75

Swynnton, Ales, 17

Syddall, Ales, 115; William, 115

Syddoll, Ellen, 34

Symar, Margaret, 131

Symoocke, Margery, 134

Sympson, Cicilie, 56; Harry, 56

T.

Tacie, Ellen, 14; Thomas, 14

Tailor, Eliz., 56; Elizabeth, 61;
Richard, 61

Talbot, John, 40

Talpy, Anne, 103; Thoms, 45

Tarbock, —, 35

Tarletons, The, 21

Tasker, Ellen, 20, 138; John, 20;

Richard, 138; W. W., 62

Tatlock (Stanley), Eleanor, 98

Tatton, Anne, 138; John, 138;

Maria, 10; Robert, 84; Thomas,
10

Tayler, Anthony, 131; Margaret,
131

Taylor, Katherne, 72

Taylor, Elenor, 145; Elizabeth, 145;

Ellen, 137; Henry, 79; Canon

Isaac, 22, 34, 36, 112; John, 145;

Willm., 145; —, 21, 70, 124

Tea, Rev. Robert, 46

Tealer, Ellen, 38; Katherne, 56;

Mary, 61; Wm., 56

Tealier, Elizabeth, 96; Hugh, 96;

Margaret, 91

Tealyer, Margery, 82; Richard, 82

Teiler, Richard, 14; Syslee, 14

Teler, Catherine, 32; John, 32

Tellet, Marget, 38

Tellet, Ellen, 120; Richard, 96;

Urian, 120

Tench, Randolph, 114

Terence, 68

Terill, Jame, 54; Margaret, 54

Terkynton, *see* De Terkynton

Teylier, Elizabeth, 118, 126; Ellyn,

126; John, 118; Richard, 126

Teylor, Elizabeth, 75; John, 75

Thewlyn, Anne, 118
 Thickwithies, John o'th', 67
 Thomas, Ales, 69; Ellen, 22; Hugh, 69; Patrike, 22; Dr. —, 129; —, 129; *see also* Ap Thomas
 Thomason, Ellen, 19; Thomas, 19
 Thomassonne, Ellen, 96; Tho., 96
 Thomasson, Jane, 80; Thomas, 80
 Thomlenson, Jane, 27; Thomas, 27
 Thompson, —, 24
 Thompson, Elizabeth, 61; Ellen, 87; Hamnet, 87
 Thorneley, Hugh, 58; Katherine, 58
 Thorpe, Elizabeth, 76; William, 76
 Throne, —, 41
 Throppe, Bradford, 56; Katherine, 56
 Thrushe, Boigitte, 42; George, 42
 Thurst, Ales, 46; Peter, 46
 Thycens, Rev. —, 4
 Tillston, John, 85; Margaret, 85
 Tilston, Elizabeth, 20; Jane, 96; John, 20; Margareta, 93; Tho., 93
 Tilstone, Thoms., 46
 Title, Eliz., 44; John, 44
 Tittle, Ellen, 143
 Tomblinson, Mary, 85
 Tomlinson, James, 137
 Tomson, Sir John, 72
 Tomsonne, Anne, 38
 Tonge, Sarah, 40
 Topady, Jane, 14; John, 14
 Toppinge, Joane, 56
 Torbock, or Torbok, 65
 Torboke (*alias* Smythe), 65
 Torkenton, —, 41
 Tottie, Jane, 51, 58; Robert, 58; Wm., 51
 Totty Rich., 145
 Townley, —, 107
 Trafford, Anne, 51; Eliz., 58; Elizabeth, 20; Harry, 20; Henry, 114; John, 51; Katherine, 140; Margaret, 76; Thomas, 114; Wm., 87
 Trafford, Margaret, 23; Wydowe, 27
 Traford, Margaret, 27
 Tranemole, Walter, 53
 Trenyll, Sara, 112
 Trinill, Sislye, 100
 Trivill, Margerie, 45; Richard, 45
 Troloc, Anne, 85
 Trolocke, Ales, 72; Elizabeth, 19; Robert, 72
 Troughon, Henery, 52
 Troutbeck, Dr. Samuel, 93, 94, 128
 Trueman, Margerie, 56
 Trussel *see* De Walay
 Tuchburne, Anne, 34
 Tuchett, Sir John, 89
 Tudman, —, 115
 Tully, 68
 Tunstall, Cuthbert, Bishop of London, 25
 Turner, Harry, 23; Jane, 129; Joane, 14, 16; —, 23
 Turner (*alias* Hobson), Ales, 145; John, 145
 Twisse, Jhon, 144
 Twistleton, Colonel G., 38
 Tywyde Alles, 83; John, 83
 Tydstell, Anne, 42
 Tyllston, Christopher, 120; —, 120

Tylston, Anne, 137; Ellen, 38, 50; Henry, 137; Hughe, 50; Jane, 16, Katherine, 34, 58; Ald. John, 18; Richard, 16, 34; Thomas, 38
 Tyrer, Ales, 32; Eliz., 16; Ellen, 80, 103, 120; Harry, 32; Henry, 98; John, 103; Thomas, 16; William, 80; —, 98
 U.
 Udall, Nicholas, Head Master of Eton and Westminster, 11
 Urian, Edward, 138; Isabell, 138
 Urmeston, Ales, 112; Arthur, 103; Jane, 103
 Urwick, —, 137

V.

Valentine, Wm., 145
 Varnai, Elizabeth, 20; Thomas, 20
 Vaughan, Daniell, 91; Mary, 91; Ricardus, D.D., Bishop of Chester, and of London, 3; Dr. Richard, Bishop of Chester, 67, 72; Richard, 115; —, 114
 Vaughann, Catheryne, 72; John, 72
 Vawdrey, William, 136; Rev. William, 136
 Veales, Elizabeth, 20
 Venables, Anne, 33; Catherine, 138; Elizabeth, 33, 47; Frances, 33; Gilbert, Lord of Kinderton, 33; John, 33, 39, 61; Mary, 33; Peter, 27, 33; Robert, 33; General Robert, 47; General Robert, Governor of Chester Castle, 27, 33; Samuel, 62; Thomas, 33, 45, 84; Thomas, last Governor of Chester Castle, 27; William, 16; William, Constable of Chester Castle, 16
 Vernon, Ales, 53; George, 53
 Vernon, Anne, 32; Esther, 52; Randall, 142; William, 52; —, 45
 Vincent, Rev. William, 98
 Virgill, 68
 Vyner, Robert de Grey, 28

W.

Wade, Elen, 61; John, 61; M'get, 69; —, 97, 115, 116, 124
 Wagstaffe, —, 33
 Wainwright, George, 37
 Walay, *see* De Walay
 Waley, *see* De Waley
 Walford, Robert, 50
 Walker, Doryty, 87; Elizabeth, 33; Geo. 140; Isabell, 56; John, 87, 143; Marget, 34; Richard, Dean of Chester, 54, 55, 56; Ric'i, 55; Roger, 54; Deane Rycharde, 55; Sarah, 143; —, 89
 Wall, Ald. Robert, 18; Rev. William, 8; Rev. Wm., 31
 Walley, Charles, 122, 123; George, 52; Humfrey, 136; Jane, 34; Marget, 23, 27, 34; William, 39; Wm, 34; —, 42
 Walliner, Elizabeth, 76; Humfray, 76

Walmsley, Cristopher, 72; Margaret, 72; —, 20
 Walshman, Elizabeth, 129; Ellen, 61; John, 61; William, 129
 Walton, James, 143; Jane, 143
 Warburton, Georgius, 34; Johannes, 34; Peter, Justice of Common Pleas, 5; Petrus, 34
 Ward, Sr. John, 34; Richard, 47; —, 124
 Warde, Dorothy, 126; Godfray, 126; *see also* Le Warde
 Warden, Richard, 5
 Wardley, John, 98
 Warham, Ales, 138
 Waring, —, 136
 Waringe, Elizabeth, 138; John, 138
 Warington, Robert, 39
 Warmisham, Antonye, 64; Frances, 64; Jane, 67; Katherine, 45; Katherine, 34; Katheryne, 72; Laurence, 45; Mary, 27
 Warner, J. et Fil., 128; and Son, 128
 Warre, Edward, K., 84
 Warren, Edward, 114; Rev. Henry, 136; Hugh, 136; Humfrey, 136; John, 114, 136
 Warrington, Alice, 145; Elizabeth, 145; Ellen, 145; George, 145; John, 145; Robert, 144, 145; Robt., 145; Thomas, 145; William, 145; Wm., 145
 Warten, Jane, 134
 Warton, Eliz., 23, 27; Ellen, 103; Hugh, 42; Jeffrey, 53; Margaret, 42; Robert, 23, 27; Syslye, 53
 Wartonne, Harry, 118; Margaret, 118
 Waryn, Edward, 69; Elizabeth, 69
 Washingam, Margaret, 115; Richard, 115
 Washington, Ann, 14; Ellen, 14; Rauff, 14; Wm., 14
 Washingtonne, Ellyn, 128; John, 128
 Waterworth, Stephen, 98
 Watkin, —, 99
 Watt, Anne, 88; Elizabeth, 106; John, 88; Margaret, 126; Thomas, 126
 Watte, Ales, 50; Arrat, 38; Elizabeth, 38
 Wattes, Marget, 20; Wm., 20
 Watson, Hannah, 93; Rev. John, 37; Thomas, 93, 98
 Watsonne, Marget, 29
 Wattson, Isabell, 29
 Waule, Ales, 22
 Wauton (*alias* Warton), —, 41
 Webb, Anne, 85; William, M.A., 27, 28, 46, 59; —, 100
 Webster, Ales, 46; John, 21; —, 26, 33
 Weckey, John, 126
 Welfard, Francis, 87; Jane, 87
 Well, Eliz., 23; Nicollas, 23
 Wells, —, 124
 Welsh, Jane, 118; Nicholas, 118
 Welshe, Anthenyne, 29; Jane, 22, 51; Marget, 29; Margett, 54; Richard, 22
 Welton, *see* De Welton
 Werburton, Mary, 50; Roger, 50
 Werrall, John, 87

- Wealey, Rev. John, 49, 50; —, 128
 Weston, Elizabeth, 72; John, 39, 66; Thomas, 72, 89
 Wetenhale, *see* De Wetenhale
 Wetnall, or Whettнал, Baron, 120
 Wettenhall, —, 88, 120, 124
 Wettнал, Margaret, 118
 Whekey, Anne, 141, 142; John, 141, 142
 Whethley, —, 13
 Whickstede, —, 41
 Whickstide, —, 41
 Whitaph, Ann, 96
 Whitby, Rev. John, 31
 Whitby, Ales, 80; Hugh, 80; Joan, 14; Robert, 5
 White, Bridget, 67; Henry, 37; Jeffrey, 56; John, 67; Marget, 56; Nicholas, 27; —, 27
 Whitehead, Eliz., 54; Robert, 54
 Whitelock, —, 38
 Whitelocke, —, 38
 Whitefelde, Cicilie, 56
 Whithead, Margery, 14
 Whitley, Colonel, 17
 Whittingham, Humphry, 114; Rev. Thomas, 114
 Whittle, Elizabeth, 137; John, 137
 Wiche, —, 41
 Wicke, John, 34; Marget, 34
 Wickstead, —, 115
 Widenburie, 61
 Wigley, Antony, 136; Edward, 136; Henry, 136; Rev. Henry, 136
 Wilbraham, Richard, 39; Roger, 114; Thomas, 114
 Wilbram, *see* De Wilbram
 Wilcockson, Josiah, 98
 Wilde, Anne, 42; Roger, 42
 Wildinge, Alexander, 19; Marget, 19; Mode, 54; Richard, 54
 Wilkinson, Eliz., 69; Ellen, 103; Jno., 108; John, 69; Rich., 108; Richd., 108; —, 126
 Wilkissonne, Anne, 54
 Wilkison, John, 52
 Wilkynson, Elizabeth, 69, 75; Richard, 63
 William, *see* Ap. William
 William the Conqueror, King of England, 33
 William III., King of England, 23, 24
 Williams, Alles, 129; Dorithie, 145; Elizabeth, 38, 118; Ellen, 112; Ellis, 18; Grace, 129; Jane, 145; Joan, 126; Jno., 53; John, 19, 45, 112, 145; Lewys, 72; Richard, 129; Robert, 145; Sybill, 72; Thomas, 140; Thos., 140, 141; William, 126
 Williams', Marget, 61
 Williamson, Ales, 19, 103; Edward, 53; Hugh, 103; James, 16; Margaret, 140; Margret, 112; Robert, 19; William, 140; Dr. —, 140; —, 48
 Wilkins, Anne, 82; John, 82
 Willms, Jane, 93
 Willmsон, Jane, 128; Thomas, 128
 Willson, Marie, 51; William, 16
 Willsonne, Anne, 83
 Wilmesley, Rev. John, 31
 Wilson, Joane, 22; John, 52; Margaret, 15; Philip, 15; Sibbell, —, —, 105, 109, 115, 123
 Wilsons, —, 97
 Windrowe, Eliz., 56
 Winne, Grace, 129; Owen, 129
 Winnington, John, 39; Robert, 39
 Winstanley, Elen, 71; Ellen, 58, 70, 71, 74; Eline, 70
 Wirral, —, 26
 Withington, Anne, 140
 Witophe, Eliz., 69
 Witter, Jno., 46
 Witter, Anne, 54; Eliz., 50; Rauff, 54; Rauffe, 20; —, 20
 Wittill, Judithe, 46; Thomas, 46
 Wittle, Emme, 115; Jane, 72; Mary, 134; Thomas, 72, 134
 Winson, Ales, 32; Ann, 19; Jane, 54; Marget, 20; Thomas, 19
 Wmson, Anne, 34; Ellen, 38; Katherne, 38
 W'm'son, Ellen, 42
 Wodburne, Elizabeth, 76
 Wolam, Margerie, 58; Thomas, 58
 Wolton, Jane, 51
 Wood, *see* A' Wood
 Woodcock Sam., 52; Thos., 52
 Woodcooke, Doritie, 42; Rauffe, 42
 Woodes, Anne, 54; Jane, 123; Thomas, 54
 Woodhouse, Ellen, 34; John, 34
 Woodnett, Anne, 50; Thomas, 50
 Woodnorth, Richard, 87
 Woods, Alles, 126; Anne, 29; Eliz., 17, 23; John, 52; Katherine, 72; Richard, 29; Robert, 72; Thomas, 126
 Woodward, Anne, 109; William, 109
 Woodward, —, 41
 Woodwort, Margaret, 83; Wm., 83
 Wooley, Mary, Viscountess of Combermere, 9
 Woolrich, Henry, 115; Tho., 110., 115; —, 125
 Worall, Ales, 61; Catherine, 58; Eliz., 14; Thomas, 61
 Wormal, Eliz., 27; Thomas, 27
 Worrall, Elizabeth, 118; Frances, 143; Jane, 143; John, 143
 Worrowel, Margrett, 52
 Worsley, Ralph, 91
 Worsleys, The, 135
 Worth, *see* De Worth
 Worthington, Bartlow, 133
 Wotton, Edward, M.D., 12
 Wrenbury, Sir John, 115, 141
 Wrench, Anne, 42; Ralph, 114; Samuel, 114
 Wrenche, Ellen, 42
 Wright, Ales, 46; Ann, 80; Anne, 123; Edward, 103, 114, 136; Elizabeth, 10; Ellen, 91; Fras., 114; Jane, 143; John, 80, 91, 123, 136; Kathren, 103; Margaret, 61; Mode, 19; Rev. Richard, 35; Thos., 53; —, 41, 42
 Wryght, John, 115; Kathryn, 115
 Wybunbury, —, 88, 126
 Wyoe, Katherine, 72
 Wylet, Griffin, 16
 Wykinson, Richard, 63
 Wykynson, Dicon, 63; Richard, 63, 64
 Wykysen, Richard, 63
 Wyndro, Ales, 20
 Wynne, Cicelie, 2, 3; Godfrey, 19; Mode, 19; also Ladye Penellope, (query "Wynne"), 2
 Wyrall, Thomas, 115

Y.

- Yale, Dr. David, 3
 Yate, Margaret, 76
 Yeannes, Hugh, 114; William, 114
 Yellis, Jane, 67; Thurstan, 67
 Yelson, Elizabeth, 76; Richard, 76
 Yeomant, Ellen, 100
 Yong, Rich., 15, 16; Richard, 15; William, 52
 Yonge, Elizabeth, 100; Elizabeth, 80; Henrie, 140; Jane, 96; Katherine, 140; Peter, 80; Richard, 96, 100; Thomas, 19
 York, James, Duke of, 17; Richard, Archbishop of, 35
 Young, John, 145; Rich., 16; Richard, 14, 15; Robt., 145
 Younge, Ann, 145; Elen, 56; Henry, 145; Jane, 27; John, 145; Richard, 15, 16; Robert, 145; Robt., 145

INDEX OF PLACES.

A.

Acton, 9, 39, 73, 75, 111, 131, 143
 Adlington, 44, 45
 Agden, 39
 Aintree, 117
 Alderley, 73, 136
 All-wood, 99
 Alma, 9
 Alpraham, 49
 Altrincham, 98, 143
 Alvanley, 26
 America, 142
 Amiens, 104
 Anderton, 111, 114
 Andford, 45
 Antrobus, 33
 Antwerp, 10
 Appleby, 133
 Arley, 73, 131
 Arley Hall, 73
 Armfield, 97
 Arragon, 12
 Arandel, 70
 Ashbourne, 133
 Ashfield, 10
 Ashton, 11
 Ashton-on-Mersey, 135
 Aspull, 98
 Astbury, 7, 133
 Asthull, 26
 Aston, 41, 111
 Aston Hall, 29
 Audlem, 135, 136
 Aughton, 22, 35, 98, 117

B.

Bache Pool, 82
 Back Wood, 99
 Backford, 7, 8, 56, 85, 87, 120, 144
 Baddiley, 115
 Baly-ridding, 98
 Bangor, 35, 81
 Bangor Bridge, 34
 Barnshaw, 7, 26
 Barnston, 16, 48, 49, 111
 Barrow, 41, 46
 Barry, 66
 Barrymore, 65
 Barthomley, 114, 132, 136
 Basing House, 89
 Basingwerk, 29, 39
 Bath, 35
 Battle Abbey, 70
 Baylie, Ridding, 98
 Bearcroft, 42
 Bear's Paw, The, Frodsham, 21
 Beanmaris Bay, 129
 Bebington, 7, 26, 37, 84, 85, 87, 96, 113, 131, 136, 139
 Bebington-cum-Eastham, 8
 Beckley, 136
 Bedford, 13
 Bedvin, 136, 139
 Bees, *see* St. Bees
 Bell Park, Ireland, 125

Bellesby, 70
 Belton, 133
 Benson, 118
 Berkshire, 89
 Besan [Beeston] Castle, 131
 Betley, 136
 Biddulph Moor, 65
 Bidston (Byddeston), 14, 15, 28, 35, 44, 81, 85, 96, 117, 131
 Bidston Hill, 143
 Bidston Marsh, 81
 Bidstone Lighthouse, 117
 Bilbrook, 50
 Billinge Green House, 47
 Birkenhead, 4, 14, 15, 16, 19, 22, 29, 30, 35, 45, 49, 53, 64, 66, 82, 87, 91, 94, 96, 98, 118, 128, 131, 132, 135, 139
 Birkenhead, Bridge-end-Fields, 22
 Birkenhead, Central Free Library, 45
 Birkenhead Ferry, 81, 120, 132
 Birkenhead Priory, 15, 53, 81, 91, 103, 104, 120, 131, 132, 134, 135, 138, 139, 144
 Birkenhead, St. Aidan's Theological College, 49
 Birkenhead, St. Mary's Church Schools, 91
 Birket, 29
 Birkett, 16
 Birkened (Birkenhead), 29
 Birtson, 133
 Blackpool, 47
 Blacon Point, 99, 144
 Blaken Hedde, 99
 Blessington, 129
 Bollin, 27, 33
 Boreham, 10
 Bosley, 41
 Boston House, Brentford, 118
 Bosworth Field, 125
 Boughton, 7, 8, 26, 45, 94, 133
 Bowdon, 81, 92, 102, 111, 136
 Bowdon Downes, 17
 Bradenham, 136
 Bradley, 44
 Bramhall, 133
 Breck, The, 35, 93, 96, 98
 Brentford, 118
 Breerton, 114, 120
 Bretton, 114
 Briarcroft, 42
 Bridge Trafford, 26, 87
 Brimstage, 113
 Brindley, 47
 Bristol, 13, 50
 Bristol, Horse Fair, 49
 Bromborough, 7, 8, 26, 29, 73, 81, 85, 94, 95, 113
 Brookhouse, Aughton, 98
 Broughall, 45
 Brougham, 133, 142
 Broughton, 101, 136
 Broxton, 53, 66
 Bryn, 107

Budworth, 26, 79
 Budworth Great, 66, 111
 Budworth, "Littell," 87
 Budworth-le-Frith, 75
 Bunbury, 133, 136
 Burley Dam Farm, 36
 Burniston, 111
 Burton, 84, 95, 114, 143
 Burton Head, 143
 Burton Mill, 143
 Burton Point, 144
 Burwardsley, 53
 Bury, 90, 136, 139
 Bycheley, 41
 Byckley, 41
 Byrohe, 102
 Byrcheley, 34
 Byrches, 39

C.

Caergwrie Castle, 143, 144
 Caerlegion (Chester), 6
 Calais, 101
 Caldey, 86, 95, 96, 114, 145
 Caldie Grange, 145
 Cambria, 143
 Cambridge, 24, 25, 47, 48
 Cambridge, Cains College, 47
 Cambridge, Jesus College, 54
 Cambridge, Peterhouse, 47
 Cambridge, St. John's College, 93, 102, 111, 114, 132, 135, 139, 142
 Cambridge University, 25, 62, 137
 Cambridgeshire, 60, 69, 72
 Campden, 7, 8
 Canterbury, 25
 Capenhurst, 41
 Carden, 112, 136
 Cartmell, 31
 Caton, 133
 Catterall, 111
 Cattonhall, 90
 Central Park (Liscard), The, 22
 Chapel House, 118
 Charingham, 114
 Chelford, 4, 8, 26
 Cheshire (or Co. of Chester), 1, 3-6, 9, 10, 13-17, 19-22, 24, 26-30, 33, 34, 36, 37, 39, 40, 42-50, 54, 59, 62-70, 72-78, 80-82, 84, 86-88, 92, 93, 96, 98, 100, 101, 103, -106, 109, 111, 112, 114-118, 125, 132-134, 136, 139-142, 144
 Cheshire 21
 Chester (or Centr) City, 1-3, 5-8, 11, 13-16, 18-26, 29, 30, 32, 34, 35, 37-47, 49-56, 58, 64, 66, 67, 69, 70, 72-74, 76-83, 85-87, 89-91, 93, 94, 96-100, 103, 106, 109, 111, 112, 114, 115, 117-123, 125, 126, 128-131, 133-136, 140, 144
 Chester, Abbey, 7
 „ Bar of, 130
 „ Barn Lane, 112

- Chester, Birkenhead Road, 99
 „ Bishop's House, The, 54
 „ Bishop's Palace, The, 130
 „ Bishop's Registry, 56, 63
 „ Bluecoat Hospital, 62
 „ Canal Locks, 112
 „ Castle, 16, 27, 28, 33, 130
 „ Castle Ditch, 90
 „ Cathedral, *see* Churches,
 &c.
 „ Churches, Parishes, &c.:
 Benedictine Monastery, 54
 Bridget's, 8
 Cathedral Church of Christ
 and the Blessed Virgin
 Mary, 7, 9, 13, 26, 30, 31,
 44, 55, 58, 61, 62, 79, 118,
 128, 130, 132, 140
 St. Mary's Chapel, 90
 Holy Trinity, 35
 St. Ann, Chapel of, 54
 St. James, 54
 St. John's Baptista, 4, 55
 St. John the Baptist, 54
 St. John's, 7, 8, 20, 49, 54,
 55, 58, 123
 St. John's College, 39, 55
 St. John's Collegiate
 Church, 54
 St. Martins, 49
 St. Mary, 7
 St. Mary-on-the-Hill, 13,
 35, 53, 142
 St. Michael's, 79, 142
 St. Oswald's, 2, 7, 8, 14,
 16, 19, 20, 22, 27, 29, 32,
 34, 37, 42, 44, 46, 50, 53,
 54, 56, 58, 61, 64, 67, 69,
 72, 74, 76, 80, 82, 85, 87,
 91, 93, 96, 100, 103, 106,
 109, 112, 115, 118, 120,
 123, 126, 128, 131, 134,
 137, 140, 143, 145
 St. Peter's, 7, 54
 St. Werburga, 4
 St. Werburgh's, 54, 86, 91
 St. Werburgh's Abbey, 9
 St. Werburgh's Monastery,
 7, 8, 66, 131
 Trinity, 17
 „ City Walls, 49, 54, 112, 144
 „ Convent, The, 54
 „ Corn Market, The, 27
 „ Customs House, The, 6
 „ Dean's House, The, 54
 „ Dee Banks, 39
 „ Dee Side Palace, 54
 „ Diocesan Registry, 51, 58
 „ East Gate, 130
 „ Foregate Street, 39
 „ Garden Lane, 82
 „ Glasse-house, 58
 „ Golden Lion, Ye, 21
 „ Golden Raven, Ye, 21
 „ Green Hall, The, 90
 „ Jail, The, 130
 „ Kaleyards, The, 61
 „ King's School, The, 44
 „ King Street, 130
 „ Linen Hall, The, 130
 „ Liverpool Road, 82
 „ Market Place, The, 27, 38
 „ Mayor's House, The, 123
 „ Mollington Road, 82
 „ North Gate, 99
- Chester, Northgate Street, 82, 86
 „ Northgate Street, Upper,
 99
 „ Park, The, 54
 „ Parkgate Road, 29, 46, 47,
 82, 98, 99, 100
 „ Pepper Gate, 65
 „ Port of, 6
 „ Probate Court, 40
 „ Probate Registry, 6, 86, 144
 „ Roodye, The, 78
 „ Rows, The, 49, 130
 „ Saracen's Head, The, 39
 „ Saughall Road, 29, 82
 „ School, The, 115
 „ Swan, The, 39
 „ Talbot Inn, The, 118
 „ Town Hall, The, 6, 7
 „ Vicar's Lane, 54
 „ Weaver Street, 112
 „ Whitefriars, 112
 „ White Lion Inn, The, 130
 „ Wool Hall, The, 21
 Chester, Pennsylvania, 142
 Cheveley, 7, 8, 26
 Chicago, 66
 Childwall, 31
 Chiswick, 44
 Cholmondeley, 133
 Chorlton, 7, 8, 26
 Christleton (Crystilton), 7, 8, 26, 30,
 34, 45, 53, 58, 96
 Church Lawton, 136
 Churton Heath (Church en Heath),
 26, 72
 Cinque Ports, The, 73
 Clare, 48
 Claughton, 32, 81
 Claughton Grange, 81
 Claughton, Grange Road, 81
 Clayton, 34
 Clent Field, Aughton, 35
 Cleveland, 25
 Clifton, 44
 Clints, The, 96
 Clutton, 53
 Clynsse, Ye, 35
 Coddington, 7, 26, 45, 140
 Coleshill, 118
 Columb Bridge, 89
 Comberbatch, 125
 Combermere, 25, 36, 81, 88, 97, 108,
 120, 141
 Congerton, 111
 Congleton, 92, 93, 94, 98, 102, 111,
 114, 128, 133, 136
 Congleton, Mill Street, 128
 Connah's Quay, 144
 Coole, 6
 Coppenhall, 136
 Cottingham, 70
 Coventry, 92, 102, 136
 Coventry, Holy Trinity, 92
 Coventry, St. Michael's, 92
 Cowarden, 112
 Cranage, 26
 Crewe (Crue), 26, 77, 125, 136
 Crewood, 75, 90
 Crimea, The, 9
 Crosby, 118, 119
 Crosby, Great, 22
 Crosby, Little, 119
 Croson Comons, 87
 Cross, The, 39
 Crosse, 39, 41
- Crosse, The, 39
 Crosse, *see* de la Crosse, 47
 Crosse-hall, Liverpool, 44
 Croston, 22
 Croughton, 7, 8, 26, 138
 Crowton, 41
 Cuckfield, 118
- D.
 Dam Field, Aughton, 35
 Daresbury, 2, 44, 117
 Darnhall, 33, 47
 Davenham, 39, 62, 114, 138
 Daventry, 118
 De la Crosse, 47
 Dee Estuary, 144
 Dee Mills, The, 26
 Dee River, 7, 29, 34, 46, 59, 81, 82,
 130, 132, 144
 Dee Shore, 99
 Delamere, 72, 73, 75
 Delamere Forest, 73, 75
 Denbighshire, 10, 34
 Dene, 16
 Denwall, 46, 143
 Denwall Collieries, 50
 Derby, 35, 103
 Derby, West, 70, 93, 98
 Derbyshire, 111, 121, 132, 133
 Deventer, 36
 Devon, 81
 Dieppe, 43
 Disley, 112
 Ditton, 21
 Doddington, 80, 100, 101
 Doddington, "Castellet," 80, 81
 Doddington Hall and Park, 80
 Doddleston, 7, 56
 Dorfold, 114
 Dorsetshire, 34
 Dovecote, Knotty Ash, 65
 Downholland, 70, 98
 Drakelow, 47
 Dronfield, 111
 Dublin, 46, 49, 129, 130
 Dulen Cross Abbey, 47
 Dunham Massey, 73, 81, 120, 127
 Dunham-o'-th'-Hill, 70
 Dunstable, 118
 Dutton, 45, 73
- E.
 East Cheshire, 72
 Eastham, 7, 8, 20, 21, 26, 36, 37, 56,
 70, 71, 77, 82, 85, 96, 113, 119,
 121, 133
 Eastham Ferry, 30
 Eaton, 43, 52, 121
 Eccleshall, 118, 119
 Eccleston, 53, 136
 Edmonton, 47
 Egerton, 73, 106
 Egypt, 135
 Ellesmere, 88
 Ellesmere Port, 125
 Elton, 112, 135
 Elton Thorneton, 26
 Ely, 38, 47
 Ely, Isle of, 44
 Emerugge, 40
 England, 4, 5, 15, 19, 25, 42, 43, 44,
 46, 47, 70, 73, 113, 120, 125, 127,
 134, 138, 142, 145
 Epping, 66
 Epping Forest, 65, 67

Ercoll, Great, 111
 Erdawick, 97, 110, 115
 Essex, 2, 65, 66, 67, 133
 Eton, 40
 Eton, 11, 119, 133, 136
 Everal, 46
 Exeter, 11

F.

Farndon, 112, 125, 133
 "Fender," The, 28, 29, 67
 "Fender Way," 28
 Fernel-cum-Pertinensia, 7
 Ferney Bank Farm, 36
 Finningley, 13
 Flint, 21, 29, 75, 117
 Flint Castle, 132, 144
 Flintshire, 39, 114
 Flookers Brook, 52, 99
 Flower-de-Luces, The, Epping
 Forest, 67
 Foulk Stapleford, 53
 France, 4, 19, 44
 Frankby, 52, 145
 Frith, The, 105, 109, 110, 126
 Frith Lane, 126
 Frodsham, 11, 21, 26, 29, 35, 47, 90,
 111, 117, 125, 14
 Fulton, 25
 Fynnyngley, 13

G.

Galloway, 113
 Garswood, 21, 107
 Gascoine, 144
 Gaws., 101
 Gawsworth, 92, 93, 97, 98, 101, 102,
 103
 Gayton, 30, 63, 95, 96, 119
 Gayton Ferry, 30
 Germany, 144
 Glamorganshire, 137
 Glossop, 111
 Gloucester Co., 7
 Goostree, 26
 Goostrey, 111, 137
 Gotham, 55
 Gow, River, 66
 Graefes-burh, 112
 Graf's Castle, 112
 Grafenstein, 113
 Grange Hill, 29
 Gravenhage, 113
 Gravesberie, 112, 113, 114
 Gravesend, 112
 Gravesham, 112
 Greasbrough, 113
 Greasby, 99, 112, 113, 114
 Great Britain, 141
 Great Budworth, 66, 111
 Great Crosby, 22
 Great Ercoll, 111
 Great Malvern Collegiate Church, 73
 Great Meoles, 15, 95, 127
 Great Meols, 14, 53
 Great Mollington, 82
 Great Neston, 7, 26, 46, 50, 51, 52,
 87, 99, 143
 Great Saughall, 58, 82
 Great Storeton, 95, 96
 Great Sutton, 26
 Gretna, 65
 Grevanberie, 113
 Guilden Sutton, 52, 58, 66

H.

Hale, 87
 Hale Low, 136
 Halsall, 93, 97, 98, 102, 103
 Halsalls, 102
 Halton, 41, 70, 113
 Halton Castle, 43, 70
 Hampton, 2, 41, 45
 Hampton Post, 45
 Handbridge, 41
 Handley, 7, 45, 111
 Hammer, 137
 Harden, 17
 Harrook, 93, 102
 Hartford, 87, 137
 Hartford Bridge, 118
 Haselwalle, 63, 64
 Haslington, 45, 133
 Hassall, 98, 132
 Hassendeanburn, 93
 Hastings, St. Clement's Church, 73
 Hastings, 41
 Hatton, 2, 31, 45
 Haulsoe, 98
 Hawarden, 37, 75
 Hawarden, Old, 37, 144
 Hawthorn, 97
 Hearnly, 136
 Hebrides, 133
 Helsby, 21, 26, 32, 70, 117
 Henley, 118
 Hereford, 44
 Herford, 39
 Heswall (see Hasalwalle), 58, 63, 85, 95
 Heywood Farm, 36
 Hibernia, 10
 Highleigh, 45
 Hilbre, 99, 144
 Hilton, 70
 Hincksey, 89
 Hinder-town, Neston, 100
 Hissarliik, Ruins of, 135
 Hockenhull, 56
 Holdenby, 3, 145
 Holland, 65, 70, 93
 Hollins, 97
 Holliwell, 21
 Hollywell, 20, 78
 Holme, 43, 75
 Holyhead, 129
 Holywell, The Starr, 21
 Holywell, 20, 21, 78
 Holywell, St. Winifred's Shrine, 20
 Hook, 118, 119, 120
 Hoole, 52, 54, 58, 66
 Hoose, 95, 140
 Hooton, 21, 30, 36, 37, 56, 57, 64, 65,
 70, 71, 73, 78, 95, 119, 143
 Hooton, Chester Road, 30
 Hooton Hall, 56, 57, 60, 77
 Horrook, 98
 Horsington, 70
 Hoswote, 93
 Houlton, 78
 Hoxton, 31
 Hoylake, 28, 32, 46
 Hughtrenton, 41
 Hull, 54, 58, 70
 Hulse, 26
 Huntington, 7, 8, 26
 Hunts, 103
 Hurstfield, Hoole Road, 62
 Huxley, 24, 26, 53
 Huyton, 65
 Hylton, 26

I.

Idencot, 26
 Ince, 7, 8, 26, 133
 Inkerman, 9
 "Inverary," 143
 Irby, 7, 8, 26
 Ireland, 4, 19, 32, 48, 65, 73, 100, 104,
 122, 125
 Isle of Ely, 44
 Isle of Stirks, 44

J.

Jamaica, 27, 33

K.

Keele, 48
 Kellerns, 88
 Kelsall, 75
 Kenilworth, 118
 Kent, 12, 42
 Kermineham, 114
 Key Lane, 36
 Kinderton, 33
 Kingsley, 29, 35, 75, 117, 120
 Kingsley Hall, 75
 Kirby, West, 7, 15, 32, 46, 54, 55,
 60, 61, 72, 82, 85, 86, 95, 99, 113,
 144, 145
 Kirby, West, Newhall Estate, 61
 Kirkby-Walley, 53, 84, 121
 Knoctorum (see also Noctorum), 15,
 16, 20, 21, 66
 Knotty Ash, 65, 93
 Knowsley, 18, 21, 64, 65
 Knutsford, 73, 79, 132

L.

Lancashire or County of Lancaster,
 7, 11, 22, 31, 35, 43, 54, 67, 69, 70,
 81, 90, 93, 98, 102, 103, 107, 111,
 112, 113, 117, 125, 127, 135
 Lancashire, North, 142
 Lancaster, 130
 Landican, 66
 Lathom, 29, 64, 72
 Lawton, 125, 136
 Layton (Larton) Werrall, 39
 Le Flint, 29
 Leake, 55
 Leasowe, 143
 Leasowe Castle and Race-course,
 58, 59, 121
 Leasowes and Hall, The, 59
 Ledsham, 86
 Lee, 7, 26
 Leedes, 2
 Lees, 26
 Leicest. Co., 98
 Leicester, 72
 Leighton, 51, 52, 95
 Leighton Hall, 47
 Lichfield, 54, 56, 81, 118, 120
 Lichfield Cathedral, 55, 56, 118
 Lichfield, Diocese of, 54, 55
 Lichfield Grammar School, 54
 Lichfield St. John the Baptist
 School, 54
 Lichfield and Coventry, Diocese of, 7
 Lincoln, 39, 62, 70
 Lincolnshire, 69, 70, 72
 Lindisfarne, 113
 Lindham House, Nantwich, 6, 36,
 40, 88, 142
 Lindsay, 70
 Litherland, 127

"Littell" Budworth, 87
 Little Crosby, 119
 Little Meoles, 95
 Little Mollington, 82
 Little Neston, 7, 26, 51, 52, 143
 Little Storeton, 95, 96
 Little Sutton, 26, 145
 Liverpool, 3, 6, 7, 21, 22, 29, 35, 51, 65, 81, 95, 96, 98, 112, 117, 119, 121, 127, 130, 139, 142, 143
 Liverpool, Crosse-hall, 44
 Liverpool Docks, 119
 Liverpool Infirmary, 98
 Liverpool, St. Nicholas, 93
 Liverpool University College, 86
 Liverpool, Water Street, 82
 Liverpool, Woolpack, The, 82
 Liangollen, Valle Crucis Abbey, 112
 Londinus, 24
 London, 3, 13, 14, 15, 24, 25, 31, 38, 39, 40, 46, 49, 61, 67, 79, 113, 118, 120, 125, 128, 129, 133
 London, Aldersgate, 76
 London, Barbican, 76
 London, British Museum, 39, 48, 59, 106, 108, 127
 London, Charing, 2
 London, Charterhouse, 133
 London, Drury Lane, 49
 London Fleet Prison, The, 26
 London, Great St. Bartholomews.
 West Smithfield (in various spellings). with the Chapel of Mr. Blage. and Sir Walter Mildmay, 39, 62, 79
 London, Hand Court, Upper Thames Street, 61
 London, Hatton Garden, 3
 London, High Holborne, 3
 London, Hoxton, 31
 London, King's Bench Prison, 39
 London, Lambeth, 25
 London, Lincoln's Inn, 70
 London, Ludgate Prison, 39
 London, Marshalsea Prison, 39
 London, National Record Office, 28
 London, Newgate Prison, 39
 London, Parliament, Old Houses of, 122
 London, Public Record Office, 14
 London, St. Andrew's Hundershaft (Undershaft), 13
 London, St. Giles', Cripplegate, 40
 London, St. Mildred's, Bread Street, 48
 London, St. Paul's Cathedral, 13, 25, 31, 70
 London, Southwark, 48
 London, Star Chamber, The, 122
 London, Strand, Ye, 3
 London, Temple, The, 129
 London, Tower, The, 33
 London, Westminster (*which see*)
 London, Whitehall, 76
 Long Slang, The, 22, 36
 Lostocke, 39
 Lount, 98
 Lyme, 111
 Lymn, 114
 Lynn, 47, 114
 Lyscarc, 53
 Lytley, 41

M.

Macclesfield, 20, 92, 98, 102, 114, 115, 136
 Madeley, 133, 136
 Madrid, 47
 Magna Britannia, 141
 Magna Salghale, 87
 Malpas, 35, 41, 73, 104, 105, 111, 133, 134
 Malvern, Great, Collegiate Church, 73
 Man, Isle of, 13, 93
 Manchester, 11, 40, 46, 89, 114, 132, 133, 135, 136, 139
 Manchester Grammar School, 11
 Manchester Theatre Royal, 117
 Manley, 11, 26
 Mara and Mondrem Forest, 75
 Marbury, 9, 10, 41, 67
 Marley, 10
 Marple, 73, 111, 133, 136
 Marston Trussel, 44
 Mawdesley, 125
 Meirton, 136
 Melts, The, 99
 Meoles, 82, 86, 99, 114, 127, 143
 Meoles, Great (*see* Mykel Melys), 14, 15, 53, 95, 127
 Meoles, Little, 95
 Mercia, 113
 Mere Cottage, Mere, 67
 Mersey, River, 30, 81, 113, 117, 118, 119, 121, 132
 Merton, 87
 Mickle Trafford, 66
 Middlesex, 40, 44, 47, 69, 72
 Middlewich, 29, 90
 Miles End, Stockport, 111
 Mobberley, 19, 67
 Mock-beggar Hall, 121
 Mollington, 29, 41, 82
 Mollington, Little, 82
 Mondrem. *see* Mara
 Montdidier, 104
 Moor Hall Farm, 36
 Moreton, 28, 81, 82, 143
 Moreton Chappell, 85
 Moreton Mere, 82
 Morton, 7
 Moss Mills, Wallasey, 96
 Moston, 8, 25, 66
 Mote House, Helsby, 32
 Mottram, 7, 97, 111, 115
 Mykel Melys, 127
 Mykull Meoles, 53

N.

Nantes, 43
 Nantwich (Nampwich, Nampwich), 6, 9, 11, 30, 35, 36, 40, 41, 52, 67, 72, 75, 77, 88, 110, 111, 112, 114, 115, 119, 120, 131, 133, 136
 Nelson, 125
 Nelston, 125
 Ness, 51, 52, 143
 Neston, 7, 8, 21, 46, 50, 51, 52, 82, 84, 85, 86, 96, 100, 125, 130, 143, 144
 Neston, Great, 7, 26, 46, 50, 51, 52, 87, 99, 143
 Neston, Hinder-town, 100
 Neston, Little, 7, 26, 51, 52, 143
 Neston Rode, 46
 Newton, 7, 8, 29, 35, 41, 53, 86, 90, 133, 136, 142, 145

Newton-by-Frodsham, 47
 Newton-cum-Larton, 95, 145
 Newton Grange, 111
 Newton Hollows, 58
 Newton prope Chester, 53
 Newton, Quakers' Chapel, 29, 35, 47
 Newton Scudamore, 44
 Noctorum, 21
 Norbury, 10
 Norfolk, 47, 136
 Normandy, 42, 43, 44, 75
 North Country, 35
 North Lancashire, 142
 North Wales, 73, 81
 Northampton Co., 3, 44, and Co. of North'ton, 145
 Northe', 102
 Northenden, 7, 26
 Northern Circuit, The, 107
 Northern Sea, The, 82
 Northwich, 6, 17, 26, 29, 39, 62, 66, 67, 84, 111, 114, 136
 Northwich Grammar School, 6, 62, 68, 71, 78
 Northwich, Schoolmaster's Lane, 39
 Northwich Wychehouses, 79
 Norton, 81
 Norton Abbey and Priory, 120
 Norton Scudamore, 44
 Nottingham Co. or Shire, 13, 55, 102
 Notts., 102
 Nowle, 87
 Nuneaton, 111
 Nürnberg, 139

O.

Old Hawarden, 37
 Old Hawarden Castle, 144
 Old Trafford, 50
 Oldham, 67
 Opetone, 66
 Optone, 66
 Ormskirk, 93, 117
 Oswestry, 53
 Oughtrington, 105
 Outon, 59, 73, 106, 124
 Over, 111
 Over Alderley, 73, 98
 Over Church, 85
 Overbebynton, 87
 Overchurch, 66
 Overleigh, 41, 140
 Overpool, 26
 Overtou, 29, 105, 132
 Oxenford, 13
 Oxford, 8, 89, 90, 92, 102, 118
 " Ball. (Balliol) Coll., 102
 " Brasenose College (B.N.C.), 44, 48, 93
 " Christ Church (Ch. Ch.), 89, 90, 93
 " Corpus Christi College, 11, 12
 " New Coll., 102
 " St. John's Coll., 102
 Oxforde Universitie, 62
 Oxton (Oxon), 28, 49, 66, 81, 86

P.

Painley, 36, 57
 Paris, Musée de l'Hôtel de Cluny, 40
 Parkgate, 32, 46, 47, 99, 100, 117, 119, 129, 130, 144
 Parkgate, Custom House, 129, 130

Parkgate, Dee Shore, 47
 Parkgate, Old White Lion, 46
 Parkgate, Packet Station, 46
 Park-gates, 46, 47
 Park-yate, 117
 Peckforton, 117, 136
 Peel, A, 122
 Pendle Forest, 113
 Penmaenmawr, 136
 Pennsylvania, 29, 142
 Pentrobin, 37
 Peover, 39, 120
 Philadelphia, U.S.A., 142
 Picardy, 104
 Pickering, Vale of, 70
 Pictou, 53, 66, 86
 Pipa Minor, 55
 Plenstall, 26
 Plimyard, 26
 Plomeley, 26
 Poitiers, 80
 Pomfret, 70
 Pontefract, 70
 Pontefract Castle, 70
 Pontone, 113
 Poole, 27, 30, 41, 45, 118, 120, 121
 Poole Hall, 27, 30, 118, 119, 121
 Poolton-cum-Seacombe, 95
 Porte Pool or Poole, 82, 99
 Poulton, 45, 86, 113
 Poulton-cum-Seacombe, 16
 Poulton Hospital, 22
 Poulton-Launcelyn, 43
 Poulton Road, 22
 Poulton Seacombe, 16
 Pownall, 97, 110, 115, 142
 Poynton, 114
 Prenton, 56, 78, 81
 Prescott, 136
 Prestbury, 7, 8, 16, 26, 92, 98, 102
 Preston, 113
 Preston, Shawe Hill, 44
 Prestwich, 40
 Prizet, 93
 Puddington, 55, 121
 Pulford, 53, 111
 Pulton, 96
 Putin, 120

Q.

Quakers' Meeting-place, Newton,
 29, 35, 47
 Queen's Ferry, 29
 Quistie, 31
 Quistie Birches, 2

R.

Raby, 51, 52
 Raineval Castle, 104
 Red Noses, 35, 96
 Redde Bank, The, 46
 Repton, 114
 Rhos-dhu Lodge, Wrexham, 10
 Rhuddlan, 29
 Richmond, 12, 85
 Ridley, 45, 65
 Rigge, 16
 Ripon, 133
 Risley, 111
 Rock hous, 21
 Rock Ferries, The, 20
 Rock-Savage, 44
 Rode, 72
 Roman Road, The, 99
 Rome, 125
 Rondle, The, Maclefield, 20

Rope, 114
 Roshotewyk, 87
 Rotherham, 113
 Rouen, 43
 Rough Field, The, Wrenbury, 36
 Roxburgh, 93
 Rudheath, 47
 Rudyard, 33, 47
 Rufford, 7, 117
 Runcorn, 21, 90, 143
 Rye House, 17
 Ryngaie, 20

S.

Saghton, 143
 Saughton, 7, 26
 St. Aidans Theological College,
 Birkenhead, 49
 St. Bees, 31
 St. George's Chapel, Windsor
 Castle, 3
 St. John's College, 39
 St. Werburgh, 66
 St. Winifred's Shrine, Holywell, 20
 Sale, 45, 97
 Salop, 10, 44, 47, 52, 114, 132
 Salt Hill, 118
 Salt Marsh, The, 143
 Salterton, 81
 Sandbach, 26, 111, 114, 115, 124, 132
 Sandicroft, 37
 Saughall, 8, 26
 Saughall, Great, 58, 82
 Saughall-Massey, 66
 Saughen-Massey, 16
 Saughton, 69, 138
 Schoolmaster's Lane, Northwich, 39
 Scotland, 125
 Seabank, 119
 Seacombe, 14, 16, 35, 143, 145
 Sebastopol, 9
 Sedburgh, 114, 133
 Sefton (Saphton), 65, 98
 Selkirk, 98
 "Serapis," H.M.S., 93
 Sharrock, 102
 Shawe Hill, Preston, 44
 Sheen, 12
 Sheen Charterhouse, The, 12, 13
 Sheppenhall, 6
 Shorlache, 39, 79
 Shotwick, 7, 8, 21, 26, 30, 82, 85,
 144
 Shotwick Castle, 144
 Shotwick Ford, 20, 30
 Shotwigg Ford, 20
 Shrewsbury, 29, 111, 114, 115
 Shrewsbury School, 114
 Shropshire, 43, 67
 Shropshire-lane, 36
 Shurlach, 39, 62
 Siddington, 98
 Sidon, 13
 Sinderland, 97, 98
 Skerry Islands, 129
 "Slang," 21, 22, 34, 36, 85
 "Sling," 36
 Snelson, 125
 Snelston, 125
 Sodor and Man, 13
 Somerford, 16
 Somerford Booths, 133
 Somerset, 12
 South Cheshire, 9
 South Shropshire, 34
 South Wales, 65

Southport, 47
 Spain, 127, 144
 Sparrow-Greve, 114
 Spittle, 57, 60, 70, 71, 74
 Spurstow, 47, 56
 Stafford, 55
 Staffordshire (or Stafford Co.), 33,
 43, 47, 57, 60, 64, 67, 69, 70, 72,
 77, 101, 133, 136
 Staley, 114
 Stamford, 7, 8
 Stamford Mylne, 26
 Standish, 31
 Stanhope, 47
 Stanley, 64, 65
 Stanlow, 29, 81, 119, 121
 Stanlow Cop., 119, 121
 Stanlow Grange, 26
 Stanney, 66
 Stanthorne, 111
 Stanwick, 136
 Stilton, 103
 Stirik Isle, 44
 Stocke, 41
 Stockport, 17, 38, 111, 114, 115, 133,
 134, 136, 143
 Stoke, 58, 85
 Stoke upon Terne, 47
 Stone Bridge, 82
 Stoneleigh, 64
 Stoneley, 65, 72
 Storeton, 44, 56, 64, 66, 95, 113, 114
 Storeton, Great, 95, 96
 Storeton, Little, 95, 96
 Stretton, 114, 117, 136
 Sunderland, 98, 102
 Sussex, 118
 Sutton, 7, 8, 26, 44, 111
 Sutton, Great, 26
 Sutton, Little, 26, 145
 Swarthmore College, 142
 Swarthmore, U.S.A., 29
 Swetenham, 111, 125
 Synderland, 92, 98
 Syon, 12

T.

Tabley, 136
 Tarbock, 65
 Tarleton, 22
 Tarporley, 17, 125, 131, 133
 Tarvin, 11, 29, 33, 35, 128, 133, 138,
 143
 Tarvin-road, 66
 Tattenhall, 26, 136
 Taxall, 112
 Terrick Hall, Whitechurch, 10
 Thelwall, 34, 67
 Themes, Ye, 2
 Thickwithies, The, 67
 Thingwall, 66
 Thorbeck, 65
 Thorneton-in-the-Moors, 29
 Thorneton-le-Moors, 105
 Thornton, 26, 44, 119, 121, 136
 Thornton Hough, 51, 52, 95
 Thrushington, 46
 Thurstanston, 26
 Thurstanston, 7, 51, 95, 145
 Thurstanston Hall, 138
 Thurstanston, 85
 Tillingham, 133
 Tillington, 133
 Tilston Farnhall, 26
 Timperley, 111, 144
 Tiverton, 26, 53

Todrig, 98
 Torbock, 65
 Torkenton, 41
 Towneley, 107
 Trafford, 134, 136, 144
 Trafford Green, 37
 Transmere (Transmole), 53, 81, 113, 131
 Two Mills, 46
 Twyford, 25, 31

U.

U.S.A. (United States of America), 29, 142
 Up-Holland, 70
 Upton, 7, 8, 26, 28, 53, 58, 66, 85
 Utinton, 17, 18
 Utinton Hall, 17

V.

Vale Royal, 27, 75, 87, 103, 133
 Vale Royal Abbey, 27
 Valle Crucis Abbey, 112, 125
 Venables, 43
 Vernon Castle, 43
 Vicus Malbancus, 8
 Vpton, 85

W.

Walden, 7
 Wales, 29, 54, 81, 119, 122, 125, 130, 132
 Wales, North, 73, 81
 Wales, South, 65
 Wallasey (Walasegh, Walesee, Walesie, Wallosey, Wallowey), 14, 15, 16, 20, 21, 22, 26, 28, 35, 48, 53, 59, 60, 64, 78, 81, 85, 96, 121, 127, 132, 142
 Wallasey Church, 91
 Wallasey Hall, 16
 Wallasey Marsh, 96
 Wallasey Pool, 28, 59
 Wallasey Water Mill, 96
 Wallerscote (Walrescote), 29, 48
 Walley, 96
 Walthamstowe, 2, 3
 Walton, 98, 112
 Walton-on-the Hill, 112
 Warburton, 9, 14, 35, 40, 73, 90, 131
 Wareneburie, 134
 Warringham, 114, 135, 136, 143
 Warminster, 10
 Warrington, 37, 44, 67, 117
 War'ton Hulston, 26
 Warwick, 118
 Warwick Castle, 118
 Warwickshire, 69, 70, 92
 Water Hoose, 141
 Waterloo, 10

Waverton, 53
 Weald, 65
 Weald Hall, 65
 Weaver, River, 36, 75
 Weaverham, 45, 111, 133, 138
 Wellington, 21
 Welsh Isle, The, 121
 Welshman's Island, The, 59
 Wem, 114
 Wenvoe, 137
 Werford, 16
 Wervin, 7, 8, 20, 26, 53, 66, 134
 West Derby, 70, 93, 98
 West Kirby, 7, 15, 32, 46, 54, 55, 60, 61, 72, 82, 85, 86, 95, 99, 113, 144, 145
 West Kirby, Newhouse Estate, 61
 West Yorkshire, 142
 Westminster, 5, 11, 14, 15, 48, 55, 84, 89, 136
 Westminster Abbey, 55
 Westminster, Dean's Yard, 88, 109
 Westminster, High Court of Exchequer, 15, 16
 Westmoreland, 93, 133, 142
 Weston, 133, 136
 Wethenall, 53
 Wexfordia, 10
 Weynngton, 26
 Wheathill, 10
 Whickstide, 41
 Whitby, 26, 121, 125, 126
 Whitchurch, 9, 21, 88, 89, 105, 109, 110, 125, 133, 138
 Whit-church, Ye Red Lion, 21
 Whitepool, 111
 Wicklow Mountains, 129
 Wico Malbo, 96
 Wigan, 67
 Wigan Lane, 38
 Wilbraham, 72
 Wilderspool, 99
 Wilkesley, 36
 Wilksley, Hall, 124
 Willaston, 7, 26, 51, 52, 86
 Willington, 75
 Wilts, 10
 Wincham, 33, 47
 Winchester, 11, 66
 Windle Hill, 100
 Windsor Castle, St. George's Chapel, 3
 Windy Weston, 21
 Winster, 121
 Winwick, 49, 111, 112, 117
 Wirral, 6, 7, 16, 26, 30, 32, 44, 48, 51, 59, 66, 81, 82, 84, 85, 90, 96, 99, 100, 112, 113, 114, 120, 121, 138, 143, 144, 145
 Wirral Forest, 65, 95
 Wirral Peninsula, 59, 99

Wirral Road, 99
 Wistaston, 77, 133
 Wistaston Hall, 80
 Witham, 12
 Withington, 119
 Witton, 39, 40, 66, 114, 115
 Witton Grammar School, 39, 68, 71, 78
 Witwick, 98
 Wo, The, 4
 Wolseley Bridge, 118
 Wood Fields, 99
 Wood House, 99
 Wood Lane, 99
 Woodchurch, 28, 48, 49, 77, 85, 142
 Woodchurch, Church of the Holy Cross, 49
 Woodcock Hill, 124
 Woodcot Hill, 97, 124
 Woodhey, 72
 Woodside, 20, 21
 Woodstock, 118
 Woore, 119
 Worcester co., 73
 Workington, 31
 Worrall, 74
 Wrenbury, 6, 9, 36, 97, 105, 108, 109, 110, 115, 116, 117, 123, 124, 126, 127, 128, 134, 141, 142
 Wrenbury, 'Comon,' 124, 125
 Wrenbury, Frith, 109, 115, 125
 Wrenbury, Frith, 88
 Wrenbury Hall, 88
 Wrenbury Heath, 97, 109, 123, 124, 126
 Wrenbury Mansion House, 110
 Wrenbury Mill, 123
 Wrenbury Parkes, 110
 Wrenbury Villa Green, 142
 Wrenbury Woods, 110
 Wrenbury cum frith, 104, 105, 109, 110, 111, 115, 137, 141
 Wrenbury cum Frith, 36, 109
 Wrexham, 112, 133, 136
 Wybunbury, 40
 Wynnngton, 39
 Wytham, 12
 Wytton, 63, 68, 69, 78, 79

Y.

Ynys (Ince), 29
 York, 25, 35, 51, 98
 York Minster, 25
 Yorkshire, or co. York, 27, 33, 69, 70, 105, 121
 Yorkshire, West, 142



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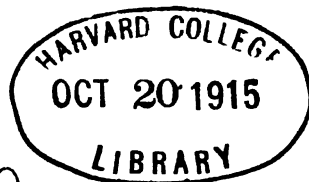
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TABLE OF CONTENTS.

1. The Deans of Chester.
2. Early Cheshire Emigrants to America.
3. Marriage Registers of St. Oswald's, Chester.
4. The Deans of Chester.
5. The Family of Bold, of Upton.
6. Documents relating to Nether Peover.
7. The Mayor of Altrincham's Bresches.
8. Marriage Registers of St. Oswald's, Chester.
9. Seventeenth Century Love Letters.
10. Topography and History.
11. Marriage Registers of St. Oswald's, Chester.
12. Topography and History.
13. Cheshire Clergy in 1559.
14. Friends' Meeting House at Frandley.
15. Roman Catholic Martyrs at Chester in 1679.
16. A Seventeenth Century Cheshire Ballad.
17. Curious Entry, St. Oswald's, Chester.
18. Marriage Registers of St. Oswald's, Chester.
19. Topography and History.
20. The Rev. William Plessington.
21. Queen Margaret's Visits to Chester.
22. Deans of Chester in Edward VI's Reign.
23. Marriage Registers of St. Oswald's, Chester.
24. Randle Holmes' Notes in Cheshire Churches.
25. Mr. Moreton, Chief Justice of Chester.
26. Marriage Registers of St. Oswald's, Chester.
27. Petition from Inhabitants of Burton in Wirral, 1646.
28. Imprisonment of a Dean of Chester.
29. The Old Valley of the Mersey.
30. Audlem Free Grammar School.
31. Marriage Registers of St. Oswald's, Chester.
32. Chapel and Parsonage Hall of St. Nicholas, Chester.
33. Marriage Registers of St. Oswald's, Chester.
34. Court of Caldý and Wapentak Court of Neston.
35. Audlem Free Grammar School.
36. Marriage Registers of St. Oswald's, Chester.
37. Clerical Changes in 1559.
38. Marriage Registers of St. Oswald's, Chester.
39. Randle Holmes' Notes in Cheshire Churches.
40. Clerical Changes in 1559.
41. Marriage Registers of St. Oswald's, Chester.
42. A Cheshire Tempest in 1687.
43. Clerical Changes in 1559.
44. The Rev. Sir Henry Poole's Reference to Eaton Hall.
45. The Old Chester Gaol and its Governors.
46. Marriage Registers of St. Oswald's, Chester.
47. Monumental Inscriptions of Cheshire and Lancashire Families in Bath.
48. Clerical Changes in 1559.
49. George Marsh, the Chester Martyr.
50. A Cheshire Tempest in 1687.
51. Clerical Changes in 1559.
52. An Incident in the Plague at Burton, 1650.
53. Marriage Registers of St. Oswald's, Chester.
54. The Story of George Marsh.
55. Clerical Changes in 1559.
56. Marriage Registers of St. Oswald's, Chester.
57. The Story of George Marsh.
58. The Place Name Greasby.
59. Rev. Lewis Sabrun, S.J.
60. Marriage Registers of St. Oswald's, Chester.
61. The Story of George Marsh.
62. Early Nonconformity in Cheshire.
63. Dr. Wythines, Dean of Battle.
64. Marriage Registers of St. Oswald's, Chester.
65. The Story of George Marsh.
66. Early Nonconformity in Cheshire.
67. The Story of George Marsh.
68. Early Nonconformity in Cheshire.
69. James II. at Chester.
70. Marriage Registers of St. Oswald's, Chester.
71. Varia.
72. James II. at Chester.
73. Marriage Registers of St. Oswald's, Chester.
74. A Breach of Promise Case in 1637.
75. The Helsbies and Quakerism.
76. Pardon for the Murder of John Poole.
77. Marriage Registers of St. Oswald's, Chester.
78. A Breach of Promise Case in 1637.
79. Documents relating to Richard de Poole, 1398-9.
80. Disabilities of Dissenters.
81. Early Cheshire Emigrants to America.
82. Marriage Registers of St. Oswald's, Chester.
83. Bishop George Lloyd.
84. The Bolds of Upton.
85. Marriage Registers of St. Oswald's, Chester.
86. Bishop George Lloyd.
87. The Parliamentary Election, 1727.
88. Bishop George Lloyd.
89. The Old Denhall Collieries, Neston.
90. Marriage Registers of St. Oswald's, Chester.
91. Bishop George Lloyd.
92. Clerical Changes in 1559.
93. The Parliamentary Election, 1727.
94. Richard Blundell, the Collier Artist of Neston.
95. The Parliamentary Election, 1727.
96. Marriage Registers of St. Oswald's, Chester.
97. An Early Cheshire Letter.
98. The Vawdrey Family.
99. Cheshire Martyrs.
100. Marriage Registers of St. Oswald's, Chester.
101. A Seditious Paper found at Chester in 1561-2.
102. Witton (or Northwich) Grammar School.
103. The Poll Book of Cheshire, 1727.
104. Marriage Registers of St. Oswald's, Chester.

105. A Reputed Ancient Custom at Thurstaston.
106. The word "Yeden" in Ralph Helsby's Letter.
107. Pace-Egging at Thurstaston.
108. Witton (or Northwich) Grammar School.
109. The Parliamentary Election, 1727.
110. Marriage Registers of St. Oswald's, Chester.
111. John Wesley at Parkgate.
112. Witton (or Northwich) Grammar School.
113. Marriage Registers of St. Oswald's, Chester.
114. The Cheshire Families of Janny, Worthington, and Alrodde.
115. John Wesley at Parkgate.
116. The Place Name Greasby.
117. The Parliamentary Election, 1727.
118. Marriage Registers of St. Oswald's, Chester.
119. Thorneycroft, of Astbury Parish.
120. Some Notes on the Cheshire Domesday.
121. Marriage Registers of St. Oswald's, Chester.
122. Barrow, of Barrow, and the Hospital of St. John the Baptist without the Northgate.
123. Some Notes on the Cheshire Domesday.
124. The Parliamentary Election, 1727.
125. Marriage Registers of St. Oswald's, Chester.
126. Pedigree of the Barrows of Barrow, &c., as Sheriffs of Chester and Cambridge.
127. The Parliamentary Election, 1727.
128. Marriage Registers of St. Oswald's, Chester.
129. Some Notes on the Cheshire Domesday.
130. The Families of Minshull, of Penketh; and Torbock and Caldwell of Sutton.
131. Marriage Registers of St. Oswald's, Chester.
132. Further Notes on the Cheshire Domesday.
133. The Parliamentary Election, 1727.
134. The Plague in Cheshire.
135. Sir Thomas Browne, author of "Religio Medici"
136. Marriage Registers of St. Oswald's, Chester.
137. Helsby Letter.
138. Extracts from Minute Book of S.P.C.K. relating to Chester.
139. Bishop Henry Bridgeman, Dean of Chester, 1660-1682.
140. Where is Upton near Rushton?
141. An Entry in the Neston Parish Register.
142. Marriage Registers of St. Oswald's, Chester.
143. The Personal Character of Mary Tudor.
144. The Parliamentary Poll Book of 1727.
145. The Heraldic Devices on Bidston Church Tower.
146. The Parliamentary Election, 1727.
147. A Driving Tour in North Wales in 1838.
148. Varia.
149. Sir Thomas Browne, Author of "Religio Medici."
150. The Parliamentary Election, 1727.
151. Marriage Registers of St. Oswald's, Chester.
152. Backford Parish.
153. The Parliamentary Election, 1727.
154. Marriage Registers of St. Oswald's, Chester.
155. Backford Bostock Charter—late 13th Century.
156. The Parliamentary Election, 1727.
157. The Title of Baronet.
158. The Domesday Manor of Upton juxta Rushton.
159. Marriage Registers of St. Oswald's, Chester.
160. Political Riot at Nantwich, 1734.
161. Marriage Registers of St. Oswald's, Chester.
162. A Relic of St. Mary's Nunnery, Chester.
163. Monumental Inscriptions in Bidston Church.
164. Two Early Cheshire Charters.
165. Marriage Registers of St. Oswald's, Chester.
166. The Ancestry of Sir Thomas Browne.
167. Minshull and Torbock.
168. Marriage Registers of St. Oswald's, Chester.
169. Minshull and Torbock.
170. The Town and Port of Great Neston.
171. Extracts from the Records of St. John's College, Cambridge.
172. Marriage Registers of St. Oswald's, Chester.
173. The Town and Port of Great Neston.
174. Marriage Registers of St. Oswald's, Chester.
175. The Meres and Balls, and a Vile Murder in the 15th Century.
176. Marriage Registers of St. Oswald's, Chester.
177. Whitney's Emblems—First Edition.
178. The Families of Minshull, of Penketh; and Torbock and Caldwell, of Sutton.
179. Marriage Registers of St. Oswald's, Chester.
180. Seventeenth Century Love Letters.
181. Marriage Registers of St. Oswald's, Chester.
182. Danyers *alias* Daniels, of Daresbury.
183. Randle Holmes' Cheshire Church Notes.
184. Marriage Registers of St. Oswald's, Chester.
185. Seventeenth Century Love Letters.
186. The Estate of the Bishoprick of Chester, temp. Bp. John Bridgeman.
187. Marriage Registers of St. Oswald's, Chester.
188. Addenda—The Grosvenours of Hulme.
 ,, Bishop Lloyd's House.



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NOTES.

[353] THE DEANS OF CHESTER.
(Continued from No. 219.)

V.—JOHN PIERS, 1567-1573.

The next Dean of Chester was one of the most prominent ecclesiastics of his age. At the present time, he is chiefly remembered as having held three deaneries and three bishoprics.

John Piers* was born of humble parentage at South Hinksey, a Berkshire village near to Oxford, in or about the year 1523. He was educated at the school attached to Magdalen College, whence he entered the college itself as a demy in 1542. He took his B.A. degree in June, 1545, and in the same year became a probationary, and in the following one a full fellow of his college. In 1547 he left Magdalen, and accepted a senior studentship at Christ Church, making the condition, however, that he might return to the former, if he desired to do so at the end of twelve months. The change does not appear to have pleased him, as he was re-elected a Fellow of Magdalen in 1548, and remained one till 1559. In 1549 he graduated as M.A.

* Variants of his name are Pierse, Peerse, Perys, and Pers.

Having taken Holy Orders, Piers took his B.D. degree in 1558, and in the same year he left Oxford, on being presented to the rectory of Quainton, near Aylesbury. In this country cure, having only the companionship of rustics, he fell into the habit of tippling with them in ale-houses, and was in great hazard of losing all those excellent gifts that came after to be well esteemed and rewarded in him. He was weaned of the habit by a grave divine when preparing himself and his flock for Holy Communion, and became 'so abstemious that his physician in his old age could not persuade him to drink wine; so habited he was in sobriety, in detestation of his former excess.'† This statement of Fuller's must be received with some caution. Dr. J. S. Brewer, in his edition of the *Church History*, says that the remarks on Piers' dissolute conduct during his youth seem rather contradictory to what is stated by Dr. King in the Archbishop's funeral sermon. Indeed, most of these anecdotes respecting the bishops of this time were derived from Sir John Harrington—a courtier and a wit—a writer whose credit is very doubtful.

Quainton is within easy reach of Oxford, and Piers doubtless made frequent journeys to his Alma Mater. He took his degree as Doctor of Divinity in February, 1566, and returned to reside in Oxford, where he soon obtained a leading position in the University. In the autumn of the same year he held a conspicuous place in

† Fuller's *Church History*, V. 200.

the reception of Elizabeth, who then paid her first visit as Queen to the University. On 5th September, disputations in 'Physick and Divinity' were held in St. Mary's Church, in the presence of Her Majesty, which lasted, from two of the clock, or thereabout, unto seven.' The Queen 'gave very attent care unto them, and tarried till the full end thereof.' The questions in Divinity were these:— (1) 'Non licitum homini privato arma sumere contra Principem, etiam injustum. (2) 'Ministerium verbi non est Dominatus.' Piers was one of the seven doctors appointed to oppose in these disputations, Humphrey, President of Magdalen, being the respondent, and Bishop Jewell the determiner. On the following day 'Dr. Piers made a sermon in Latin, before dinner, in Christ's Church, divers of the Nobility and others being present. But the Queen's Majesty, by reason of great painstaking and watching the former day and night (as it was supposed), did not come to this sermon. His theme was taken out of the 49 Chapter of Esai the prophet, '*Reges erunt nutricii tui, et Reginae nutrices tuas,*' †

Piers was now a man marked out for promotion. He had evidently made a favourable impression on the Queen, and his advancement was speedy and constant. Early in 1567 he was collated to the second stall at Chester, which he resigned later in the year on being appointed (4 Oct.) dean in the place of Richard Walker. About the same time he also obtained the rectory of Laindon, in Essex, which he retained till 1573.

Piers held the deanery of Chester for a little over five years; but it is very doubtful whether he spent much time in the city. He probably was occasionally in London, carrying on the suit against the Cottons. During his decanate there seems to have been little progress made in this tedious litigation. In 1570 (17 May) the Dean was chosen Master of Baliol College, Oxford, a position which he retained for less than twelve months. With the Mastership he also held the College Rectory of Fillingham, in Lincolnshire. On 28 Feb., 1571,§ he was nominated Dean of Christ Church, and in the same or following year, Dean of Salisbury. For a time, therefore, he held, by royal licence, *three* deaneries together. He resigned Chester, however, in 1573,

and Christ Church in 1576, but retained Salisbury till after he became a bishop.

While Piers was Dean of Salisbury, by the command of the Queen, he brought the ritual and statutes of the Cathedral into conformity with the spirit of the Reformation. He and his chapter (Oct., 1573) began 'the good work of abolishing superstitions and popish statutes, abrogating all observances and customs there ordained repugnant to the Word of God and the Statutes of the Realm.'||

In April, 1575, Archbishop Parker placed the name of Piers, together with those of Whitgift and Goodman, before the Queen, as that of a suitable man to fill the vacant see of Norwich. Our divine had, however, to wait a little longer for that elevation, which was manifestly inevitable. It came in 1576, when he was nominated to the bishopric of Rochester.

(To be continued).

[354] EARLY CHESHIRE EMIGRANTS TO AMERICA.

Following on the few Quakers' certificates sent you a week ago (see No. 346), I now enclose a further batch from the December number of the *Literary Era*. I have not confined the extracts to Cheshire, however. It is interesting to see some more certificates from Newton, in Frodsham parish, especially as one of them bears the historic name of Helsby. Can anyone enlighten me as to the whereabouts of Frandly, in Cheshire? Can it be meant for Frankby, in Wirral?—Yours, &c.,

GENEALOGIST.

Jean Pooley, 5-30-1711, Kendall Months' Meeting, Westmoreland, England.

Jonathan Haycock, wife Ann, dau. of John Till (of Stafford Mtg.) lately married, 12 mo. 13, 1710, from Wolverhampton Mo. Mtg., Staffordshire, England.

Joseph Helsby and wife, 9 mo. 26, 1711, dated 4 mo. 5, 1711, from 'our Monthly Meeting held at Newton,' Cheshire, England.

Nathan Gibson, unmarried, 'to be a Servant,' 8 mo. 26, 1713, dated 1 mo. 6, 1712-13, from Mo. Mtg. at Kindale, Westmoreland, England.

David Wilson, unmarried, 10 mo. 23, 1713, dated 1 mo. 6, 1712-13, from Kendall, Westmoreland, England.

John and David Davies, unmarried, sons of Richard and Ann, of Rhuddallt, Parish of Ruabon, Co. of Denby, Wales, 11 mo. 25, 1713, dated 1 mo. 20, 1712-13, from Mo. Mtg. at Nantwich, Cheshire, England.

|| *Report of Cathedral Commission, 1853, p. 377.*

† *Elizabethan Oxford*, pp. 200-1.

§ *Foster's Oxford and its Colleges*, p. 398.

Elizabeth Hatton, 1 mo. 31, 1712, from Frandley Mo. Mtg., Cheshire, England.

Sarah and Martha Hays, 7 mo. 29, 1712, from Newton Mo. Mtg., Cheshire, Eng.

John Holland, 8 mo. 28, 1712, unmarried, from Newton Mt. Mtg., Cheshire, England. Endorsed by Darby.

John Worrall, 10 mo. 24, 1712, 'Produced a Certificate by Ephraim Jackson from' Newton Mo. Mtg., Cheshire, England.

Sarah Followfield, 10 mo. 28, 1713, from Great Shackland Mo. Mtg. Westmoreland, England.

John Saul, unmarried, 3 mo. 31, 1714, dated 10 mo. 1, 1713, from Dublin, Ireland, 'from Cumberland in England Some years ago.'

John Wright, wife Patience, and four children, 9 mo. 29, 1714, dated 1 mo. 16, 1713-14, from Hartshaw Mo. Mtg. Lancashire, England. Endorsed by Phils, 9 mo. 26, 1714.

Joseph Parker, young and unmarried, 11 mo. 25, 1713, dated 7 mo. 20, 1713, from Coldbeck Mtg., Cumberland, England.

David Gibson, unmarried, a poor orphan, carpenter and joiner by trade, 10 mo. 28, 1713, from Mo. Mtg. at Great Strickland, Westmoreland, England.

John Holland, 8 mo. 25, 1714, from Hartshaw Mo. Mtg. Lancashire, lately married to Mary Somerfield 'of our meeting.' He went to England by a certificate 'about half a year since.'

Thomas Fell, wife Lydia, and children, of Coppull Mtg., dated 11 mo. 17, 1714, from Mo. Mtg. at Hartshaw, Lancashire, England.

John Minshall, unmarried, son of Thomas and Martha, 5 mo. 25, 1715, dated 12 mo. 15, 1714, from Mo. Mtg. at Hartshaw, Lancashire, England.

Thomas Lancaster, 7 mo. 27, 1714, from Kendall Mo. Mtg., Westmoreland, England.

Elinor Cook, 1 mo. 29, 1714, from Frandly Months Meeting, Cheshire, England.

[355] MARRIAGE REGISTERS OF ST. OSWALD'S,
CHESTER.

1636.

George Ledsam and Ales Crookes, April 19

John Oates, alias Conwaye and Sibbill Mather,
April 24

John Peerson and Elizabeth Catterall, May 10

Thomas Loukin and Ales Shenton, May 15

John Aston and Katherin Davis, May 29

John Hounphrey and Katherin Coyne, June 6

Richard Hall of Budworth and Marie Paynter
July 26

John Cowdoke and Marie Sale, Sept. 20

Henrie Bartone and Margaret Bradshawe, Oct. 20

Henrie Backster of Shotwicke parish and Elizabeth
Duckenfeilde of this parish, Oct. 25

Richard Higgenson and Alice Parrye, Nov. 5

Robarte Johnes and Ales Williams, Nov. 5

John Rocon and Elizabeth Kennyon, Nov. 5

Arther Wilson and Debborah Moares, Nov. 21

Henrie Yonge and Anne Whitbie, Dec. 8

Mr. John Conie and Mrs. Alice Eaton, Jan. 19

Hughe Walton and Ane Barton, Feb. 2

JANUARY 11, 1899.

NOTES.

[356] THE DEANS OF CHESTER.

V. — JOHN PIERS, 1567 — 1573.

(Continued from No. 353).

Piers left Oxford with a great reputation. The college which he had ruled extolled the liberality of their head, and testified that he was learned himself and the promoter of learning among them. His portrait still hangs in the hall of Christ Church, among those of the other worthies of that great foundation.

He was consecrated at Lambeth, 15 April, 1576, by Archbishop Grindal, assisted by the Bishops of London (Sandys) and Winchester (Horne). The new prelate seems to have at once thrown himself into the work of his diocese, and to have endeavoured to promote learning in Kent as he had previously done at Oxford. In his *Visitation Articles*, he asks if all the ministers and members of the cathedral have the whole Bible in English and Latin, and 'every day with good advisement, confer at least one chapter of the Latin and English together.' Another inquiry points to an evil of the times—'Whether any preferred by the Prince or others have been admitted for gifts or rewards, or refused admittance because they declined to give them?' In the course of the year 1576, Bishop Piers held fourteen ordinations, but the number ordained at once never exceeded two. In the same year the Queen made him Lord High Almoner.

On the death of Bishop Gheast, in 1577, Piers was translated to Salisbury,* which diocese he governed for twelve years. As Berkshire was then included in this diocese, our Bishop found his native county under his spiritual rule.

In 1583 Elizabeth employed Piers to signify to the Primate Grindal that he should resign his archbishopric, on account of failing health and blindness. Grindal's death put an end to this delicate negotiation.†

* He was still Dean of Salisbury, so that he was at once Bishop and Dean till 1578.

† Strype's *Grindal*.

Two years later the Queen consulted the bishop as to whether she could legitimately assist the Netherlands in their revolt from their Sovereign, the King of Spain. Piers gave a long reply in the affirmative.†

As Lord High Almoner, Piers was involved in a dispute with the Earl of Shrewsbury respecting 'deolands.' This dispute was fortunately settled in a friendly manner.

Although inclined to the Puritan side in the religious differences of the times, Piers was one of the 'relentless prelates,' before whom in 1585 Edward Gellibrand, a fellow of Magdalen, was cited on the charge of being the leader of the Presbyterian party in Oxford. Gellibrand subsequently left England, and became minister of a separatist congregation at Middleburgh in Holland.§

In 1587, the Earl of Leicester tried to obtain the See of Durham, vacant by the death of Richard Barnes, for Dr. Piers. In the following year he was appointed by Elizabeth to preach at the thanksgiving service, held in St. Paul's Cathedral, 24th November, to celebrate the defeat of the Spanish Armada.

In 1589, Piers was translated to the Archbishopric of York, in succession to Edwin Sandys. This exalted position he held till his death, at Bishopthorpe, 28th September, 1594. He was buried in All Saints' Chapel at the east end of York Minster, the following epitaph being placed on his tomb:—

Joannes Piers, sacrae Theologiae doctor, caelebs postquam decanatu Cestreae, ecclesiae Christi in Academia Oxon: et Sarisburiae functus esset ac postquam Episcopatus Roffensem viginti menses, Sarisburiensem undecim plus minus annos gessisset, Eboracensis sui Archiepiscopatus anno sexto, vitae autem septuagesimo primo, obiit, 28 Septembris anno Dni 1594, Cujus hic repositum est cadaver. Genere non magnus fuit (nec tamen humilis), dignitate locoq. maior, exemplo maximus, Homo, si quiequam mortalium, a malitia et vindicta plane innocens, summe liberalis in omnes, pauperibus ita beneficus, ut non suam modo, sed et Principis sui munificentiam Eleemosynarius Regius larga manu per multos annos erogavit. Hospitalis adeo ut expensa reditus saepius aequarint, nonnunquam superarint, contemptor mundi, optimus, facilis, et in sola vitia superbus. Scilicet non minus factis quam sermonibus syncerum verbi praeconem egit, et fuit in evangelio praedicando, tam in Aula et Academia quam in Ecclesia, ut

semper valde nervosus ita ad extremum usque halitum mirabiliter assiduus. Veram et germanam Christi Religionem modis omnibus propagavit, falsam et adulterinam totis viribus oppugnavit, bonas litteras pro facultatibus auxit, ignavos, sedulitatis suae conscius ferre non potuit, manus nemini temere imposuit. Ecclesiae patrimonium, veluti rem Deo sacratam, intactum defendit. Summa semper apud illustrissimam mortalium Elizabetham gratia floruit, ineffabili apud immortalem Deum gloria aeternum florebit. Vivit in caelis anima ejus, vivet in terris memoria, utinam et vivum exemplar in omnibus Episcopis ecclesiaeque, Pastoribus cerneretur.

Joannes Benet, legum Doctor haeres in Testamento scriptus, memoriae tanti praesulis, talisq. patroni sui cui omnibus officii ac observantiae nominibus se deditissimum proficitur hoc pii gratiq. animi non tantae haereditatis monumentum suis sumptibus posuit.

Piers' funeral sermon was preached by his chaplain, John King, afterwards a well-known Bishop of London.

The Archbishop, who died unmarried, was highly regarded by his contemporaries, and left behind the reputation of a 'primitive bishop.' "He was one of the most grave and reverent prelates of the age, winning the love of all by his generosity, kindness of disposition, and Christian meekness. His learning was deep and multifarious." Camden calls him 'Theologus magnus et modestus.' He was an honourable exception to many of the prelates, not only of his own time, but of other periods also, in that he leased nothing from the Church nor injured her revenues. His liberality was shown in his waiving a claim to a profitable lease granted him by the Queen, in order to secure a provision for one of the sons of Foxe the Martyrologist.

[357] THE FAMILY OF BOLD OF UPTON.

The following Marriage Licence from the Bishop's Registry at Chester is a curious example of a double alliance, details of which do not appear in Ormerod's pedigree of the family of Bold of Upton.

The Henry Bold mentioned had married for his first wife Margaret, daughter of Thomas Bunbury of Stanney. His second wife Elizabeth, referred to in this licence, was buried at Upton, April, 1617, Henry Bold himself dying a few days later. The son Peter Bold was apparently about nineteen or twenty years of age at this time: he had at least one son

† *Styry's Whitgift.*

§ *Bloxam's Magdalen*, iv. 173.

(Edward) by this marriage who was baptized at Woodchurch, 6th Sept. 1612: his wife Elizabeth was buried at Upton 3rd Aug. 1623, about which time he is said to have sold his Upton estates. It would be interesting to know what became of this family; at the beginning of the 17th century there were several of them married and settled in the immediate neighbourhood, but within twenty years they all disappear and leave no trace.

Perhaps some of your readers can suggest who the two Mainwarings—mother and daughter—were. From a note in the *Cheshire Sheaf*, Vol. I., Series iij., p. 9., it appears that a Mr. George Mainwaring was living at Shotwick Lodge in 1601, and his inventory of goods is filed at Chester under date 1608. Elizabeth, the mother, was therefore possibly his widow. The licence is as follows:—

8 Nov: 1609.

Licence to the Curate of Shotwicke to marry Henry Bold of Upton gentleman and Elizabeth Mainwaring of the Pariah of Shotwick widow, as well as Peter Bold son of the said Henry Bold and Elizabeth Mainwaring spinster, daughter of the said Elizabeth Mainwaring widow. The said Peter Bold took oath.

Yours,
GENEALOGIST.

Liverpool.

ORIGINAL DOCUMENTS.

[358] DOCUMENTS RELATING TO NETHER PROVER.

Welsh Records, Chester Inquisitions Post Mortem, 19 Richard II., No. 2.

ABSTRACT.

Inquisition taken at Knottesford on Saturday in Easter week, 19 Richard II. [A.D. 1396].

The jurors say that John de la Pole, chivaler, was seised, together with Isabella his wife, of the moiety of the town of Netherpever which is held of the King as Earl of Chester in chief by knight's service. The said John granted the said moiety to John Fitz Herbert in fee simple to him and his heirs for ever and he regranted it to the said John and Isabella for their lives with remainder to the heirs of the said John. The said moiety is worth £10 yearly.

John, son and heir of the said John and Isabella is next heir and was aged 14 on the feast of All Saints last pastth upon which day the said John de la Pole the elder died.

**Sic.* Compare with statements in Inquisition Post Mortem, 19 Henry VII.

[The greater part of this Inquisition is quite illegible. In the writ the deceased is described as John de la Pole of Hartington.]

Welsh Records, Chester Inquisitions Post Mortem, 17 Edward IV., No. 6.

ABSTRACT.

Inquisition taken in the Church of the Blessed Mary on the Hill in the city of Chester before Thomas Wotton, Esquire, Escheator, on Friday next after the feast of St. Barnabas the Apostle, 17 Edward IV. [A.D. 1477].

The jurors say that John Pole, knight, did not die seised of any manors, lands, rents or services in the county of Chester, because John Pole of Hartington his father being seised in his demesne as of fee of the moiety of the town of Netherpever in the said county among other messuages lands &c. in the county of Derby by charter dated on Monday next before the feast of St. Katherine the Virgin, 1 Hen. V. granted the said moiety to Adam Newbiggyng then vicar of the church of Hertyngton, James Brydde chaplain, George Stanley, William Nedeham of Grene and William Adam of Hartington. The said Adam, James and George are dead, but the said William Nedeham and William Adam are still thereof seised.

The said Sir John Pole, knight, died on Thursday in the fourth week of Lent last; John Pole of Hertynton is his son and heir and is now aged 40 years and more.

The said moiety is held of the King as Earl of Chester in chief by knight's service and is worth £10 yearly.

Welsh Records, Chester Inquisitions Post Mortem, 19 Henry VII., No. 5.

ABSTRACT.

Inquisition taken at Nantwich, on Monday next after the feast of St. Edward King and Confessor 19 Henry VII. [A.D. 1504] before Roger Maynwaryng Escheator.

The jurors say that Sir John de la Pole, knight, did not hold any lands in the county of Chester, because the said John and Alice his wife by charter dated 9 July, 16 Edward IV. [A.D. 1476] granted to Sir George Holford, knight, the moiety of the manor of Netherpever, and all other the messuages, lands, &c. there; to hold to them and their heirs for ever; which said premises are held of the Abbot of Vale Royal in the said county in socage by the service of 12d. yearly.

Recites a writ to the said Abbot beginning: Richard II. by the grace of God, &c.; in which it is mentioned that John de la Pole, chivaler, died seised, jointly with Isabella his wife of the moiety of the town of Nether Pever and demised the same to John Fitz Herbert and that John de la Pole was the son and next heir of the said John

and Isabella and was aged 14 years on the feast of All Saints 10 Richard II. on which day the said John the father died.*

Thomas Peeke (?), chivaler, who married the said Isabella. [The left-hand portion of this document is torn quite away from this point, so that it is quite impossible to make sense.]

REPLY.

[359] THE MAYOR OF ALTRINCHAM'S BREECHES. (See No. 348).

There is no reason to believe that any special individual was aimed at in the well-known Cheshire proverb,

"The Mayor of Altrincham lies in bed while his breeches are mending."

Another proverb current in the same county serves to explain it:—

"The mayor of Altrincham, and the mayor of Over,

The one is a thatcher, the other a dauber."

This has been further paraphrased by R. Holland in his *Cheshire Glossary*, in the following manner:—

"Altrincham and Over, though now somewhat large and populous places, used each to elect a mayor when they were mere country villages. They were always spoken of as the two smallest corporations in England, and the mayors were frequently men in not very elevated positions."

In his *Handbook of Proverbs*, H. G. Bohn terms them 'two petty corporations, whose poverty makes them ridiculous to their neighbours.' The proverbs were cited by Major Egerton Leigh in his works, but without any attempt to explain them.

That mayors of a humble class in small towns were not confined to Cheshire, is shown in the following quotation from *Drunken Barnaby's Journal*:—

"From thence to Barkley, as did beseech me,
The may'r I saw, a wondrous mean one,
Sitting, thatching, and bestowing
On a wind-blown house, a strawing;
On me call'd he, and did charm me,
'Drink less, eat more, I do warn thee.'"

T. N. BRUSHFIELD, M.D.
Salterton, Devon.

* Note. Sic. Compare with statement in *Ing.*, 19 Richard II.

[360] MARRIAGE REGISTERS OF ST. OSWALD'S, CHESTER.

1637.

James Bullmer and Ane Tottie, April 29
Daniel Boore and Alice Gill, May 1
George Skillington and Elizabeth Darrowe, May 20
Phillip Walker and Margerie Willson, June 24
William Johnes and Jane Simons, July 25
Arther Prickett and Jane Hayes, July 25
Godfrey Tottie and Ellnor Perrie, Sept. 8
Robert Cowdooke and Elizabeth Kings, Sept. 24
William Troughton and Marie Beavan, Sept. 30
Roberte Dawson and Elizabeth Smith, Nov. 2
Thomas Leeddaley (?) and Katherine Gree, Nov. 4
John Goughe and Jane Walahman, Dec. 7
William Bothom and Gwen Harrison, Jan. 12

JANUARY 18, 1899.

NOTES.

[361] SEVENTEENTH CENTURY LOVE-LETTERS. (See Nos. 129 and 174).

The following curious letter is a copy of the last of a batch of ante-nuptial correspondence referred to a year ago, and which I have held over until it could be placed in order of date with the rest in these pages. But as the rest cannot readily be got at (being long warehoused in the South of England with numerous other papers and luggage), it will be sufficient for the present to give this very original example of wifely affection, and of the high discipline kept by a Roman matron—no doubt through the excellent and inherited teachings of the Roman Church—until her earlier and rather masculine, but instructive, love-letters can be available for these pages:—

"My dearest husband,—It giveth me & my poore father great sattisfaction (sic) to hear from you happy tidings contayned in yor dear lett^{rs}, methinks that the Consideration paid to you by my l^d Hatton must be very assuring of the successfullness of yor taake, I doubt not that he will buy y^e scites of the city houses as well as be good friend to you in all other ways that we wish. Mr. Hyde was here yesterday wth the colte which is finely bred. I have examined him and am greatly pleased, Jacke is in much delight with him, but I tell him he must love horses less and his book the more though he is growing very scholarlike, & his master saith he taketh his learneing as a load stone draweth iron unto it. He very often asketh after you and hath much of a conceit to

walke to London. Doll Janion tother night was again out very late with a young man from Helsby, and for her disobedience I whipt her well over my lapp, but onely wth my hande, and tho 19, she cried like a childe and did often call out Madam I begg pardon, o, do pardon me Madam, odo, odo, odo. She hath been very good ever since, I am much afraid the wenche will come to naughte, for she hath lately growne quite like a woman [] & is plumpe & white, but very silly enough to take up by turns with 2 or 3 youthe of no great good & much belowe her every waie. I fear me she will in this wise give me as much trouble as I hear she hath given to her mother. She hath so often offended I have at last tried not vainly to shame & amende her into better behaviour, as gentle wordes and warnings all went for nothing. I sent wordes to her to come to my closett & after talking to her awhile bade her prepare her selfe for her discipline wth the rodd, but she begged so on her knees that I promised its remission & twould have hurt pittly fully she hath so fine a skinn, John got behinde some tapestrie & heard my sermon to her & then went belowe & for mischeife sent up Joe the new servant which I found listening & he had pept through the keyhole. He is a tall lath of a ladde of 17 or 18, and I gave him a quiet, firme lesone on his disorderlie conduct, I then whipt him also till he cryed like a babe. I was secretly much insenssed, but methinks by his present behaviour that he must need a quishion in stead of a saddel for some time, and that I shall be put to no more trouble with neither, such as Mres. Rutter telleth me she hath been put unto by some of her maides and youthe. But she sheweth so much of her passion that it is no great marvell and hath not ye arte [P] and control enough to give them reasonable knowledge of her faultes, but hastily strippeth them with her owne handes. Me thinkes my servants do love me much more than any mistresse is loved hereabouts. Forgive me for these long lines or I may expect ye same punishment. Itt will be very easie for my sister to keepe house whilst I come to you my dearest which I much do want. Peter Hatton hath brought me some rents from Helsby and Alvanley, he hath gone to his father at Weston, but promiseth to send John Hatton or William to collect ye arreares. Mrs. Aston came this morning in great state & I did much amuse her. She carryeth her selfe very much better & I doubt not will be matchd to her likeing, but she hath not yet that

management of her horse as I could wish her but hath grace eno in most othr things. How uncomely it is to see her freind Kitty D. so frisky with her servant. I never will believe that a woman doth show much love and affection by her shew of so little respect yet I can sweare he loveth her truly to ye very nails of her fingers and she hath a very pretty small hande bredd as finely as you may all but see thorough but what a Chancellr wooll sacke she looketh a horseback a shapeless piece of costlynness. But the handsomness of both their language is a great amendment of their garments. Dearest husband lett me come to you or I shall choke with a thousand lines unwrit, but i still remains for evr my dear one

Your affectionate &
obedient wife whilst
Mary H——."

The Brooke house in Kingsley

d m y
4 4 1668."

Endorsed directions: "These—for—Mr. Randolph H——— at Mr. Gerrards—in ye ffeete streete—London."

Fleet-street, like the Strand, was probably even then full of private houses—the most of them, perhaps, damaged by the Great Fire two years before. The lady seems to have been writing at her husband in these latter paragraphs—reminding him of her own charms. The Astons lived across the Weaver, and perhaps had a boat at Aston for easier communication with Kingsley—though the Weaver would in low tides and dry weather be shallow in those days, and fordable in many places. 'Kitty D.' was probably a Dutton of the neighbouring House of Dutton, near Aston. The Astons became extinct within a century after this date. Peter, John, and William Hatton were either of one or the other of the two yeoman lines of Hatton, of Helsby, and Hatton, of Woodhouses—both long-descended younger branches of the House of Hatton, by Daresbury, and owners of some few score of acres each, part of those lands, in Helsby and Woodhouses, which had past, by the co-heiress of Sir Wm. de Helleby, to Adam de Hatton, along with Quistie Birches in Hatton, and a 5th of the Lordship of Hatton, by the 2d. alliance between these two families in the 14th century. Dolly Janion was of a numerous and respectable yeoman-family of the more modern type, and chiefly husbandmen, scattered all over old Frodsham parish with its (until some 30 or 40 years ago) 10 or 11 townships. Mr. Hyde

was of Cattenhall Hall, Kingsley—a branch of Hyde of Hyde and Norbury. He turned Quaker, with many others in the Parish. Mr. Gerrard was probably of the Kingsley Gerards, or perhaps of their kinsmen of Gerards-Bromley co. Staff. (lords Gerard) some of whom were of Walthamstowe in Essex (now an asylum of all sorts of brick and mortar establishments), and one of whose monuments I recollect seeing, as a youth, in the fine old church there. Lord Hatton was of a younger branch of the Hattons of Quistie, and was heir-male to a Parliamentary patentee of that 'barony' through a brother of that celebrated garter knight, Sir Christopher, who had danced into the graces of Queen Elizabeth. Sir Christopher, however, was grandson of the Hatton of Quisty, who had married the great heiress of Holdenby, of Holdenby, Northants, and his garter-plate, over his stall in St. George's Chapel, Windsor Castle, is one of the oldest still existing there. Lord Hatton, his nephew, was therefore fifth or sixth cousin of Mary, the author of our epistle, a kinship then still accounted a near one. Her father and two brothers (who subsequently died bachelors) had then recently sold all the much-encumbered estates of the family. John (Jack), her son and first born, came to light in 1661-2, and after a long courtship of many years' duration, married the heiress of Torbock of Torbock, near Huyton, whose entailed and much-reduced estate passed to his brother, or nephew.

X

[362] TOPOGRAPHY AND HISTORY.

A note on the difference that exists between all Topographical works, whether consisting of purely historical accounts, in brief, of the descent of great territories, or, as well, of all those masses of details and the great variety of personal interests, and other things, not of the nature of real property, may perhaps be of some avail in an interesting and valuable work such as the 'Sheaf'—or, as one day, to the great annoyance of the late Mr. Tho. Hughes, F.S.A. Founder-in-Chief of the First Series, I inadvertently lisped it 'The Cheshire Thief'—from the great and vigorous depredations it committed on original documents, the stock in trade—the raw material—of all three classes of busy historians!

Everyone knows that Topography is divided into three classes, viz. (1.) The large, folio, Histories of the Counties—(2.) The large quarto Histories of the Shire Hundreds, and

Ridings, and Tithings, Sees, etc.—And (3.) The smaller quarto Histories of Parishes, Cities, Castles, Halls, Monasteries and other ancient edifices.

The County History has for centuries been an absolute necessity of life to historians and antiquaries as well as to the public at large, and will perhaps ever remain so. It is, or should be, a work of a deeper character than ordinarily of a subject that is, first and foremost, the descent of the land itself. It has to deal with the whole mass of baronial and manorial estates in the kingdom, from the most ancient times. It is therefore necessary not only to have a sharp and unwearied eye on all the thousands of facts and figures which are marshalled together in its columns, and from which are largely recruited the battalions of parish history, but also to use, for the purpose, the keenest application of that learning which ruled for a thousand years, before our happier modernity sprang into existence. It is also necessary to apply this knowledge of the ancient laws and customs (some of which still work in our day) not only to the descent of lordships, more than has hitherto been attempted, but also to the very genealogical tables which illustrate the descent of the land. As to the now petty, but still pretty, and always interesting subject of heraldry, it is only in relation to some ancient and obscure point, that rarely crops up, that it is of any use at all—beyond lending an enlivening grace to the pages of such works. In our day, it is an idle vanity, with no significance whatever, save that of bringing in well-earned fees to the Herald, and a guinea a year to the revenue. Yet, as an article of 'wonderful sublimity (whether on muslin, silk, or dimity),' and utility for a tombstone, to prove the identity of a former tenant, say, of that intensely ugly place, Kensal 'Green' Cemetery, after the march of theology has broken up the graves' iron environments and marble statuary for export to Rome, or to pave the streets, it cannot be too much glorified as a work of 'art,' of the inventive Herald of to-day and to-morrow.

However, a work so extensive as that on a county must necessarily take a sort of great bird's eye view of its history without descending into all those particulars which can only be done thorough justice to in the lesser Histories—the intensely 'topographical' works. Consequently, for example, brief biographical sketches, and

often abstracts only of certain inscriptions, can be given; and, from another point of view, it is manifestly impossible to embrace the fascinating popular element, consisting chiefly of divers classes of tenantry who from age to age once occupied the wide acreage of a shire; or to include a great deal of the clerical element, beyond dates of appointments to benefices, &c.; or lists of citizens and burgesses, beyond the holders of certain offices; or even a directory of all the practitioners in the four learned professions—no, not even those dignitaries of the law, the Judges of the County Courts, the Recorders, and the Stipendiary Magistrates! nor yet battalions of Volunteers, or even the great guns of the three arms of the Military service—to say nothing of Tommy, nor yet of Jack, R.N.! You cannot stuff the history of a shire with this often valuable matter, nor with much detail of matter more valuable which comes within the legitimate scope of such works. All this, of course, is admitted. But the very use of a County History is sometimes challenged. Well, its uses are pretty clear. If its owner possesses also the History of his Parish, he rarely cares to go deeply into the history of any other parishes that don't concern him; he gets quite enough of it, very often too much, out of his History of the County. Look at Gough's (or is it Nichols'?) last century, numberless volumes of the History of the County of Leicester—crammed with detail from end to end! It is all very well (as also is a detailed index) for a few working antiquaries, but of very little use to the public—to say nothing at all of the additional and never 'paying,' but always necessarily great cost of such works. In a County History, the enquirer can fly from one end of the shire to the other; and it is rarely he has in hand a subject so special that he must also hunt through all the topographical works he can lay hands on. Nor is this class of work for a drawing-room table—its dry, hard vols. belong exclusively to the library, as a work of reference. His wants are not those of the curious antiquary—who so often digs up all those valuable 'nuggets' for us, which, if accurate, enable County Histories with greater facility to be written. Supposing there were no County Works, the ordinary enquirer would come to grief in a week had he to stock his library with the separate history of every parish in his county! Otherwise he would have to travel for miles to some public library,

or send a man to hunt up, perhaps for hours together, the information he might want; and in addition to all this, he might be easily misled by an absence in the author of the full exercise of his critical faculties, as well as of a knowledge of the mediæval and feudal learning which it is seldom possible to get in any other works than a compact history of the great folio type, if properly written; because such a work is the best of all the three to call all these powers forth. All the facts it contains are focussed on the various points they affect; the mind is fixed on the condensation of all the material facts, which, with the laws and customs that govern them, are woven up into history; and unfortunately it is not everyone who, having a love of the subject, cares to expend it on smaller works. In many legal cases, also, the county work is often referred to in claims touching manorial, riparian, and sometimes foreshore rights; also rights of turbary and common of pasture; pedigree and peerage claims, and so forth; and there are very few courts of law in our day which have anything like a competent knowledge of the old foundations of the real property laws of the country. They have all to be 'got up' for these special cases; then we have shoals, rocks and quicksands of Appeals! All the greater value, therefore, attaches to such Histories that happen to contain the knowledge then so eagerly sought after by rival counsel, for Justices appointed from the Court of St. Stephens. And all this feudal learning is, moreover, sometimes of the very last importance to genealogy pure and simple—unconnected in late modern times with real property claims of any kind, but merely for ordinary print, or for the satisfaction of the Heralds in claims of ancient arms, or simply for registration in the College of Arms—which, since the destruction of the whole Liberal party, it is gratifying to see, is with the Church, aspiring anew to its mediæval place in this Republic of Limited Liability. And, in this respect, it may be added, feudal law, from Glanville, Bracton, and 'Fleeta,' to Coke, has more than once been found to unravel the intricacies of descents and prove the absurdity of some of the old Heralds' entries in their Visitations, as they deduced it from ancient documents. In other cases connected with County History, long experienced antiquaries and topographical writers of the last generation or two (men of ability and learning and scholars to boot), have been known

to reject original evidences as monkish forgeries, if those evidences did not happen to agree with certain long-accepted descents in a genealogy; and, to make the matter more amusing, have been known to write, certainly excellent, papers on the case for famous archæological journals! One of these rather extraordinary contributions, from a lapse of vision, and relating to the Egertons, may, in particular, be found in one of the Cheshire Archæological Society's vols. in the early 'sixties.'

X

(To be continued).

[363] MARRIAGE REGISTERS OF ST. OSWALD'S,
CHESTER.
1638.

Robarte Barnes of Manchester and Elizabeth
Ellor, April 1
Edward Skalsbricke and Sarah Hoole, May 14
Tho. Waynwright and Jane Huse (?) June 15
Robarte Hyne and Katherin Peeres, July 18
John Picke and Ellen Richardson, Aug. 15
Thomas Rilande (?) and Anne Smith, Aug. 21
Edwarde Lelkonbie (?) and Margaret Yeats, Oct. 10
Thomas Johnes and Alice Bellie, Oct. 18
Tho. Davis and Christian Cowley, Nov. 5
Richard Callie and Frances Cooke, Nov. 24
Edmonde Comberbach and Alice Johnson, Dec. 9

JANUARY 25, 1899.

NOTES.

[364] TOPOGRAPHY AND HISTORY.

(Continued from No. 362.)

Secondly, we now turn from the great folios of County History to those considerable works which are dedicated to Hundred History—the old Saxon Division of each county, in each of which Hundreds a hundred families are said to have been made responsible for its good government; each of which hundreds generally amounts to about a seventh or eighth part of the whole Shire.

To any ordinary reader unusually interested in the Hundred in which he resides, or possesses property, such a work is all the more useful for an amount of detail that a History of the County cannot afford to descend to. It should also be more largely illustrated, in its more curious details, with wood-cuts, etc., as well as plate engravings: plates alone, as a rule, being eligible for the County History, except where some uncommonly interesting Roman, Saxon, Norman, or still earlier relics, invite a few of the smaller

cuts. Here the Hundred historian and topographer may launch into detailed accounts, especially in tabular pedigrees, twice, or even thrice, more freely than is allowable in the greater and graver works; whereas in County History the genealogies, for instance, are sufficient, if they should, in fact, be merely bare skeletons, consisting only of elder sons and heirs; as their sole use is, strictly, not to form a common pedigree-book, or to excite mere curiosity, however interesting, but to shew, at a glance, the descents of the baronies, honours, and fees, lordships and manors, parishes, townships, and their moieties, and lands, for many centuries. Inasmuch, however, as collaterals are in pedigrees rarely wanting in number—to take a medium course which should be the great principle in a county work, and to a less extent, in that of a Hundred—the collaterals are added rather as leaves to the tree, to clothe the nakedness of the heirs.

The author of a Hundred History may, as a rule, give full transcripts of all material original documents, or ancient copies, relating to manorial estates, or to the lesser estates in land of any extent, or to any singular documents; and with them, side by side, or immediately following, should be given translations. He should also, to a limited extent, give lists of entries from the humble parish registers, from the great ancient Registers of the Diocese, as well as from the Books of the Wardens of each Church; also a few old leases and other small evidences—although, for want of very numerous links, none may be ordinarily available as proofs of descent of families long engaged in agriculture and numerous other occupations. For the lower classes—from which, in general, the middle-classes spring, as also have many of the classes above—are an ancient mixture of the highest and lowest of antiquity, and in their ranks must be looked for the crowd of lost descendants of Saxon princes, earls, and thanes, dispossessed at the Conquest, and also those of Norman counts and barons and lords, down to Saxon and Danish serfs. Special proofs are of course impossible—to say nothing of the refined distinctions of legitimacy always carefully drawn by the levellers-upwards and the levellers-downwards. But although evidence of this kind is beyond human grasp, the fragments are not seldom highly interesting and significant; still it is more for the Parish History than for that of the Hundred. In other matters of curiosity, and in biographies of distinguished individuals, either patrician or

plebeian—i.e., generally either the elder-born or the younger-born—the latter being the greatly-mixed generations of antique strain—greater freedom of handling is allowable in Hundred History, yet not nearly so much as in Parish History. But to stuff a County History with all these mighty details is altogether beyond the scope of what may fairly be called history. The only model Hundred History I am acquainted with is that comprised in the two fine quartos of the late Mr. Earwaker, who, after some ten years of work upon it, from first to last, produced it about 18 or 20 years ago. There may be other excellent examples of such works; but, one can scarcely think, having regard to the thousands of words and figures employed, that there is also any much more accurate, in small matters as well as in large, and in every other respect—except, perhaps, in any question affecting feudal law, or in the want of certain strong technical terms in the translations (which is of little or no importance in Hundred History), it will always maintain its fame, and be very worthy of a wide subscription list. This work is upon the largest, and one of the most interesting Hundreds of the county—the Hundred of Macclesfield. The history of the whole of the seven or eight Hundreds of Cheshire, and of its capital, would, thus admirably written, involve the writing of some 14 or 16 vols., such as those of 'East Cheshire'!

Thirdly.—But of every description of topography I must own that Parish History is ones first first-love; one grows wiser afterwards, perhaps, if it be, ordinarily, only with the wisdom of the world, and not exactly through a certain experience. However, to one of decided antiquarian tastes, it is infinitely more fascinating than any other description of work of this kind—if exhaustively and properly written. I use the word 'exhaustively' in a comparative sense, because there is really no exhausting the immense stocks of material which are open to the writer, as well as hidden away, rotting or moulding or crumbling, without irrecoverably exhausting himself. The times, however, have the advantage of a numerous and varied description in the collection of old documents sometimes deposited with solicitors by wealthy clients, and purloined by unscrupulous and needy clerks, or perhaps caretakers, and sold for an old song to London retailers in the old book trade; while other sources in both public and private hands have been known to be

explored in a retail sort of fashion at the expense of their owners—one man for example, many years since, having (according to the late Minor Canon Raines) relieved the Bristol Corporation of several fine specimens of charters he was left to examine! And, to be short, a few years ago an ancient parish register, belonging to an old church in Wales, became the booty, with many other documents, of an old-book seller in London, who, until he was forced by the law, refused to restore it except at a price, although he must have known that such a public document had either been lost or stolen! In my own experience, during a short visit to me of a friend and her wealthy relative, the latter visitor was left for a few minutes to himself, to examine an old oak casquet of charters, deeds, and rolls descended to me—being the only remnants left of a once huge and, till the end of last century, badly-treated accumulation. After the party had driven off, I found one unique and valued charter of the 15th century, which I had only seen an hour or two before, had vanished like the ghost in Hamlet! It all comes from the sort of acquisitiveness that some strange characters have for old postage stamps, rare books, and cracked china; who will, at an enormous cost, buy, or that being impossible, prig, 'fine' or 'rare examples' by wholesale, if they have the chance. But, the great pot-antiquary has always an eye to futurity of some sort. It is all a new form of vice, to put it mildly, in a highly-wrought civilisation. So no gentleman who would, for love or amusement (for adequate remuneration is out of the question, and early to earn some trifle or other is always a pleasure), sit down to write a historical or topographical work need be under any alarm—unless of a tender nature—if caring little for the pursuit, the kindly tact of his host and possessor of old muniments should depute his daughter, sister, wife, or grandmother to help in their examination.

(To be continued).

[365] CHESHIRE CLERGY IN 1559.

A very valuable book has recently appeared, entitled 'The Elizabethan Clergy and the Settlement of Religion, 1558-1564,' by the Rev. H. Gee, B.D., F.S.A. The author's researches throw much light on a somewhat obscure period of our ecclesiastical history, and seem to establish the conclusion that the number of clergymen deprived for Papal sympathies during the first six years of Elizabeth's reign

cannot have greatly exceeded two hundred. He moreover establishes the leniency with which the penal laws were at that time administered, in the face of assertions to the contrary made by Roman Catholic writers.

The part of the book to which I naturally turned first was that relating to our own county. The following extract describes the royal visitation of 1559:—

"Next day [20 October] another session was held at Northwich, and this proved to be the last, so far as the visitors proper were concerned. It appears from the returns of musters for 1559 that there was a great deal of sickness in England. The autumn weather had probably aggravated it, and so, because of the plague raging both in the city of Chester and the surrounding districts, surrogates were appointed, viz., Sir E. Fytton, E. Scambler, B.D. and W. Morton Esquire. They sat at Tarvin on the 24th and at Chester Cathedral on the 26th. They found a deplorable condition of things at the Cathedral. The see had been long vacant, and for two years there had been no dean. Of the prebendaries only two were resident. The church itself was so poor that even the servants of the Cathedral could not be paid the wages due to them. It may be presumed that some of the non-resident canons appeared to answer their names; at all events no case of absence or refusal is noted." pp. 81-2.

The following names of Cheshire clergy are given as absent from the Visitation:—

Apowell, Hugh	Asbury.
Buckley, T.	Cheadle.
Charleton, Alan	Tarporley.
Clarke, T.	Mobberley, cur.
Collingwood, W.	Christleton.
Davison, Jas.	Mobberley.
Davye, T.	Backford.
Dickson, T.	Wybunbury.
	stip.

Ducks, Chas.	St. Mary, Chester.
Dudley, Arthur	Malpas (rector of a mediety).
Hill, W.	Malpas (rector of a mediety).
Kynsey, Robt.	Barthomley.
Lee, W.	Gawsworth.
Lowe, Arthur	Stockport.
Olyver, J.	Baddiley.
Plante, Robt.	Swettenham.
Roper, H.	Ince, cur.
Sheppard, Simon	Davenham.
Smyth, T.	Brereton.
Swayne, R.	Goostrey, cur.
Tassye, T.	Wallasey.
Walker, J.	Plemstall.

Walker, Richard
Woodye, J.
Woode, Math.
Wybram, W.
Wyneslowe, Ralph

West Kirby.
Eccleston.
Wybunbury.
Aldford.
Tattenhall.
pp. 87. 88.
F. S.

REPLY.

[366] FRIENDS MEETING HOUSE AT FRANDLEY. (See No. 354.)

Frandle is in the township of Sevenoaks, in the parish of Antrobus, near Northwich. The old Meeting House is still there.

ARTHUR P. HOLME.

The Vicarage, Great Budworth.

[367] MARRIAGE REGISTERS OF ST. OSWALD'S, CHESTER. 1639

William Pughe and Lowrie Johnes, April 15
Robert Templer and Sage Moston, May 20
Peeter Ambrose and Katherine Powell, June 5
Richard Bradberie and Martha Kalkin, June 19
George Pemberton and Ellenn Lord, July 28
John Glover and Ellen Cooke, Aug. 1
William Lenorde and Anne Woodkooke, Aug. 5
James Sale and Jane Hunter, Sept. 3
John Bunell and Joane Pace, Sept. 8
John Trollocke and Elizabeth Montforte, Oct. 12
John Huse and Dorithie Pillinton, Oct. 20
Tho. Bennett of Snt Maries psh and Cecilie Charnooke, Nov. 19
Richard Rycroft of Groppenhall psh and Anne Shrowbridge, Dec. 6
Robarte Boydell and Jane Williams, Feb. 3

FEBRUARY 1, 1899.

NOTES.

[368] ROMAN CATHOLIC MARTYRS AT CHESTER IN 1679.

On page 165 of the Second Series of *The Sheaf* (Earwaker's) there was a query with reference to the execution of two Roman Catholic priests, referred to in Philip Henry's Diaries, and a reply was printed (p. 171). The following extract, however, from Challoner's 'Memoirs of Missionary Priests' (vol. ij., No. 201) is sent us by a correspondent, and seems worthy of being recorded in the columns of *The Sheaf*.—Yours,

THE EDITORS.

William (or, as others call him, John) Plessington was born at the Dimples, near Garstang, in Lancashire. He was descended of the ancient family of the Plessingtons of Plessington, near Blackburn, being a younger son of Mr. Robert Plessington, who in the time of the Civil Wars was Governor for the King of Greenow Castle, and suffered imprisonment and loss of his estate for his loyalty. The son, after having made some proficiency in grammar learning (whether at home or abroad I have not found) was sent to the English College of St. Alban the Martyr in Valladolid, where he finished his higher studies, and was made priest. What time he came upon the mission into, England I have not yet learnt, nor the particulars of his missionary labours; only that his residence was chiefly with Mr. Massey, of Puddington, in Cheshire, and that his zeal in his function (joined to a certain candour and agreeableness in conversation), as it made him esteemed and loved by the good, so it raised him enemies among those that were not good, who caused him to be apprehended and prosecuted on the score of his priestly character.

He was brought upon his trial at Chester, upon an indictment of high treason, for having taken orders in the Church of Rome, and remaining in this kingdom contrary to the statute of 27 Elizabeth. The witnesses that appeared against him were Margaret Plat, George Massey, and Robert Wood. These swore they had seen him exercise his priestly functions; and upon their testimony he was brought in guilty and received sentence of death as in cases of high treason. One of these witnesses was crushed to death, by an accident, not long after; another died in a bog-sty; and the third lingered away in anguish and misery.

As to Mr. Plessington, he was kept in prison nine weeks after his condemnation, and then on July 19th, 1679, was drawn to the place of execution at West-Chester, and there spoke to the people as follows:—

Dear Countrymen,—I am here to be executed, neither for theft, murder, nor anything against the law of God, nor any fact or doctrine inconsistent with monarchy or civil government. I suppose several now present heard my trial at last assizes, and can testify that nothing was laid to my charge but priesthood; and I am sure that you will find that priesthood is neither against the law of God, nor monarchy, nor civil government, if you will consult either the Old or New Testament; (for it is the basis of religion;) for 'no priest no religion' St. Paul tells us in Hebrews the viith and 12th:

'The priesthood being changed there is made also of necessity a change of the law,' and consequently the priesthood being abolished the law and religion is quite gone.

But I know it will be said that a priest ordained by authority derived from the see of Rome is by the law of the nation to die as a traitor; but if that be so, what must become of all the clergymen of the Church of England? for the first Protestant bishops had their ordination from those of the Church of Rome, or none at all, as appears by their own writers; so that ordination comes thence derivatively to those now living.

As in the primitive times Christians were esteemed traitors and suffered as such by national laws, so are the priests of the Roman Church here esteemed, and suffer as such. But as Christianity then was not against the law of God, monarchy, or civil policy, so now there is not any one point of the Roman Catholic faith (of which faith I am) that is inconsistent therewith, as is evident by induction in each several point.

That the Pope hath power to depose or give license to murder princes is no point of our belief. And I protest in the sight of God and the court of heaven that I am absolutely innocent of the Plot so much discoursed of, and abhor such bloody and damnable designs; and although it be nine weeks since I was sentenced to die, there is not anything of that laid to my charge, so that I may well take comfort in St. Peter's words (I. Pet., iv., 15, 16): 'Let none of you suffer as a murderer or as a thief or as an evil-doer or as a busybody in other men's matters; yet if any man suffer as a Christian, let him not be ashamed or sorry.' I have deserved a worse death, for though I have been a faithful and true subject of my King I have been a grievous sinner against God. Thieves and robbers that rob on highways would have served God in a greater perfection than I have done, had they received so many favours and graces from Him as I have.

But as there was never sinner who truly repented and heartily called to Jesus for mercy, to whom He did not show mercy, so I hope by the merits of His passion He will have mercy on me, who am heartily sorry that ever I offended him.

Bear witness, good hearers, that I profess that I undoubtedly and firmly believe all the articles of the Roman Catholic faith, and for the truth of any of them (by the assistance of God) I am willing to die; and I would rather die than doubt of any point of faith taught by our holy Mother the Roman Catholic Church.

In what condition Margaret Plat, one of the chiefest witnesses against me, was before and after she was with me let her nearest relations declare.

George Massey, another witness, swore falsely when he swore I gave him the Sacrament and said Mass at the time and place he mentioned; and I verily think that he never

spoke to me, or I to him, or saw each other but at the assizes' week. The third witness, Robert Wood, was suddenly killed;—but of the dead why should I speak? These were all the witnesses against me, unless those that only declared what they had heard from others. I heartily and freely forgive all that have been, or are, any way instrumental to my death, and heartily desire that those that are living may heartily repent.

God bless the king and the royal family, and grant his majesty a prosperous reign here and a crown of glory hereafter; God grant peace to the subjects, and that they live and die in true faith, hope, and charity. That which remains is that I recommend myself to the mercy of my Jesus, by whose merits I hope for mercy. O Jesu, be to me a Jesus!" Which having said and recommended his departing soul to God, he was turned off and executed.

NOTES.—Challoner's account was derived "from a short manuscript account of him and from his printed speech." Fr. Stanton, in his "Menology of England and Wales" (p. 348), adds a reference to 'Archiv. Westmon., xxxiv., p. 507.'

[369] A SEVENTEENTH CENTURY CHESHIRE
BALLAD.

The annexed ballad has some local interest, and is, at least, rather amusing. It is catalogued *Wood 401*, under the head 'Cheshire' at the Bodleian. The ballad is one of a curious series, all illustrated by badly-executed cuts; they all have choruses, and the words of the songs are printed in small black letter. They must have been sold and sung about the country in the 17th century, I think.

W. G. WALSH.

A description of a strange (and miraculous) Fish cast upon the lands on the meads, in the Hundred of *Worwell*, in the county Palatine of *Chester* (or *Cheshire*). The certainty whereof is now narrated concerning the said most monstrous Fish.

To the tune of 'Bragandary.'

Of many marvels in my time
I've heretofore,
But heres a stranger now in prime
thats lately come on shore
Invites my pen to specife
What some (I doubt) will think a lie.

O rare
beyond compare
in England nere the like.*

It is a fish, a monstrous fish,
a fish that many dreads,
But now it is as we would wish
cast up o'th sands i'th meads,
In *Cheshire*; and tis certaine true
Described by those that did it view.

* This is repeated after each verse in the original.

Full twenty one yards and one foot
this fish extends in length
With all things correspondent too't
for amplitude and strengthe.
Good people what I shall report
'Doe not account it famed sport.

It is almost five yards in height
which is a wondrous thing.
O mark what marvels to our sight
our Potent Lord can bring.
These secrets Neptune closely keeps
Within the bosome of the deeps.

His lower jaw-bone's five yards long,
the upper thrice so much
Twelve yoaik of oxen stout and strong
(the weight of it is such)
Could not once stir it out o'th sands,
Thus works the All-creating hands.

Some have a project now in hand
(which is a tedious task)
When the Sea turnes, to bring to Land,
the same with empty cask:
But how I cannot well conceive,
To each mans judgement that I leave.

The lower jaw-bone named of late
Has teeth in't thirty-foure
Whereof some of them are in weight
two pounds, or rather more:
There were no teeth i'th upper jaw,
But holes, which many people saw.
The tongue on't is so mighty large,
I will not it expresse,
Lest I your credit over-charge,
but you may easily guesse
What fish his shape so far excoels,
The tongue doth answer all parts else.

A man on horse-back, as tis try'd
may stand within his mouth,
Let none that hears it this deride,
for tis confirmed for truth,
But those who dare avouch the same
Let not the Waiter bear the blame.

When he upon the sands was cast
alive, which was awhile;
He yelled so loud, that many (agast)
heard him above five mile;
Tis said the Female fish likewise
was heard to mourne, with horrid cryes.

The Mariners of *Chester* say,
a herring-hog tis nam'd,
What ere it be, for certaine they
that are for knowledge fam'd
Affirme, the like in ages past
Upon our Coast was never cast.

M. P.

Printed at London for *Thomas Lambert*, at the sign of the *Hors Show* in *Smithfield*.

There is a Book to satisfie such as desire a larger description of the same.

QUERY.

[370] CURIOUS ENTRY, ST. OSWALD'S, CHESTER.

Can any of your readers throw any light on the following:—

"The presumptuous Quaker that eat all Joseph Boreman taylor was buried the first day of July, 1676."

The entry is in one of the transcripts returned into the Episcopal Registry from St. Oswald's Parish. The phrase 'to eat up' at this time meant to ruin financially, I believe. Any suggestions or explanations would be gratefully received by yours, &c.,

M. H. S.

[371] MARRIAGE REGISTERS OF ST. OSWALD'S, CHESTER.

1640

Thomas Whytheade and Jane Ellis, May 14
Robarte Puddrough and Ellin Cowsnooke, May 21
Robarte Cooke and Jane Done, May 25
Alexander Greene and Katherin Queene, June 1
Peeter Walshman and Jane Cupitt, July 25
John Smalley and Isabell Greene, July 25
Gerrard Johnes and Priscilla Brearewood, Sept. 17
Roddorick Robarts and Jane Bastwell, Sept. 27
Kadwallader Johnes and Marie Adames, Oct. 12
John Robartes and Margaret Smith, Oct. 14
Raph Nison and Elizabeth Davis, Oct. 28
Godfrey Tottie and Annie Alline, Dec. 31
Raph Anderton and Doritie Huse, Jan. 12
Richard Gill and Margaret Huse, Feb. 7
John Banner and Ann Dutton, Feb. 10
Thomas Williams and Ann Fletcher, Feb. 24
Raph Davis and Francis Houghe, Mar. 2
Richard Warmisham and Elizabeth Selsbie, Mar. 4
Thomas Warmisham and Elizabeth Selsbie, junior, Mar. 4
John Broumfelde and Jane Smith, Mar. 9

FEBRUARY 8, 1899.

NOTES.

[372] TOPOGRAPHY AND HISTORY.

(Continued from No. 364).

But, in reference to the immense material existing, and the amount of it required to write an exhaustive parish history, it need only be said that it must be used, without fear or favour within the bounds of reason, if any one can define the bounds of reason in such matters. Most parish histories, however, which I have seen up to a comparatively recent date are far from being as exhaustively written as advertised, and are little better than so many

volumes of parochial magazines. Old-book brokers, and some low-class publishers, first and foremost, look to the wringing of the greatest possible, and impossible, profits out of all their publications. Hence, these works, otherwise so interesting, become mere 'pot-boilers.' (The word is not mine; it is everybody's.) And, perhaps, in other very different cases, the unscrupulous Barabbas (whatever his agreement may have been) after the death of the author, and sometimes, in his lifetime, dare he risk it, at length goes to press with a MS. cut down by a third, or even to half—mutilated in short—that had employed its author for half-a-dozen years, or more, of close work, and who would not have undertaken it at all on such terms, for twenty times some paltry fee. In such cases people have been known, rightly enough, to reject the subscription lists. For a printed book worth anything at all is worth an extra guinea or two—and, in some cases, far more—beyond a work printed from a mutilated or a 'scamped' MS. In other cases, Barabbas, avoiding a direct promise to subscribers, will secretly print double the number, or more, of copies subscribed for, and after a lapse of a few years will flood the market with the secret surplus, and thereby bring down prices to about a tithe of the first-launched half, notwithstanding the implied covenant with the subscribers who have made it possible to print and publish the work at all! Certainly out of the evil springs one solitary joyous bit of good in the transaction, and that is, the poor men of rich taste may now be gratified to the full with a copy at any time within a score of years hence—earlier than which prices will not begin to rise, and continue to rise, as it must at least take that period, if population and trade thrive, for the whole tumour of extra cheap copies to burst up, and the issue to be thoroughly cleaned out. Subscribers, one and all, should always tie down such publishers to print only a limited number of copies of any work they undertake.

However, in the preparation of Parish History, above all histories, there is altogether the widest scope for its author. For in all matters of any antiquity the smallest of small circumstances, in proportion to their age, are of interest, and sometimes of great use. By way of introduction, both to Parish, Hundred, and County Histories, it is no doubt preferable to begin with quotations in full, of everything to the point to be found in all the earlier works. I mean by 'introduction,' that the quotations should come naturally under the

head of each chapter of each parish, barony, manor, township, village, and hamlet, according to the description of the work. In some cases it might be preferable to give these quotations in the general introduction. In short, parish history should be an amplification of every thing contained respecting it to be found in all former histories, large and small alike. By this means we get a clear conception of everything said long before; and we can now add to it everything that has been properly, or improperly, rejected in these and in all the other classes of history, as well as bring down all information to modern times. For, here it will all find its legitimate place. Parish history will thus be made the most interesting of any, particularly to the middle and intelligent industrial classes of the parish, as well as to all those whose forefathers trod its soil, now sacred with the dust of ages. So patriotism grows. For these latter reasons copies of almost the entire Registers of the 16th and 17th centuries, and part of the 18th, with large extracts from the Wardens books, should find a prominent place. Other kinds of evidence of the descent of the commoners (the populace, as such—many of whom are now millionaires) such as depositions in Chancery and at Common Law, names of tenants in any charters and deeds, and witnesses' names to deeds of the last three centuries, rent rolls of all ages, ancient letters (which are extremely rare), bills of account, wills, administrations, inventories and schedules, lists of churchwardens, sidesmen, poor-law guardians, etc., and particularly tithe accounts (which are usually full of the most useful matter relating to farm holdings), pew-rolls, parish bonds and lists of charities, and many other documents trifling in themselves, but, which, taken in conjunction with those more important, sometimes prove of great value.

But, the vain endeavour to supplant County History by Volumes of the Hundred and Parochial kind would necessitate a whole cart-load of books, and make everyone, save the pious professional antiquary, swear in the pursuit of knowledge under such difficulties. And, moreover, to endeavour to make either of these three works supplant the others would be equally vain. Each of this trinity of great estates in the local Commonwealth of letters has its legitimate place, is of equally good work, and perhaps none is greater or less than the other, except in comparative aggregate bulk and awkwardness for the purpose suggested—in

which latter respects County History entirely loses 'the cake' and Parish History entirely 'takes it.' X.

[373] THE REV. WILLIAM PLESSINGTON.

(See No. 368.)

An account of *William Plessington* appeared in the 'Liverpool Catholic Almanac' for 1890. [Qy. by Mgr. Gradwill.] It gives the following particulars, in addition to Challoner's account:—

'Dimples' is now a farmhouse in the township of Barnacre, in the parish of Garstang.

For Pedigree reference is made to Abram's 'Blackburn,' and Fishwick's 'Garstang' (Chetham Society), William (or John) was born about 1637.

Challoner's statements as to his father's (Rt. P.) being Governor of Greenhalgh Castle, and his sufferings for the Royal cause, seem to need some modification or confirmation; but Rt. Plessington's name is in the list of those who refused to take the 'Protestation' ordered by Parliament. His grandson lost the estate for taking part in the rising of 1715, and his granddaughter's husband (Roger Muncaster) was executed for high treason in the same cause.

He was sent to St. Alban's College, *Valladolid*, under the assumed name of Scarrisbrick [Dodd, as quoted by Fishwick, says he was sent to *Lisbon*], and his name is found in the register of the college.

Two anecdotes are added (from Dodd's 'Church History' iii, 292.)

"Mr. Plessington having created himself several enemies by opposing a treaty of marriage between a Catholic lady of considerable fortune and a Protestant gentleman, some ill-minded persons of the gentleman's relations by way of revenge endeavoured to bring him into the Plot [Oates'], which proving ineffectual they attacked him on account of his character" [as a priest].

"While waiting for execution he maintained complete serenity and even cheerfulness of mind. A few days before he suffered he received a visit from a friend and great acquaintance of his (whom Dodd describes as Sir J. P.), while the joiner was taking measure of him for his coffin. He pleasantly observed to the baronet that he was now giving orders for his last suit." [The initials, no doubt, indicate Sir James Poole, cr. baronet 1677.] J. B.

[374] THE EARL OF ESSEX AND WALLASEY POOL.

The following extract from the *Calendar of State Papers* (Eliz: Add: 1580-1620, Page 399) is interesting as showing the Earl of Essex visiting the various ports and creeks of Lancashire and Cheshire, in search of a suitable haven for his ships to lie in before his expedition to Ireland. The other references in Greenloe's declaration, are rather obscure. Perhaps some one may make some suggestions in explanation of them.—Yours, L. H.

1599, Nov. [?] 20. Declaration by Greenloe a priest [concerning the writing found on him in Lancashire]. Because the Earl of Essex viewed divers havens, & preferred Wallasey lake for a fleet to lie in, there was much talk about it; & because the Lord of Chester preached that this war was great, but the greatest was to come and he feared near at hand, it was judged that he knew somewhat of war & and what way it sh'd come. Because the Earl sent letters to the Lord of Chester, Chamberlain Warburton, Sr. Richard Molineux, Sr. Rich. Houghton, Mr. Standish, Mr. Boulde & others to be ready against his coming within a fortnight we thought if the bishops prophesied wars drew near * * *

Mr. Boulde being a dependant of the Earl & known to have more skill than any here named I gave him the name of chief agent in the field.

 QUERIES.

[375] QUEEN MARGARET'S VISITS TO CHESTER.

In the annals of Chester in Ormerod the Queen of Henry VI. is said to have paid two visits to the loyal city, the earlier in 1455. In Hemingway's 'Chester' the same date is given, and it is said she was 'graciously received by the Mayor and citizens.' In Fenwick's History the date is given as 'June, 1454,' at p. 488, and as '1455' on p. 152. This visit is casually mentioned in one of the Paston letters, and Mr. Gairdner in his edition (i. 392, No. 285) on internal evidence dates the letter June, 1456. Three years therefore are given to choose from. Is there anything in the city records or other chronicles to fix the time? J. B.

[376] DEANS OF CHESTER IN EDWARD THE SIXTH'S REIGN.

I see in the recently published *Acts of the Privy Council*, Vol. I. (Rolls Series), the two following entries relating to the Dean of Chester. Can any of your readers inform me who he was at the time, and what was his ultimate fate?

14 February, 1552-3.

The Dean and two Canons of Chester committed to the Fleet for taking down the leads of their Church.

6 March, 1552-3.

A letter to the Warden of the Fleet to set the Dean of Chester at liberty, being dangerously sick of the gout.—Yours,

M. H. S.

[377] MARRIAGE REGISTERS OF ST. OSWALD'S, CHESTER.

1641.

Richard Mather and Ellin Milner, May 25
Henrie Rigbie and Alice Annione, June 3
Robert ap Richard and Ellin Edwards, June 29
Thomas Gardner and Mrs. Jane Sproston, July 8
Thomas Gibbons and Katherin Gardner, Sept. 23
Richard Streete and Marie Machell, Oct. 12
Robarte Bouthe and Jane Johnes, Feb. 2
William Downes and Margaret Pughe, Feb. 20
John Taylor and Jane Morgen, Feb. 21
Francis Millington and Ales Cowdocke, Feb. 21

 FEBRUARY 15, 1899.

 NOTES.

[378] RANDLE HOLME'S NOTES ON CHESHIRE CHURCHES.

In most of our parish churches before the Reformation, and in some for years afterwards, a large quantity of painted glass existed, depicting, among other things, figures of their local benefactors and their wives and children, with their heraldic achievements and memorial inscriptions. Such was specially the case in the churches of Gawsorth, Wilmslow, Bowdon, and, indeed, many others.

The appearance of these windows must have been, in many cases, very beautiful, and besides serving the purpose of decoration, these armorial windows recorded facts which, had the glass not been destroyed, would have proved invaluable to the modern genealogist and local historian.

Only the very smallest proportion of this medieval glass now remains, but fortunately that indefatigable antiquary, or rather those indefatigable antiquaries, the Randle Holmes, of Chester, made visits to the various Cheshire churches at different dates, and recorded what they saw. They also appear to have had access to the note-book of an earlier antiquary—probably Thomas Chaloner, of Chester, who made visits and copied inscriptions as early as 1580.

The results of these inspections are preserved among the Harleian manuscripts in the British Museum, and I propose to send you from time to time extracts which I have made from the original documents.

I send this week extracts from the notes made in Holy Trinity, Chester, Bebington, and Eastham. Perhaps some Chester antiquary will throw light on the question of the Robert Fletcher who founded the charity for poor widows—was he the same as the Robert Fletcher, of Ince, who married Matilda, widow of Sir Thomas Grosvenor of Eaton (née Poole of Poole)?

It must be borne in mind that the following are only extracts, and I may point out that my additions and explanations are added in square brackets.—Yours,

GENEALOGIST.

HOLY TRINITY, CHESTER: 1600 & 1663.

[Harl. MS. 2151.]

Under a window in the Chappell on the South Side the Chancell is this monument of a man in Armourie with an Escuchion by his side and cross legged with this inscription about the edge of it: Hic jacet Johes de Wythmor qui obiit iij kal: Octob: Ano. Do. MCCCCLXXIIII.

[Drawing of the monument of John Whitmore with the arms [Vert] fretty [Or] on the shield]

Robert Fletcher of Cork in Ireland gent 4 son of Wm. Fletcher of this City of Chest. draper, gave to this parish 2 new houses with four poundes Land for 4 poore widdowes of 60 yeares old & 4 shillings per annum to repair [the] said houses for ever [1663]

BEBBINGTON CHURCH, 1629.

[Harl. MS. 2151.]

In the high window on ye pulpitt [side] is this coate.

[Drawing of a shield] Argent, on a fesse Sable three mullets of the first pierced of the second *Lancelyn*.

In the highest window on the South side of the Church are these coates & writing under them

[Drawings of two shields]

(1) Quarterly 1st and 4th. Argent on a bend Azure three stags' heads cabossed Or, *Stanley*. 2nd and 3rd blank [but should be Argent on a bend Azure three mullets Or] *Hooton*.

(2) Blank [but should be Azure a pelican in her nest feeding young Argent] *Chantrell*.

Orate p bono statu Rici. Chauntrell et Margaret ux. eis qui hanc fenestram fieri fecit ano dom. m^occcc^oxxiiij.

he had 3 [f] children of wch. 1 was a priest.*

In the 3rd window on the North side is this coate & writing under it

[Drawing of a shield] Quarterly 1st & 4th. [Azure] 3 estoiles [Argent] in the fesse [point a crescent [of the last] [Mynshull] 2nd & 3rd [Sable] three stags' heads cabossed [Argent]. [Bebington]

Orate pro bono statu Edwrdi Minshull et Elizabetha ux. eis.

EASTHAM IN WIRRAL.

Ano. dom: 1593 & in another MS. taken 1581

[Harl. MS. 2151]

In several place in the said church are these coates and crests

[Drawings of five shields]

(1) [Azure] semée de lys [Or] a lion rampant [Argent] crest: A gryphon's head erased Azure beaked and dueally gorged Or. *Poole of Poole*.

(2) A blank shield divided per pale. Crest: A stag's head Gules [attired gobong Or an Azure] *Buyrton* of *Buyrton*

[Buerton, quartered by Poole, bore Argent a chevron Sable between three buck's heads cabossed Gules]

(3) Gules a chevron between three capons Argent *Capenhurst* of *Capenhurst*.

(4) Argent on a chevron Gules five bezants, all within a bordure engrailed [of the second] [Bromleigh of Chetylton] impaling Argent, on a bend Azure three stags' heads cabossed Or [Stanley]

(5) Argent, on a bend Azure three stags' heads cabossed Or [Stanley] impaling Quarterly per fesse indented Or and Gules [Bromley.]

Over the high alter these coates

[Drawings of eight shields]

(1) Azure, three garbs Or [Randle Blundeville, Earl of Chester]

(2) Azure, three gards Or. [the same]

(3) Azure, six garbs, 3, 2 and 1 Or. [Hugh Cyvelioke, Earl of Chester.]

(4) Or, a lion rampant Gules [Randle de Meschines, Earl of Chester.]

(5) Azure [Gules?] a lion rampant Argent. [Randle Gernouns, Earl of Chester.]

(6) Quarterly 1st & 4th Argent [on] a bend Azure [three stags' heads cabossed Or Stanley] 2nd & 3rd Argent [on] a bend Azure [three mullets Or. Hooton] Crest, A stag's head Or, around the neck a scarf flowing to sinister Argent. [Stanley of Hooton.]

* Rev. Nich. Chantrell was Rector of Bebington 1507-1511.

† Azure an estoile issuant from the horns of a crescent Argent (Visit. Chesh., 1580.)

(7) Azure, a wolf's head erased Argent [*Hugh Lupus*, Earl of Chester]

(8.) [Gules], a wolf's head erased within eight cross-croislets in orle Argent [*Richard*, Earl of Chester]

On the south side of the Chancel these Coates [Drawings of four shields].

(1) Azure, a wolf's head erased Argent [*Hugh Lupus*, Earl of Chester]

(2) Azure, three garbs Or. [*Randle Blundeville*, Earl of Chester.]

(3) a lion passant holding in his dexter jamb a fleur-de-lys [

(4) a lion coward regardant Or. [Pray for the soule of Peter Stanley of Bykerstath Esq. one of the younger sonnes of Willin. Stanley of Hoton Gent & Elizabeth his wife being daughter & heire of James Scaresbrick [Bickerstath] & Margt. his wife, wh. Margt. was dau. & heire of Thos. Atherton of Bykerstath Esqr. who made this windowe Ano. 1543

On the south side of the Church Orate pro bono statu Ranulphi Pull ellici qui hanc fenestram vitrium fecit ano. dni. 1423.

Hic jacet Margeria nuper uxor Willmi Stanley armigr ac filia Johis Bromley militis qua obiit die dominica 13 die Mensis Augusti an. dom. 1469 [added in a later hand] she was dau. and heir.

[Drawings of three shields]

(1) Argent, on a chevron Gules five bezants, all within a bordure engrailed of the second [Bromleigh of Chetylton] impaling Argent, on a bend Azure three stags' heads cabossed Or [Stanley of Hooton]

(2) [Sable] three stags' heads cabossed [Argent] [Bebington]

(3) Stanley of Hooton as above impaling Quarterly per fesse indented Or and Gules [Bromley]

QUERY.

[379] MR. MORETON, CHIEF JUSTICE OF CHESTER.

Can any of your readers inform me who the Mr. Moreton was to whom the following extract from Charles Butler's 'Reminiscences' (3rd ed., p. 156) refers:—

Speaking of the elder Pitt (Lord Chatham) he remarks that the effect his speeches produced was derived rather from the awe-inspiring personality of the man than from the words used. Among the anecdotes the following is given:—

On one occasion Mr. Moreton, the chief justice of Chester, a gentleman of some eminence at the bar, happened to say, "King, lords, and commons, or"—directing his eye towards Lord Chatham—"as that right honour-

able member would call them, commons, lords, and king." The only fault in this sentence is its nonsense. Mr. Pitt rose, as he ever did, with great deliberation and called to order: "I have," he said, "heard frequently in this house doctrines which have surprised me, but now—my blood runs cold! I desire the words of the honourable member may be taken down." The clerks of the house wrote the words. "Bring them to me," said Mr. Pitt, in a voice of thunder. By this time Mr. Moreton was frightened out of his senses. "Sir," he said addressing himself to the Speaker, "I am sorry to have given any offence to the right honourable member, or to the house. I meant nothing. Kings, lords, and commons; lords, king, and commons; commons, lords, and king—*tria juncta in uno*. I meant nothing; indeed, I meant nothing!" "I don't wish to push the matter further," said Lord Chatham, in a voice a little above a whisper; then, in a higher tone, "The moment a man acknowledges his error, he ceases to be guilty. I have a great regard for the honourable member, and as an instance of that regard I give him this advice"—a pause of some moments ensued; then, assuming a look of unspeakable derision, he said, in a kind of colloquial tone, "Whenever that member means nothing, I recommend him to say nothing."

J. B.

[380] MARRIAGE REGISTERS OF ST. OSWALD'S, CHESTER.
1642.

Thomas Smith & Margaret Whitbridge, May 6
William Tilston & Elizabeth Filkin, June 24
Thomas Blewin & Jane Walsh, July 13
Thomas Taylor & Elizabeth Davies, July 25
Tho. Pemberton & Katherine Skalsbrieke, Oct. 6
Thomas Charnocke & Marie Carter, Oct. 19

FEBRUARY 22, 1899.

NOTES.

[381] A PETITION FROM THE INHABITANTS OF BURTON-IN-WIERAL, 1646.

The following petition from the inhabitants of Burton, and another signed by a number of the local clergy, may be of interest to some of your readers. The 'blinde minister' referred to (i.e., *spiritually* blind, in the estimation of the petitioners) was the Rev. Henry Trafford, who, according to the Register of the parish, 'read himself in' on the 22nd June, 1635, and was buried 4th August, 1654.

Richard Hopwood was presented to the living 24th September, 1646, by the Committee of Plundered Ministers, and signed the Cheshire Attestation as Incumbent of Burton in 1648. It is not clear how long he remained there, but in 1654-5 (19th January) we find the Rev. Hugh Bethell being presented to Burton by Oliver Cromwell. Mr. Bethell remained at Burton until his ejection at the passing of the Act of Uniformity, 1662, when his place was taken by the Rev. John Litherland. The following petitions are from the Royalist Composition papers for Cheshire (P.R.O.).—Yours, &c.,

WM. FERGUSON IRVINE.

To the right honorable Sr Will Brerton
General over the Cheshire forces
the humble Petition of the Pariahnors
of Burton in Werrall

Sheweth

That wee the Pariahnors have for these many years past bin forced to live under the sad condition of an ignorant and blinde Ministrie but now since it hath pleased god to bringe us into the Light of the gospell by the preachinge of an honest, able and religiouse Minister Mr. Hopwood Wee humble begg and beseech yr honour (for the Lord's sake) that you would be pleased under yor own hand to place him in the Rectory of the said Burton parish; and soe we, the Petitioners will be ever bound.

Thomas Hiocock } Sequestrators.
Thomas Bennett }

Thomas Browne	Roger Wilson
Robert Sugar	Henrie Ball
John Moles? [Meles]	Thomas Thies? Tyler
Thomas Ball	Thomas Bowen—Aldn.
Robt. Heather	Danele Woodes
William Cowper	William Minshowe
John Broughill	Wm. Mores
William Lightfoote	George Eaton
William Elise	

To the Ho'ble Comittee for plundered Ministers.
The humble Remonstrance & petition of the
Ministers of Cheshire & the Inhabitants &
pishioners of Burton w'thin the said county.

Sheweth—

That whereas yo'r hono'rs have granted an order for the taking away of £30 p. ann. out of the tythes & glebe of that parish, and allowed the same towards the mayntenance of a Minister at Eastham one of the next p'ishes whereby yo'r pet'ers the Parishioners of Burton are like to lose their Minister for want of meanes.

May it therefore please yor honors to reverse yor Order and that Mr. Hopwood the present Incumbent may have and enjoye all the propties belonging to the Parsonage of Burton the same being but a convenient competency for him

And yoe petrs shall pray etc

John Ley	} Ministers
Thomas Upton	
Tho Langley	
Benjamin Basil	
Sam Clarke	
John Ford	
James Watmough	
Hugh Burrows	
Richard Hardford	

REPLY.

[382] IMPRISONMENT OF A DEAN OF CHESTER.
(See No. 376.)

The Dean of Chester whose name is asked by M. H. S. was William Cliff, who held that office from 1547 to 1558, that is, during the reigns of Edward VI. and Mary. A life of him appeared in No. 159 of *The Sheaf*.

The charge brought against the Dean and Canons of removing the lead from the roof of the Cathedral, was undoubtedly a trumped-up one. The real ground of their imprisonment was to force them to surrender the Chapter estates into the hands of Sir Richard Cotton, Comptroller of the Royal Household, a scoundrel of the blackest dye. He induced Cliff and the Canons to grant him a lease of the property—a proceeding which led to a series of lawsuits, which were protracted for many years, and greatly impoverished the Cathedral body. Having attained his object, Cotton was easily able to find a pretext for releasing his victims.

Cliff, like most ecclesiastics of his time, was a time-serving creature. Having taken part in the reforming changes of Edward's time, he was equally ready to fall in with the reactionary one of Mary. It is, however, only fair to think that many moderate reformers were driven back to the old ways through disgust at the rapacity of such men as the Dudleys, the Seymours, and the Cottons.

Till his death, in December, 1558, Cliff retained possession of his deanery, according to all the authorities with which I am acquainted. But the extract from Dr. Gee's book on the *Elisabethan Clergy*, given in a recent number of *The Sheaf*, (No. 365) throws some doubt on this point. The Royal Visitors to the Cathedral in October, 1559, say that there has been no dean for two years, whereas Cliff had then been dead less than one. This looks as if he had resigned a year before his death. The visitors may, however, have not been correctly informed, and most likely the dean had been non-resident some time before he died.

F. S.

QUERIES.

[383] THE OLD VALLEY OF THE MERSEY.

I have often heard it stated that the curious depression which runs across the Wirral Hundred from Whitby Locks to Blacon Point, and passes within a mile or so of Chester, is the bed of the original river Mersey, which ran out this way and joined the River Dee at a time when Wallasey and the Liverpool shore were a continuous stretch of dry land.

Ormerod in his history appears to have adopted this view, but he lived at a time when geology was not understood as it is to-day, and so I write to ask whether there is any official pronouncement on the subject of a really authoritative nature. It should be a matter capable of definite proof one way or the other, one would think.

I may add that a well-known surveyor recently assured me that the part of the depression near Backford is several feet below ordinary tides.—Yours,
ENQUIREE.

[384] AUDLEM FREE GRAMMAR SCHOOL.

Can any of your readers give me information as to the founding and endowing of Audlem Free Grammar School? Ormerod states that it was founded by a Mr. Gamull and a Sir William Bolton? Who was Sir William Bolton? and was Mr. Gamull any relation of Sir Francis Gamull, of Chester?—Yours,
LIVERPOOL. EDUCATIONALIST.

[385] MARRIAGE REGISTERS OF ST. OSWALD'S, CHESTER 1643.

Thomas Bastwell and Margerie Smith, May 22
William Hewett and Christian Davis, July 30
Willm Hopley and Ane Spencer, Sept. 16
Richard Woorke and Isabell Dumble (?), Dec. 18
Thomas Spencer and Doritie Potter, Jan. 16
Edward Banckes and Elizabeth Lewis, Feb 12
William Foulke and Jane Grice, Feb. 19
John Owen and Ann Gaskin (?), Feb. 21

MARCH 1, 1899.

NOTES.

[386] THE CHAPEL AND PARSONAGE HALL OF S. NICHOLAS, CHESTER.

The following notes were contributed to *Wirral Notes and Queries* in 1892 by Mr. E. W. Cox, the eminent antiquary, whose loss Cheshire is now lamenting:—

At a short distance from the centre of Chester, on the eastern side of Northgate, a

narrow passage leads to the ancient and now desecrated chapel of St. Nicholas, which stands in the rear of the street and reaches to the Cathedral close. It has been a large and important structure, of which the outer walls, west door, and the traces of two or three decorated windows, and others of the later Gothic fashion, remain. A short distance southward of this the parsonage of the chapel is believed to have stood. The chapel itself was given for the use of the parishioners of St. Oswald's Church, when the site of that edifice was taken by the monks of St. Werburgh's to build the great south transept of their church, now the Cathedral, in the 14th century; but in the latter part of the 15th century they, the parishioners, again obtained leave to occupy the south transept of the Cathedral, which has always borne the name of St. Oswald's; and until 1880, when Dean Howson once more added it to the Cathedral, it was occupied as a separate place of worship. The Chapel of St. Nicholas, with its appurtenant buildings, stood just within the south-west angle of the great enclosure wall of St. Werburgh's Abbey. A plan made by Randle Holme, shewing the Monastic buildings at the date of the dissolution, shews this chapel and its adjacent buildings, so that we are partly able to identify what was then standing. During the re-building of the premises of a wine and spirit merchant in Northgate, several cottages and poor buildings were cleared away, and during the excavations a fine Roman hypocaust was discovered below the passage, about thirty yards in rear of Northgate, and the fact was duly recorded. A Liverpool antiquary was the first to observe the exposure of this relic. When I afterwards went to examine this, my notice was attracted by a massive piece of oak framing of early character, and having obtained permission to examine it, I found it to be the eastern side of an ancient hall or house which, having been enclosed by recent brickwork, had been wholly forgotten and overlooked, though a valuable relic of antiquity. It went by the name of the 'Chapel' among those occupying the premises, and was used as a lumber room. I communicated this information to some of the Chester antiquaries, who did not know of the building. The building had originally been wholly of timber, most of which remained sound and in good condition, though poorly repaired with brick; and the date of the structure, judging from the mouldings and style of the roof, was

about A.D. 1320. No other domestic building in Chester dates so far back as this very perfect example of a small domestic hall. The edifice was built in three storeys, the lowest being a half-sunk basement on the same level as the floor of the Roman hypocaust. Above this was a low but handsome room on the level of the row, showing that the Roman and Mediæval cities were nearly on the same level. The ceiling was divided into square panels by handsomely moulded beams. At the intersection of one bay of these, a finely carved rose boss still remained. At some time in the 17th century these panels had been enriched with good plaster ornaments, consisting of fleur de lys, with a centre of delicately wrought scrolls and roses, one of which was still entire. The room above was, however, the most interesting; part of its walls still shewed the ancient framing, with braces formed into pointed arches at the sides, and to the east were traces of the original long windows. The fine and massive open timber roof was its chief ornament; it was framed with three principals, the southernmost formed like a depressed arch, with curved braces above the apex, pierced with good flowing decorated tracery on each side of the king post, from which sprang fore and aft braces from a moulded and crenelated corbel.

The northern end had a similar arrangement, but plainer, and the central principal was formed into a fine high pointed arch. Each pair of the rafters was strengthened by a collar beam, and a moulded longitudinal rib ran below them, connecting them with the principals. The design, though simple, was very good, and was an exceedingly ingenious piece of ancient carpentry. No trace was found either of fireplace or louvre above the centre of the roof to carry away the smoke from the hearth that usually was placed in the midst of such a hall, upon an appropriate stone hearth; but in the southern gable there had been two three-light square windows; the original mullions and jambs shewed they had never been glazed, and these served to carry off the smoke. This feature, so far as I know, does not exist in any other ancient hall. Below the southern principal had been fixed the screen; the sockets still remained, apparently fitted for two doorways through it, and a still more curious feature was that a similar screen had divided the first floor room on the same line; thus there was a kind of double hall, one over the other, a most unusual and interesting feature. These

rooms had been reached by a staircase on the west side, now removed, and on the same side were traces of another large room similar in style to the hall.

It is greatly to be regretted that the plans of the alterations did not admit of these remains being left *in situ*, and that they were not carefully taken down for re-erection. One of our most enterprising men of business in Cheshire would have been willing to do this, and it is hoped that some portion may still be saved.

This age claims to be one of 'culture' and intelligence; professions of regard are lavishly made for ancient art and history. Yet I venture to think that no period has been more destructive of ancient monuments than our own. We respect such things only conditionally, and are not willing to sacrifice any of them that stand in the way of our convenience, our pleasure, or our interest. Even our æstheticism does not scruple to trim into the form of the latest fashion of taste our priceless antiquities, out of mere desire to conform them to modern standards of beauty or supposed fitness. So St. Nicholas Chapel, after being a storehouse and a theatre, is now a music hall, and its parsonage hall will be a billiard-room and a drinking bar. Now and then, but too seldom, the voice of protest is heard to stay the loss of some venerable shrine. Would that it would break in as loudly as the roar of the curfew bell, that in that same music hall startled a great music composer in the midst of a concert, and compelled ten minutes of silence. Well might its warning voice cry over the dishonouring of the past by those who sacrifice too much to the pleasures of the senses. 'The day is far spent, the night at hand, be ye therefore sober and watch unto prayer.'

[387] MARRIAGE REGISTERS OF ST.

OSWALD'S, CHESTER.

1644.

Robert Standish and Ann Lenorde, April 27.
John Hounphrey and Ellnor Hyne, April 29.
John Croughton and Alice Johnson, May 8.
Edward Hinckes and Elizabeth Jones, May 10.
Thomas Gilbarte and Ales Ball, July 15.
Tho: Orton of Snt. John's p'ish and Elizabeth Osborne of this, Aug. 24.
Gyles Perke and Ellin Mirkall, Sept. 15.

1645.*

William Kinge, butcher, and Margaret Fletcher, Aug. 12.

* The only entry for the year, the last year of the siege of Chester.

MARCH 8, 1899.

NOTES.

[388] THE COURT OF CALDY AND THE WAPPENTAK COURT OF NESTON.

The Court of Caldý had for its peculiarity the old Saxon basis for law and order of tenths, tithings, and hundreds. It had further the germs of that county government, the perfection of which we enjoy to-day. Nearly five hundred years have passed away since the inquisition of Gilbert Glegge, yet, singular to say, the influence in Wirral which he and his family possessed lingered in Neston until the early part of this century.

'The Court in Neston.'

The particulars of this Court will be found in the following extract. It was taken from the *Standard* in the year 1878, and published in a pamphlet entitled a 'Free Village Library' (Bebington).

We well remember the Court in Neston. It was situated at the northern corner of what is called 'Pyke's Weint.' And we remember also 'Williams the Lawyer,' as he was called, who presided over that Court.

The Extract.

"It comes not within our purpose to define the attributes, or functions of that very ancient official the Wappentak. So old is the jurisdiction, that no authentic record of its scope could be expected to survive.

The very name 'Weapon-tak' suggests an authority somewhat like to that of Dictator in old Rome. Roman history tells us how such arbitrary jurisdictions are apt to fall into abuse, how they survive the necessity which called them forth, and how unscrupulous persons vested with the power will use it, for purposes of plunder, and oppression.

The mere name of this Court had dropped from people's memory in the richer and more settled parts of England, but at distant corners it may have lingered on, though we hear of no instance besides this of Wirral.

The best information which has reached us comes from the Rev. Dr. T. F. Redhead, F.S.A., vicar of Rock Ferry, who writes under date of March 1st, 1878.

Some four and forty years ago, when I was curate of Bebington, so many cases of fraud, injustice, and oppression

occurred in the parish through the operation of the Wappentak, that I was determined single-handed, if need were, to see if it could not be extinguished. The then possessor of the authority was John Williams, the father of Roger, both attorneys. The son was transported in 1833. The *modus operandi* was this. There were two gaunt bailiffs who served the processes, stating awful words about 'Replevin.' That was not all. They seized the most valuable and available chattel in the house, and marched off with their prey. I never heard that it was Replevined, and I presume that anything their hands could grasp was deemed a lawful spoil. The object of these proceedings was to insure attendance at the court which sat at Neston. There I appeared on behalf of several poor creatures who were summoned not seldom to gratify personal spite. The Court descended as low as tenpence. The old man was seated on a chair placed on a table. I asked him for his authority. He said he had bought the privilege for £1,000, and there he would sit, in spite of me or anyone else: but he added "Give me money, and I will give up my rights." The Wappentak was purchased, I believe, from the Glegges. At this time the County Court Bill was agitated, extinguishing all minor courts. I placed myself in communication with the present Lord Toller-mache and Mr. Philip Egerton on the matter, entreating their interest to abate a terrible nuisance. The Wappingtak of Wirral was left out of the Parliamentary schedule. The only comfort I received was, that I might obtain an Act of Parliament which would not be opposed. Indeed, these gentlemen offered to subscribe, but £1,000 was not within the compass of a curate vegetating on £70 a year. So the Wappentak flourished unopposed."

Dr. Redhead continued at some length the cruel instances of oppression caused by this Wappentak; which was ultimately transferred to one Moreton, who held his court at Birkenhead. "The arbitrary power of the Wappingtak, was exercised to such a degree as to enjoy according to Dr. Redhead "every power, privilege, and immunity granted to all other officers of the Crown collectively. Crimes and misdemeanours, felonies, or civil actions, trespass, treason, all that man's wickedness has devised, or man's weakness has suffered, come under his jurisdiction. One may fancy the astonishment of elderly merchants on their route cityward, to be accosted by an unknown individual, and

charged to sit in an unknown court, at an ale-house, with the waifs and strays of the village. They refused, of course, and were promptly fined £50, with instant execution."

That such unlimited power as the Wappentak should have remained in the hands of one man to so recent a date as the year 1858 seems all but incredible. It was, however, the final, and now extinct relic, of that feudalism which at one time dominated by-gone Wirral.

GEORGE GLEAVE.

REPLY.

[389] AUDLEM FREE GRAMMAR SCHOOL.

(See No. 384).

The following extracts from among the Royalist Composition Papers (P.R.O.) may interest 'Educationalist,' and in some measure answer his inquiry.

It will be seen from them that the real founder of the school was Thomas Gamul, a grocer, of London, whose will is dated 23 January, 1642[-3] and evidently proved before June, 1644. He seems to have been some connection of Sir Francis Gamul, whom he appointed one of the executors of his will; possibly he was the brother Thomas who, according to the pedigree, died without issue.

The only mention of William Bolton in the documents is when his name occurs as a witness of a copy of an acquittance—it would be interesting to know whether he really had anything to do with the founding of the school.

Sir William Brereton's action in impounding the £500 left for the founding of the school seems to have been rather high-handed, but in those troublous times men of action had not much time to consider the strict etiquette of such matters. The papers appear to be incomplete, as no reference is made to the first payment by the Parliament of the sum they had confiscated. Perhaps someone more intimately acquainted with the history of the school can tell us of the later steps in the story.—Yours,

WM. FERGUSSON IRVINE.

Birkenhead.

AUDLEM FREE SCHOOL.

According to an Order of the 8th of January last (1661-2) it was referred to Mr. Richard Sherwyn, Auditor, to compute the Principal and interest of £500 mentioned in an Order of Parliament, dated the first of the same month. He found that the Parliament resolved, 1 January, 1651 (2), that £500 given by the will of Thomas Gamul, deceased, for

erecting of a free school, which was by Acquittance of Parliament paid for Sir William Brereton for the service of the Commonwealth, together with interest for the same—since it was paid to the said Sir W. Brereton, to be paid out of the Sequestrations of the parish of Audlem, co. Chester—and in case those Sequestrations were insufficient, then out of the Sequestrations of that County.

By an acquittance signed John Bradshaw dated June 24, 1644, deposed by Robert Cudworth and William Bolton to be a true copy of the Original, signed by Mr. Bradshaw (subsequently Lord President) it appeared that £500 of lawful English money, designed by a then late Parliament to be paid to Sir William Brereton for the public use, was received by the said Mr. Bradshaw, according to the appointment of the said Sir W. Brereton which monies belonged to the said Thomas Gamul, and were to be employed by the said Sir W. Brereton for the service of the State.

Upon the 23 of January then last, in pursuance of an order of the 8th of the same month, there was paid to Mathew Bateson and George Mawhood by the Treasurers at Goldsmiths' Hall, in the part of the said debt, the sum of £200, so that the state of the account stood as follows:—

The Sequestrators were:—		Debtor.
Principal money paid 24th of June, 1644		500 0 0
To interest of the same, vizt.		
At 8 <i>li</i> . p. cent. to Sept. 29,		
1651, 7 years 3 mos. 5		
days	290 10 11	
At 6 <i>li</i> p. cent. to Jan. 23		
following, 3 mon. 3		
weeks 3 days	9 12 1	300 3 0
Of 300 <i>li</i> . at 6 <i>li</i> . p. cent. to		
(March 2nd, 1651)	1 17 6	1 17 6
		802 0 6
		Creditor.
By moneys paid at Goldsmiths' Hall ut		
Supra		200 0 0
Rests to Balance		602 0 6
		802 0 6

The commissioners for Seqrs. in cheshire having lately pass'd their accounts, doe bring to account as received out of Awdelen *aforesaid* the sum of..... 411 18 11

Out of which the 5th part being 82*li*-7-9 is to be deducted and also taxes which could not be ascertained

Receipt for £500 of W. Bradshaw.

Copy of the account on p. 988.

Order at foot—dated 16 March, 1651(2).

"To have £200 more paid as upon the former order out of the Sequestrations of the County—if there be not sufficient in the parish to write for the Auditor's Certificate."

Copy of Mr. Bradshaw's Receipt.

Resolution of Parliament—declaring that Audlem parish or failing the Co. of Chester should repay the £500 out of the Sequestration money, 1 Jan'y. 1651(2)

The yearly value of the Sequestered estates of Thomas Poole of Poole and Sir Francis Gamull—lying in the Parish of Audlin:—

Thomas Poole, Esq.

19	12	10	his demesnes in Buer-ton in ye						
			Parish of Audlin	64	0	0			
9	13	8	his old rents in Buer-ton afore-						
			said	20	12	9			
				84	12	9			

Sir Francis Gamull.

20	14	9	his demesnes in Buer-						
			ton	29	3	4			
1	3	4	his old rents there ...	4	6	8			
			his Tenement in Buer-						
			ton held by lease ...	20	0	0			
							53	10	0
51	14	7					138	2	9

The Com'rs. for Sequestrations in their account exhibited to the Com'rs. for Compounding 4 Feb. 1650(1) acknowledged ● have received of the abovesaid rents—due at or before June 1650—the sum of £51 14s. 7d.

6 January /51(2).

Ordered.—That the Treasurers pay to the Executors of Thomas Gamull £100 presently, out of the Sequestration money that comes in out of the parish of Audlin, & other Seq'ion. moneys of Cheshire according to the order of Parliament of the 1 January 1651(2)

"And it is referred to Mr. Auditor to search what monies are paid in out of the estate & the Com'rs. to certify with all expedition what money they have paid into the Treasury.

Report on the matter based upon an Order of 21 May 1650.

Upon the Petition of William Massey, Esq., and other Inhabitants of Audlem, in the Co. of Chester, desiring payment of £500, then formerly given for erecting a free school there.

It was found by Mr. Brereton—That Thomas Gamull, of London, Grocer, by his last will and Testament, dated 23 January, 1642, proved in the Prerogative Court, gave £500 for building a Freehold School and maintenance of a Schoolmaster in Audlem aforesaid, and Francis Gamull, his Executor, who, being a late member of Parliament in Arms against the Parliament, by Ordinance of the 10 June, 1644, it was Ordained, among other things, that Sir William Brereton, Bart.—a member of the House of Commons should take and seize £500, part of the estate of the said Thomas Gamull, deceased, in lieu of the said £500, and employ it for the public service, until a fit opportunity came to employ the same according to the said

will, and that Sir William should repay the same out of the estates of Delinquents within the said parish of Audlem, or out of such allowances as had been made or given to him by authority of Parliament, and in default thereof the said Lords and Commons engaged the public faith of the kingdom for the repayment of the same. The money was dealt with as above mentioned.

Petition of William Massey, Esq., William Dod, gent., and of the rest of the Inhabitants of the parish of Audlem, co. Chester.

Shewed

That Thomas Gamull, as above recited, left £500 about March, 1643, to the above two gentlemen, to be laid out in building a school house and dwelling house for a schoolmaster in the town Audlem, and on the purchase of lands for the maintenance of a schoolmaster for ever, to teach freely in the said school-house the youth of the said parish and of the said will made Randall Wilbraham (then deceased) and Francis Gamull, late one of the Members of the House of Commons, his Executors.

As the said Francis Gamull, the only surviving Executor, was in actual war against the Parliament, and as no other person intermeddled with the estate of the said Thomas Gamull, deceased, his estate was like to be much wasted, and the £500, which might be employed for the then present, to some public use lay useless—After referring to the seizure, &c., of the money by Sir William Brereton, they proceeded to say that forasmuch as they had a great desire to proceed with effect in building the said schoolhouse and purchasing lands according to the will, and for that purpose had caused two kilns of bricks to be made and about 80 cartloads of stone and timber to be brought to the ground where it was to be built, and Sir Thomas Smith, Knt., had given freely and settled a large quantity of land whereupon to build the said schoolhouse & petitioners had expended much money in compassing the material before specified and were unable to proceed any further therein except some speedy relief might be had from the Parliament.

21 May 1650—Referred as above to Mr. Reading to examine and report.

Certificate dated 27 May 1650 signed by Sir Will Brereton, had been received by him & used for the public, as by an Ordinance directed.

[390] MARRIAGE REGISTERS OF ST. OSWALD'S,
CHESTER.
1648*

John Hulton and Grace Warmingam, Feb. 17
Wm. Welshman and Anne Golding, June 26
Wm. Suthern and Catherine Hine, July 12

* There is a break in the register from this year till 1653.

1652.

John Santhy, Esq., and Frances, daughter and heire to Thomas Gamull, sonne and heire of William Gamull, Alderman and Justice of Peace, March 17

MARCH 15, 1899.

NOTES.

[391] CLERICAL CHANGES IN 1559.

(See Nos. 365 and 382.)

The extract from Mr. Gee's book about the Elizabethan clergy, given by 'F. S.' (*Sheaf*, No. 365), contained two such obvious errors—at least, at first sight they so appeared—that it was surprising they were passed by without comment, viz., that 'the see had been long vacant, and for two years there had been no dean.' As a matter of fact the see had been vacant only four months, and the date usually given for Walker's appointment as dean is 1558, at least seven months before the visitation in October, 1559. Perhaps some such words as 'in constant residence' are to be supplied. ('F. S.' has now, in No. 382, noticed one of these points).

The 'leniency' shewn in the working of the law was the result of policy; Queen Elizabeth was not very firmly seated on the throne, and in any case she did not wish to see most of the churches closed. A good deal of 'passive resistance' was, therefore, tolerated for the time. The stages in working out the change of religion are fairly clear.

(1) It was absolutely necessary that the bishops, heads of colleges, and chief dignitaries should be willing to assist the Queen. No 'leniency,' therefore, was shewn in their case; they had to make their choice, and take the consequences. The parochial clergy, unorganised, without leaders, might wait. The natural causes at work would soon thin their ranks, and, if necessary, any stubborn adversaries of the Royal supremacy could be dealt with by the new bishops.

(2) Thus in a few years' time (January, 1562-3), when Parliament met again, Convocation was also summoned, and proved a very Protestant assembly. It adopted the Thirty-nine Articles, and wished to abolish all vestments. About the same time Jewel's 'Apology' was issued, as the official defence of the new order of things, and the Council of Trent forbade both priests and laymen to take part in the services as Elizabeth had arranged them.

Many of the old clergy seem to have thought that if they ignored the supremacy, they might read the Prayer-book service in public; this notion was now corrected. Elizabeth thus found herself strong enough to adopt more severe measures, and a refusal of the oath of supremacy was now made high treason.

(3) The armed protest of 1569—called a 'rebellion,' and severely punished—the excommunication of the Queen, the establishment of seminaries abroad for the education of priests to minister in England, and the coming of the Jesuits led to further penal laws which were enforced more and more severely to the end of the reign, at the same time as the existing order was becoming more thoroughly established through a new generation, knowing only this order, coming into activity. It is therefore all the more obvious that the 'leniency' of the early years of the reign was a policy dictated by necessity. How did this policy actually work out in 1559, and especially in this district? 'Besides the bishops in general, the deans, archdeacons, prebendaries, canons, the heads of religious houses, with the leading members of the Universities, peremptorily refused the oath, and declined to accept the new articles, thereby sacrificing their offices and emoluments, in some cases their personal liberty. Of parish priests the majority conformed. The great bulk of the inferior clergy left the Commissioners' summons unheeded, and did not present themselves to take or refuse the oath.' ('Short History of the Catholic Church in England,' Catholic Truth Soc., 1895). For the chiefs of the Diocese of Chester we have the following record:—

Bishop—Cuthbert Scott; deprived June 21, 1559; imprisoned in the Tower for some years; released on bail he fled to Louvain, where he died. The Queen kept the see vacant for two years, William Downham being consecrated May 4, 1561.

Dean—Dr. Clyffe died in December, 1558, soon after the Queen's accession. As stated above, Richard Walker is said to have been appointed in 1558, i.e., before the following March; he was archdeacon of Stafford, prebendary of Lichfield, and held a benefice in Wirral (a Richard Walker was rector of West Kirby from 1540 to 1569 at least); he had complied with all the changes in the previous reign, and we may be sure that Elizabeth before appointing him would make sure of his compliance with what she intended to do. Thus there was no deprivation of the dean.

Chancellor—George Wilmisley, apparently from Bishop Bird's time till his death in February 1560-1. He complied with all the changes, and

was apparently a very disgraceful specimen of such a dignitary, regarding his preferments as so much leasehold property to be held for the term of the patent. (See Will in Picoope i, 115.)

Archdeacon of Chester—Robert Percival, appointed 1554; deprived 1559, and imprisoned. Is anything further known of him?

Archdeacon of Richmond—John Hanson, appointed about 1554; deprived 1559; said to have followed Bishop Scott to Louvain. It is to be noted that the will of the above-named Wilmale is said to be 'proved before Mr. John Hanson.' Is this another of the same name?

Prebendaries—These were in 1559 the following: William Wall, Nicholas Bucksie, Thomas Wilson, William Collingwood, Edward Gregory, and Robert Percival. Wall and Bucksie, were two of the original prebendaries (1541); they had conformed to all changes hitherto, and now conformed again (*Sheaf*, 1896, p. 34). Gregory, who was archdeacon of Bangor, and Percival, archdeacon of Chester, were deprived; in this connection it should be noted that most of the dignitaries deprived would hold several benefices so that if only 200 were deprived there might be 600 vacancies or more. Collingwood, also rector of Christleton, did not appear before the Queen's Commissioners in 1559 (*Sheaf*, No. 365), and died the following year; without other evidence non-appearance cannot be taken to mean absolute refusal to accept the supremacy of the Crown, for Richard Walker of West Kirby did not appear, and if he were Dean he must have been absent for some reason acceptable to the Commissioners. Of Thomas Wilson nothing seems to be known; he was appointed in 1557, so that it will be to his credit if we assume that, not liking the Elizabethan changes, he quietly withdrew and was not heard of further. Another Thomas Wilson was, about 1560, made canon (afterwards dean) of Worcester, but he had been one of the exiles at Frankfort in the last reign; yet another (a layman) was master of St. Katharine's Hospital, London, and afterwards dean of Durham.

On the whole, therefore, the Cathedral staff at Chester comes out creditably; and in 1562, when the summonses were issued for convocation, there would be a new staff, with the exception of the two compliant prebendaries, both old men who would give no trouble.

The case of the parochial clergy is much more obscure; the numerous pluralities produced a race of 'curates,' who seem to have been

permanent, yet are, of course, of less interest and authority than the real holders of the benefices. In Wirral, in particular, it seems impossible to give a full statement, but with the aid of Ormerod, Gee, and the list in the *Sheaf* of 1896 (p. 34) some information can be gained. Roger Sefton was appointed rector of Bebington in 1556, and took the oath of supremacy in 1563. Peter Jackson, of Eastham (1539) did the same. Richard Walker, of West Kirby, is mentioned above. Ormerod gives Dr. Ralph Sneyd as rector of Woodchurch in 1529, and then skips to 1590, but William Wright signed as rector in 1563. Richard Ledson, of Neston, died in 1562, and was succeeded by Thomas Betson, who subscribed in the next year. Richard Garrett is given as chaplain of Backford in 1557; but Thomas Davye was the one absent in 1559, and Hugh Morrey occurs 'about 1579;' here then one can form no opinion. A suspicious case is that of Thurstaston; according to Ormerod Thomas Sharpe was appointed in 1542, and in 1602 Henry Totty succeeded on the resignation of Sharpe; this seems improbable enough, but we find that in 1563 Sharpe took the oath, so that he may actually have been rector for 60 years.

The most puzzling case is that of Wallasey. John Gorstlyow was made rector in 1549; he subscribed to the supremacy in 1563 as 'parson of Wallasey,' and died in 1579, when he was succeeded by Thomas Fletcher. This seems clear enough; but Mr. Gee (as quoted by 'F. S.') shews that in 1559 Thomas Tassye was the Wallasey priest who did not appear, and as the other names in the list seem to be those of the incumbents of the benefices or curates in charge, it is natural to assume that Tassye was rector in 1559. Was Gorstlyow deprived (perhaps as a married man) in the time of Bishop Cotes, but able to recover the rectory on the accession of Elizabeth?

However imperfect this list, it illustrates the statement quoted above that 'the majority of the parish priests' conformed, so that the Queen was early assured of no organised resistance from them, and could wait till the minority who really agreed with her changes should in course of time become a majority. She was greatly aided by the fact that 1558 and 1559 were years of great mortality, so that an unusual number of vacancies could be filled with 'new men.'

J.B.

[392] MARRIAGE REGISTERS OF ST. OSWALD'S,
CHESTER.

During the Commonwealth, the system of leaving parochial registration to the clergy broke down, but the evil was recognised, and a remedy provided by the committee for the reformation of the law. Of all the questions which engaged the consideration of the committee, the reconstruction of the marriage laws was the most urgent and popular. The common law of England regarded marriage as a religious contract, which fell within the exclusive jurisdiction of the Church, and the duties of celebrating and registering marriages were strictly reserved to the clergy. The abolition of the Bishops' Courts, which had the sole cognisance of matrimonial causes, made legislation imperative; and the Independents, who were then the dominant party, were bent on divesting marriage of its religious character, and on transferring the whole jurisdiction from the clergy to the civil magistrate. The committee accordingly prepared a Bill, which was ultimately made law by the Barebones Parliament. By this Act, the clergy were required to give up their register books to laymen, who were to be called the 'parish registers.'

These new officials were to enter fairly in the books in their keeping all publications of banns, marriages, births, and burials, with the dates thereof and the names of the parties, and were empowered to charge a fee of 12d. for every certificate of publication and entry of marriage, and of 4d. for every entry of birth and burial. The lay register was to be chosen in every parish by the inhabitant householders on or before September 22, 1653, and as soon as he had been sworn and approved by the local magistrate, his appointment was to be entered in the register books.

The following is the entry in the St. Oswald's Registers:—

Memorandum. That Thomas Humphreys of the Cittie of Chester, Notarie publique having been elected for Parish Register by the parishioners of the Parish of Oswaldes within the Cittie of Chester according to an Act of this present Parliament, I, William Ince Ald[erman] and Justice of peace within the same Cittie have this third day of the moneth of October in the year 1653 approved of the said election and have ministered to the said Thomas Humphreys a corporall oath to observe and perform such things as are appointed and required to be done by a Parish Register in the said Act intituled an Act touching Marriages and the Registering thereof, as also touching Births and Burials. In witness whereof I have hereto subscribed my name.

William Ince.

MARCH 22, 1899.

NOTES.

[393] RANDLE HOLME'S NOTES ON CHESHIRE
CHURCHES.

(See No. 378.)

Following on the extract sent you a little time ago, I now append the notes made at the Church of Woodchurch in Wirral, 1593; Overchurch (no date); Bidston and Neston in 1668; and have added some notes made on glass in Upton Hall, in Wirral. These do not call for much comment, except the glass in Upton Hall. The Bolds owned the Hall, but seem to have sold it early in the 17th century, and it appears to have passed into the hands of the Earl of Derby. The question is who were the Astons who left their arms in the glass of the window?—Yours,

GENEALOGIST.

WOODCHURCH IN WIRRAL A.D. 1593.

[Harl: MS. 2151]

In severall places of the windowes in the said Church

[Drawing of three shields]

(1) Gules, a chevron between three pheons Argent. [*Malpas.*]

(2) [Gules] fretty [Or]; on a chief [Argent] two mullets [Sable] pierced of the [third] [*Fouleshurst.*] impaling Or [Ermine?] three mascles in fesse Gules [Blymhill?]

(3) Argent, on a bend Sable three spear heads of the first [*Prenton* of Prenton.]

In the churchyard is a grave stone. Here lyeth the body of John Challner skiner

[Hocknell and Leycester, hatchment also Lennard of Tarvin.]

OVERCHURCH.

[Drawing of an oblong thick stone without ornament or inscription]

The ancient tomb of the Bolds of Upton, but with no writing thereon.

BIDSTON 1668.

In the Church yard are severall grave stones [with] these inscriptions

Here lyeth the bodye of Willm Bennet son of the said Henry Bennet buried 29 Octobr 1652.

Here lyeth the bodye of Joane Bennet wife of Henry Bennet of Saughall Massey buried 15 Sept. 1662.

Here lyeth the bodye of Henry Robinson of Oxon buried 10 Oct. 1652.

Jer: Myres, July 21, 1663.

On grave stones by the Chancell—

Here lyeth the bodye of Elizabeth Goodwin bd. 10 July 1656

Here lyeth Willm Erby tanner 1618

In one of the side lles—

[Drawing of an oblong tombstone, thereon a calvary cross of two steps and above the head of the cross] Here lyeth Ellen wife of M[iles] P[emberton] buried July 2.

In the Church by the pulpitt hangs a hanging shilf on wch. they get the bread distributed to the poore (viz. evry Sabbath day 1s. being the gift of Mr. Gleave of London) on wch. this writing is—

22 Aprill, the gift of Mr. Thos : Gleave Cittizen of London an. dni. 1646

The like gift of 1s apeece evry Sabbath day for ever he gaveto be given to ye poere of Woodchurch & Wallasey Parishes.

THURSTASTON CHURCH 1668.

[Harl : MS : 2151.]

Are sevrall Stones in Church

John Whitmore Junior buried August 7th 1661.

John Lockier buried Aug. 20 1665.

Richard Lockier buried Dec. 15 1665.

Nere lyeth the bodys of Margaret Younge btried Aug : 1668.

UPTON HALL IN WIRBALL, in the Parlour there

[Harl : MS. 2151].

Drawings of three shields.

(1) Argent, a lion (P) rampant [is this a griffin & the coat of Bold]

(2) Per chevron Sable and Argent [Aston of Aston]

(3) Argent, a lion rampant Sable within a bordure engrailed of the second [Harpur? or Berwen?]

[394] CLERICAL CHANGES IN 1559.

(See Nos. 365, 382 and 391.)

The question raised by J. B. in No. 391 is a very interesting one, which deserves the closest attention, especially as it is only by careful and painstaking investigation the real truth can be discovered. What happened in other parts of the country must be left to others to tell, but in Cheshire and Lancashire we are fortunate in possessing material which enables us to estimate very closely the actual result of Queen Elizabeth policy with reference to the clergy in the first few years of her reign.

The materials referred to are the Lists of Clergy called to appear at the different visitations of the Bishop of Chester. These still exist complete or partially complete for the years 1541-2, 1548, 1554, 1563, and 1565. By comparing the lists for 1554, 1563 and 1565 we shall be able to arrive at a fairly true idea of what actually happened.

In the first instance, however, as 'J. B.' has specially analysed Mr. Gee's list of absentees from the Commissioner's Visitation of 1559, at least that portion printed by 'F. S' in the *Sheaf* (No. 365) I will take the names *seriatim* as it may help to clear up one or two difficulties.

APOWELL HUGH [or POWELL] of ASTBURY.

Was presented 27 Nov: 1542 (Ormerod), appeared at the 1554 Visitation. In 1563 his name is down, but at one side (in a different hand) is written *egr'* (sick) and on the other *in crastino*. In the 1565 Visitation his name again appears, and against it a scrawl which appears to read *excus' apud Cestr* (i.e., excused at Chester).

BAVEN R. of WHITEGATE (omitted by F.S.)

This name should be Richard Baneon. Presented 1545 (Ormerod). Present 1554. His name does not appear either in 1563 or 1565. In 1563 the vicar appears to be one Robert Riley, but the name is scored through, and in 1565 John Knightly is entered.

BROKE JAS. of WILMSLOW. Cur. (omitted by F.S.)

Present at the 1541-2 Visitation, also in 1554. His name does not occur in 1563, but reappears in the 1565 Visitation with the note *extra*. Earwaker mentions him (*East Cheshire*) as the Priest of St. Mary's Chapel before the dissolution of the Chantries.

BUCKLEY, T. OF CHREADLE. Presented 4

July, 1551 (Ormerod). Appeared at 1554 visitation by proxy. He did not appear in 1563, having resigned the living prior to the 25th April, 1563, his successor being Humphrey Biron or Berron, who had been his curate for some years. As Berron is presented by Sir Richard Bulkely it almost looks as if this may have been an example of a private arrangement between a retiring Rector and his successor.

CHARLETON ALAN OF TAPORLEY. This name

should be Chorlton. Presented 31st Oct., 1556. His name occurs in the 1563 list, but against it is written, *excus', non certific. com.,* and on the other side, *Cit'. viis. et modis*. His name again appears in 1565 with the note *non comp'* (did not appear).

CHARLETON WILLIAM of BANGOR [ISCOYD]

(omitted by F.S.). Does not appear in the 1541-2, 48 or 54 Visitation. His name occurs in the 1563 list, with the note *apud Oxon* (at Oxford) written after the word *citetur* erased. In the 1565 list his name occurs with the note *comp' p' p'cur* (appeared by proxy).

CLARKE T. of MOBBERLEY, cur. I can find nothing about this man, he does not appear in any of the lists. A Randle Cliff is Curate in 1548 and 1554, and a Philip Fowden in 1563.

COLLINGWOOD W. of CHRISTLETON. Was also Prebendary of Chester (5th stall). Instituted to prebend 24 Sept. 1557, died 1560-1. Also Rector of Christleton (Ormerod). The 1554 list gives John Woodward as Rector of Christleton, the 1563 list William Babington, with the side note *egr* (sick). This name is erased, and above it is written the name Robert Ireland, whose name also appears in the 1565 list as Rector.

DAVISON JAS. OF MOBBERLEY. In the 1554 list a Humphrey Glover is rector. In 1563 James Davieson's name occurs with the note *apud Cantabrigiam* (at Cambridge) *cit*. His name also occurs as rector in 1565, with the note *comp' p' Joh'em Shas* (appeared through John Shaw).

DAVEY T. OF BACKFORD. I can find nothing of this man. Richard Garrett was vicar, and John Lepington curate, in 1554, and Hugh Morrey vicar both in 1563 and 1565.—Yours truly,

WM. FERGUSON IRVINE.

Birkenhead.

(To be continued.)

[395] MARRIAGE REGISTERS OF ST. OSWALD'S,
CHESTER.
1653.

An intention of Marriage agreed upon by William Milington of Oswald's parish within the Citty of Chester, yeoman, and Anne Denise of the Parish of Peters in the same citty spinster were published three severall Lords days two in Peters aforesaid and one Lords day in the said Oswald's Church according to an Act of Parliament intituled an Act touching Mariages and Registering thereof in the month of December in the yeare 1653 and afterwards upon certificate of the promises made by Thomas Humphreys Notarie Publique and Parish Register of the said Parishes of Oswalds and Peters in Chester aforesaid. The parties before named upon the 27th day of the said month of Decem. in the yeare 1653 presented the said Registers Certificate before mentioned unto William Ince, Ald. and Justice of peace within the said Citty the truth of which certificate being made manifest to the said Justice of peace and ther appeering unto him no resonable cause to the contrary. The said Justice upon desire of the said parties did permit them to proceed in ther said marriage

which was solemnized according to the maner and forme prescribed by the said Act, the which being done and performed by the said parties, the said Justice declared them thenceforth to be Husband and Wife in the presence of the said Register and of David Ince and William Ince the younger and divers other credible persons witnesses of the said marriage and of the premises the said Justice of Peace gave the said parties a certificate in parchment under his hand and seale.

WILLIAM INCE.

John Robinson, of Capenhurst, in the parish of Shotwick, husbandman & Eliz. Becke of the parish of Oswalds widow

Witnesses: Tho. Humphreys, Tho. Pemberton, Jane Welshman, and divers other credible witnesses

February 6

John Brooke, of Wallsall, Co. Stafford, Loriman* and Alice Gilbert of Oswalds

Witnesses: Tho: Humphreys, William Ince the younger Elizabeth Loker, widow, & divers ether credible witnesses

February 7

Nicholas Clarke of Oswalds parish, Husbandman and Susanah Sallet of the same, spinster

Witnesses: Tho: Humphreys, William Ince the younger and John Tottie of Chester

Feb 27

William Clarke, of Thornton, Co. Chester, yeoman & Murrell (?) Chapman of Thornton, widow—the intention was published at the Market Crosse in Chester three market days in three severall weekes.

Witnesses: Richard Chapman and Ann Bushell
May 18

MARCH 29, 1899.

NOTES.

[396] A CHESHIRE TEMPEST IN 1687.

A curious old pamphlet has just come into my possession, which seems worthy of reprinting. It was printed in London by D. Mallet for G. P., 1687. F.S.

A TRUE RELATION OF THE GREAT THUNDER, LIGHTNING, RAIN, GREAT WIND, AND PRODIGIOUS HAIL that happened at ALVANDLEY in the Parish of Frodsham in CHESHIRE on Sunday, the 19th day of June, 1687. As it was sent to a Merchant in London.

Alvandley this 18th of July 1687.

Loving Cousin,—

I Have not received one Line from thee, since thy last going to London. But Cousin Elizabeth Birdsey told me of thy dangerous Sickness, for

* This must be for 'Lorimer' meaning 'Saddler.'

which I am much troubled, but shall be glad to hear of thy perfect Recovery to Health again. God grant that all afflictions we meet with in this vale of Tears or Transitory Life may be a means to draw us nearer himself, who only can help, support, and strengthen our Infirmities. I hope these Lines will find thee better Recovered.

I was requested by our Neighbour Jeremiah Leech (whose kind Love is herein remitted to thee) to send thee a Copy of the Relation of that remarkable Accident which by the disposing hand of God, happened with us at Alvandley the 19th of June last past, to the great damage of our Corn, Houses, Cattle, Meadowing and . . . which was occasioned by the Wind and Prodigious Hail, which may appear from the following Relation, which he the said J. Leech is very desirous may be committed to the Press, that all might have a true account of it, and desired me to request thee to do it, that for time to come it may be known and kept in mind how the Lord hath dealt with us in his Judgments in this kind, which were wonderfully met with Mercy to us, in preserving our Lives, when much Cattel hardly escaped, being bruised, and hurt, and cut, till blood ran down them, as appears by the Relation following, which is a true Account how it was: I being an Eye-witness, and had a share of it. So with mine and Brothers kind Love to thee, wishing thy good health, and to hear from thee, I rest

Thy assured Loving Kinsman,

NATHANIEL BUSHELL.

The Copy as it was Directed to Sir John Arderne, take as followeth:—

Right Worshipfull,

W^m your distressed Tenants in Alvandley, do Certifie unto you, how it hath pleased Almighty God to shew his great Power, in that terrible storm of Thunder, Lightning, Rain, great Wind and Hail, that lighted on us, your Worships distressed Tennants in Alvandley the 19th of June 1687. But we are not able to express the terrible-ness of it in full, being too apt to forget, like Pharoah of Old; but seeing it hath left such memorable Monuments of the destructiveness of it, all the beholders have stood amazed at it, fetching Tears from the Eyes of the Tender-hearted, many having come far to see it, and said if it had been attested to them upon Oath how destructive it was, they could not have believed it had been so, till they came to see it.

May it please you, That after great Lightning, Thunder, and Rain, there arose a great terrible Wind, which brought with it great Hail in abundance, which at the first dash broke all our Glass Windows that were on the South-West sides of our Houses, the Wind at that instant coming from thence upon us; and issued a flashing Fire, that accompanied with great Thunder, the Hail came with great violence, and had sharp Ends and

Edges like broken Ice, Cutting, Smiting, and driving down all Tops of Trees and young Plants, and out the backs of our Kine, till Blood issued therefrom, and bruised the Elders (udders?) and Paps, and wonderfully affrighted them, that they ran as if they had been Mad, leaping out of their Pastures, some into pits and were almost drowned; some people that were out of Doors were ill beaten and bruised ere they could get to shelter themselves that to our knowledge their flesh was as black as pots, and scarce able to go. Although praised be God, he in his infinite Mercy spared both Man and Beast alive, which is no small wonder, for it killed flying Fowl, both Crows and Pyes, and other Fowl. Several of our Buildings were Shattered and Battered by it; and the Roofs of both thatch and slate torn and uncovered: some Walls both Timber and Stone driven down; the Windmill was blown and driven down; nay, which is most remarkable, it broke strong sound Trees of a great substance off in the middle, and blew down very many fruit Trees, and destroyed all the Fruits, the which were abundance before the Storm was; and did so cut and bruise all sorts of Fruit Trees and other . . . that we think they will hardly get recovery, the Hail-stones being many . . . them sharp, that they slit the Bark of Trees as if done with a Knife: if any Apple be left, it seems as if it were cut with a Knife. All our Gardens, Plants and Flowers are destroyed but what were within Ground; our Hedges and Quickssets are pill'd so as the Leaf and Bark is not left.

But we may say this is little in Comparison of the loss of our Corn in every sort of Grain, which was Smitten very terrible, viz. Wheat, Rye, Barly, Oates, Pease, Beans, French-Wheat, with our Flax and Hemp; in a Word, all was by the said Storm of Hail destroyed, so that some have plowed it up where their Corn was, and Sowed it again; some have Plowed it for Summer work, and some have turned their Cattle into their Corn Fields, and some others let it lie, to see what the Lord will be pleased to do with it.

(To be continued.)

[397] CLERICAL CHANGES IN 1559.

(See Nos. 365, 382, 391, and 394.)

DICKSON, T. of WYBUNBURY. I can find no trace of this stipendiary priest. In 1554, Matthew Wood was Vicar and Richard Whitell was his curate. In 1563 Matthew Wood was still vicar and his curate was William Brok, who, however, seems just to have died as the note against his name is *obit*, while against the vicar is *jurat' s'ed'm statu'* (took the oath according to the statute).

DUCKE, CHAS. of ST. MARY'S, CHESTER. This name should be Duckworth. Duckworth

was presented to the living on the 25th Sept., 1554, in the place of Thomas Taylor deprived. (Earwaker's St. Mary.) In the 1563 Visitation his name occurs with the note on one side *non*, and on the other *abest* (absent), in 1565 his name again occurs, but with the note *non comp't* (did not appear). He retained the living, however, and died Rector in 1596. (Earwaker.)

DUDLEY, ARTHUR of MALPAS (Rector of a Medietiy). Appears in the 1541-2, 1548, 1554, and 1563 lists. In the last named with the note, *cit' viis. et modis*. In 1565 he appeared by proxy.

HILL, W., OF MALPAS (Rector of a Medietiy). Presented in 1542, and resigned on a pension of £16 for life, to be paid by his successor, John Barlowe, *ante* Jan. 1561-2. (Ormerod.)

KINSAY ROBT., OF BARTHOMLEY. Richard Birches or Burches was rector, and Richard Birches or Burches was his curate in 1554, as well as William Dalton and John Jonson. In 1563 Robert Kinsey appears; on one side is the note '*excus*,' and on the other '*jurat*.' His sole curate was Peter Moese.

LEE, W., OF GAWSWORTH. William Lee or Leigh was presented 22nd May, 1536, and appears in 1554. In the 1563 lists his name occurs with the side note '*excus*' *p' D' Epis*' (excused by the Lord Bishop), but his name has been subsequently struck through with a pen, and that of his successor, Robert Rogers, interlined. Leigh died Feb. 1564-5 (Earwaker's East Cheshire).

LOWE, ARTHUR, OF STOCKPORT. Presented 13th July, 1538, appeared at the 1554 visitation. His name occurs also in the 1563 list, with the note on one side, '*ab*' (absent), and on the other '*excus*' *p' D'nu' Ep'm*' (excused by the Lord Bishop). He appeared by proxy in 1565.

W. FERGUSON IRVINE.

(To be continued.)

[398] THE REV. SIR HENRY POOLE'S
REFERENCE TO EATON HALL.

(See No. 309.)

Lord Grosvenor's 'finest modern Gothic Buildings in the Kingdom' will be thought quite amusing from the pen of the Rev. Sir Henry Poole—which shews how curiously some of the leaders of critical taste sometimes follow with the rural sheep in the devious paths of fashion. Half-a-century had not elapsed after this laudation before this very building style was as severely condemned. It remained for

nothing but its more tasteful owner to pull full half of these 'fine Gothic buildings' down, with their unique iron window frames and sashes! and revolutionise the fashion altogether. Now we have something like as handsome a building as the late structure was superbly *ugly*. But the pity of it all was that the fine old Queen-Anne Hall of deep-red brick was demolished, early in the century, to make way for an edifice of any kind—to say nothing of a palatial erection with cast-iron sham-stone window frames—celebrated by all the print-mongers in the kingdom. X.

QUERY.

[399] THE OLD CHESTER GAOL AND ITS
GOVERNORS.

Was not this Gaol a public institution? And is there no record of it, with date of same, and names of Governors and their respective years of office? I am unable to find any trace of this Gaol or its Governors in Mr. Fenwick's Book on Chester. Can any of your readers throw any light on the foregoing?

J. E. HASWELL.

[400] MARRIAGE REGISTERS OF ST. OSWALD'S,
CHESTER.
1654.

Mr. Peter Leigh, Minister of Oswalds in Chester and Mrs. Marie Davies of the same . . . Certificate brought unto the Worshipful Richard Leicester Esq. Aldm Justice of Peace . . . in presence of Mr. Edward Bold, Minister of Hawarden, Mr. William Peartree, Minister of Maries in Chester, Mr. Robert [Barlow] Minister of Moberley and divers others March 28.

Samuell Radford of Michael's in Chester, Linen-draper and Marie Eavans of Maries within the Citie of Chester Spinster . . . Certificate brought to Worl Thomas Aldersay Aldm and Justice of Peace . . . in presence of Robert Radford, Sarah Evans, and many others May 15.

William Hughes of Overton neere Fradsham, husbandman, and Margret Hornebie of Fradsham spinster . . . published in market place . . . declared man and wife by W. Ince in the presence of Mrs. Katherine Ince, William Ince and John Thomas. 24 June

Thomas Carington of Staney, husbandman, and Elizabeth Gwin of the same townie widdow . . . published at market place—declared man and wife by Wm. Ince . . . in the presence of John Care, Mr. David Bunburie and divers others

Sept 2

John Williams of Ledsam and Elizabeth Huntington of the same spinster . . . declared man and wife by W. Ince in the presence of Samuel Marsden, Minister of Neston, Rowland Huntington, Will. Griffith, John Bushell &c.

Sept 19

Richard Hughs of Newton, smith and Jane Worrall of Shoolach, Widow . . . tendered unto thee Worl William Ince . . . a certificate subscribed by Tho. Humphreys . . . intimating that an Intention of their marriage was published within the parish of Peters three market days in three severall weekes whereupon he permitted them to solemnize the said marriage . . . in the presence of Hugh Rutter, William Milington, John Hughs, Arabella Dewsbury witnesses present at the sd. mariage

Sept. 20

Ralph Stretford of Whitechurch in the county of Salop gent. and Eliz. Bickerton of the parish of Oswalds.

Witnesses: Tho: Humphreys, Tho: Bickerton and Mary Aher (?) Oct. 2

APRIL 5, 1899.

NOTES.

[401] MONUMENTAL INSCRIPTIONS OF CHESHIRE AND LANCASHIRE FAMILIES IN BATH.

The following inscriptions in so remote a corner as Upper Weston, over a century since a rural village 1½ miles from the then little city of Bath, were, quite unlooked for, discovered the other day in the yard of that ancient Church. As memorials of two obscure relatives of a family so well known, they will be of some interest to many. These Stanleys sprang from a younger son of the House of Hooton five hundred years ago, and have only within a year or two since had the honour to become the head of all the Houses of Stanley now existing. In former times they were themselves, as Earls of Derby at least, closely connected with Chester, by ties of office, property, and other connections, so there need be no apology for giving the long forgotten recluses of Over Weston a place in *The Sheaf*.

XXX.

In the North West corner of Weston Parish Churchyard, on a plain gravestone, surrounded by iron railings, in good preservation, occurs:—

'Mary Cunliffe
died April 28th, 1785.
Aged 65.

'The Right Honble Lady
Isabella Dorothea Stanley
died July 21st, 1787.

Aged 65.

'The Right Honble Lady
Mary Stanley
died Augst. 18th, 1795.
Aged 77.'

In the North Chapel (by the vestry) on the west wall, is a small marble monument, bearing below, most prominently, the advertisement of the tombstone-cutter, 'T. King, Ft., Bath,' and sculptured above with a plain lozenge charged with the coat of Stanley (the azure being a little defaced, and underneath the inscription):

'Near this place Rest the Remains
of the late Right Honourable
LADY MARY STANLEY,
Second daughter of EDWARD
the Eleventh Earl of Derby:
who departed this life
on the 18th day of August 1795,
Aged 77.

Lamented most by those who
knew her best.'

The tail of the '9' is all but defaced, and 1709 looks the figure. The other sister perhaps preferred interment with her maid (?) or relative, or friend and companion (?) that the body of the eldest should not have occupied the same grave, or rather small vault, under the rectory garden-wall.

In the same chancel (a sort of short transept), on a very small slightly sculptured pannel of marble, and above the mason's 'Lancashire, Ft., Bath,'

'Sacred to the Memory
of John Bower Jodrell, Esq.
of Henbury, Cheshire.
Ob: 4 Nov. 1796 Aged 49.'

Perhaps he was tenant for years, or at will, or even in fee, of Henbury, after the Merediths had departed. See Jodrell ped.—and also Henbury, in Hist. of Cheshire A.D. 1882.

T. H.

[402] CLERICAL CHANGES IN 1559.

(Continued from No. 397.)

OLYVER, J., of BADDILNY.—I can find no trace of this man. Lawrence Keye is curate from ante 1542 to post 1554. In 1554 he had an assistant curate, Hugh Woodward. In 1563 appears John Croxden, curate, but his name is struck through, as is also the word *excusetur* originally written beside his name, and instead the words *vacat' cur'* (living vacant) occur. In 1565 Charles Rile, curate, appears at the visitation and exhibits his letters.

PLANTE, ROBERT, of SWETTENHAM.—Presented 1557 (Ormerod). In the 1563 list his name appears, and against it *egr* (sick), and a later note seems to read, 'The Bishop referred him to the Commission,' but at a date apparently subsequent to this his name has been struck through and that of Randle Barnes interlined. Randle Barnes was present at the 1565 visitation. Though this rather looks as if Plante had been deprived, we have actual evidence that he signed the Three Articles in 1563 (*Cheshire Sheaf*, vol. I., series iii., p. 34), and moreover he figures in a Swettenham will case in Dec. 1563 (*vide Chesh. Child Marriages*, Furnival, p. lxxxi.).

ROBINSON, JOHN, of ASHTON [UPON MERSEY] (omitted by F.S.). Occurs in 1554 list; appears also in 1563 with the side note *jurat*. His name also is given in the 1565 list, and Ormerod mentions him as Rector in 1582, in which year he died.

ROPER, H., of INCE, cur. I can find nothing of this man. Ralph Caterall was there in 1554, and in 1563 the name Roger Williams occurs with Henry Coke as assistant curate, but both names are struck through, and in Williams's place appears Henry Cowper, who likewise was present in 1565.

SHEPHERD, SIMON, of DAVENHAM. Presented 26 June, 1546 (Ormerod). He appears in the 1563 list with the note *Escus*, and then *ci'* and finally the latter note is erased, and the magic words *Jurat' ut sup'* (took the oath as above, i.e., according to statute). Died Rector in 1569.

SMYTH, T., of BRERETON. Rector in 1554. His name occurs in 1563 with the words *escus* on one side, and on the other *egr* (sick), and finally *D'n's decre't Commission*, and at the same time his name is erased, and that of Richard Snipe interlined. Thomas Smith, however, re-appears in 1565 with the note *egr* (sick).

SUDDALL, H., of BARROW.—Presented 12 May, 1546 (Ormerod). Present 1554. His name occurs in 1563 list with the note *apud Oson* (at Oxford), and he appeared by proxy at the 1565 visitation.

SWAYNE, R., of GOOSTRIE CUR. Goostrie, does not occur in the 1554 list. The curate of Goostrie, both in the 1563 and '65 list, is one William Clark, though in the 1563 list there is a side note *vacat' cur'*. It may be noted, however, that a 'Richard Swayne, curate of —' [?] signed the Three Articles in 1563 (*Cheshire Sheaf*, Ser. III., vol. I., p. 34).

TASSIE THOS., OF WALLASEY.—A chantry priest, before the dissolution of the chantries. He must have been an old man in 1563, since, though he took the oath, the list has noted against him *inidoneus senex* (unsuitable an old man). His name occurs again in 1565, and his death does not appear in the register till 7th April, 1582, where he is called 'Sir Thomas Tassie, curate.'—Yours, &c.,

WM. FERGUSON IRVINE.

(To be continued.)

QUERY.

[403] GEORGE MARSH, THE CHESTER MARTYR.

As some attention has been called recently to this man, it may not be out of place to ask the students of Chester history who contribute to your columns the rather important question—did such a man ever exist?—what proof is there that he ever was martyred? I ask as an inquirer, but so far as I have been able to gather, the sole authority for the story is John Foxe, the martyrologist. To say the least, Foxe was a biassed historian, and it would be interesting to know whether any corroborative evidence exists, especially in the way of contemporary documents.—Yours,

M. H. S.

[404] MARRIAGE REGISTERS OF ST. OSWALD'S, CHESTER, 1654 (Continued).

Richard Lightfoot of Stoke . . . husbandman
and Margret Lightfoot, of the same towne . . .
widow

Witnesses: Richard Widdens and Tho. Lightfoot
Dec. 20

Peter Halmarke Husbandman and Any Wirrall
spinster both of the Cittle of Chester

Witnesses: Tho. Humphreys and Peter Wirrall
Dec. 26

William Garrat clothworker and Ruth Farrington
spinster . . . married before Mr.
Richard Lyecester . . .

Witnesses: Richard Bennet, Ann Farrington &c.
Nov. 14

Robert Miller of Hob Lane . . . wheelwright
and Alice Massie of Great Mollington widow

Witnesses: William Craine and Wm. Kennion
Feb. 2

Thomas Bradbury of Mickle Trafford, husbandman, and Mary Percivall of the same spinster

Witnesses: William Kelsall and Mary Smith
Feb 9

William Taylor of Moore Yeoman and Margaret Sutton of Acton-Grang, spinster

Witnesses: Henry Mason and John Sutton

Feb 11

William Jones of Pudington, Smith, and Grace Bedding of the same spinster

Witnesses: Thomas Hickcock and John Bedding

Feb 17

APRIL 12, 1899.

NOTES.

[405] A CHESHIRE TEMPEST IN 1687.

(Continued from No. 396.)

The Tythe-Corn of the Town, that usually hath been Let from 25 to 26l. and sometimes at 30l the Morning after the Storm, none would have given 1l. for it. The loss of our Meadowing is not a whit behind the rest. To the great Damage of the Town; most of the Town Folk being Daries; the Grass was Beaten and Battered as if pounded in a mortar, so that there is little left, and what between, the Sap of Trees, Corn and Grass, Our Pits and Ditches are Dyed like Tanners Bark-Pits. We heard that our Neighbouring Townsmen were so sorry for us, that one said he would (if the rest would do likewise) give us a Load of Hay for relief of our Cattle.

The Hail and Wind continued about half-an-hour; the Hailstones were of divers shapes, some with sharp Ends and Edges, and like your Smith's Cynders, some say there were of 8 or 9 Inches about; but we were so affrighted that Night we did not regard to measure them, but next day there was measured that were 5 Inches about, and on the Friday following, which was 5 days after, there was found in old Thatch, Hail that was 5 Inches about. We cannot express our loss sustained by the said Wind and Hail; there was such abundance of it, and it beat mightily into our Houses, that our Old Corn, Cheese, Meat, Bedding, and other household Goods received great Damage by it, all the substance of the Storm lighted on our Village, as it afterwards appeared, for that way the Storm drove it passed by the Neighbouring Towns, the Hill being betwixt them and us, so they sustained very little loss by it.

Truly since the great Hail in the Land of Egypt we do not hear that the like hath been seen for Thunder, Hail, and Fire mingled with it, flashing upon the Ground. As it appeared to many that beheld it, and came with such a

heideous Noise, that cannot be expressed, betwixt the Hail and Wind, its violence was great, being in such abundance, that it lay in some places three quarters of a Yard deep, and beat up the ground, and drove it on heaps in some places, and after it, followed a great Damp or Mist, with a very offensive smell; but we desire to give Glory and Thanks to Almighty God, that spared our Lives and the Lives of our Cattle, when it had been so easie a thing to destroy us, when stronger things were destroyed, but that he pleased to give a Commission to its strong Force, and no further to proceed.

And we humbly pray God, that we who have seen and felt his mighty Power, and all others, who only hear of this Relation, may make a right improvement of it, to the Glory of Almighty God and our own souls' good.

And we whose Names are hereunto subscribed do humbly conclude, that all our losses in the afore-mentioned particulars, within the precincts of *Alvanley*, will amount unto the sum of several 1,000l. and upwards, unless God in his infinite mercy find out a way for our Relief; but it pittys our hearts most of all, for our poor Widows and Fatherless, whose whole year's profits are destroyed. We whose Names are hereunto subscribed, shall be ready to attest what is written for certain Truths and no feigned things.

John Turner, Minister at *Alvandley*

John Clarke, Schoolmaster

Richard Walker, Clerk at the Chappel

Samuel Gerrard

John Ashbrooke

Jeremiah Leech

Samuel Leech

George Whitley

Robert Simcock

Richard Simcock

John Hayes

John Bassnet

John Bushell, of the Parish of Allhallows the Wall, London, knows very well the persons who sent this Letter, as likewise some of the persons above-named, and do believe this relation to be very true, having received a Letter from another person to the same effect.

John Bushell.

I William Watts of the said Parish of Allhallows in the Wall, do know very well the person that sent the above written Letter, and doth really believe the above written Relation to be true.

William Watts.

I William Johnson of London, Notary Publique, do Certifie that I do know, not only the said person that sent the said Letter, but also several other of

the persons Inhabitants there, and that I believe the above Relation to be assuredly true, and no false thing, I having seen a Letter sometime since to that effect.

William Johnson.

This may be Printed, R.P. July the 28th, 1687.
LONDON, Printed by D. Mallet, for G.P., 1687.

[406] CLERICAL CHANGES IN 1559.

(Continued from No. 402.)

WALKER, JAS., of PLEINSTALL. Presented 11 Nov., 1545 (Ormerod). Present at 1554 Visitation. A Roger Walker occurs in the 1563 Visitation with the note that he did not appear; he had a curate, one John Heylin, who took the oath, and whose name appears in 1565 as Vicar.

WALKER, RICHARD, OF [WEST] KIBBY. Presented 18th March, 1540, also appointed Dean of Chester, 1558. His name occurs in all the lists 1548 to 1565, at the last of which there is a special note that he appeared by proxy. In the 1563 list his name is erased, and that of Winstanley added, but as Winstanley was not instituted until 1567, after Walker's death, and on account of that death, this must be a mistake.

WOODE MATH. OF WIEUNBURY. According to Ormerod this Vicar was presented to the living in 1569, but this must be a mistake as he was a curate there in 1542 and 1548, is mentioned as Vicar in 1554, 1563 and 1565 lists. In 1563 he is specially mentioned as having taken the oath according to Statute. There may, however, have been two Matthew Woods, as Ormerod speaks of one dying in 1618.

WYBEAM [WILBRAHAM] W. OF ALDFORD. Presented 26 Sept. 1525 (Ormerod). Occurs in 1542-48 and 54 lists. He appears to have died in 1561, as Nicolas Hyde is presented that year, the cause of vacancy being the natural death of the last Incumbent.

WYNESLOWE RALPH OF TATTENHALL. His name first occurs in the 1563 list with the side note 'let him be cited,' he appeared at the 1565 Visitation, but resigned about 1571.—Yours, truly,

WM. FERGUSSON IRVINE.

(To be continued.)

[407] AN INCIDENT IN THE PLAGUE AT BURTON, 1650.

The following scrap of evidence is from some incomplete depositions of (apparently) one Edward Dunsterville, and relates to the death and will making of Lucy Dunsterville, who lived at Denwall House, in Burton in Wirral, about 1650. The original is at the Bishop's Registry,

Chester. The point in the case seems to be that Edward Dunsterville, owing to the prevalence of the plague, was not able to come to Chester for some time to prove the Nuncupative will of his relative. Administration was granted at the Probate Court, Chester, to Edward Harman, of Chester, gentleman, and James Travers, of the same, gentleman, of the goods of Lucy Dunsterville, widow, on the 5th October, 1650.

It is interesting, and worth putting on record, as it gives us a little picture of the social life at this time, and we see the severe methods of isolation adopted to prevent the spread of the dread disease.—Yours,

GENEALOGIST.

(Extract.)

. . . the said Luce Dunsterville did utter her mynde and will as the deponent hath formerly deposed, the aforesaid Denwall House wherein she did then lyve was infected with the plague and the said Luce Dunsterville was then infected with that disease in the said house and the said Edward Dunsterville on the daye or night before her end beleeveth none durst come into the said roome where she dyed savinge some such as were shut upp with her in the same house.

2nd. That Captaine Puckle, the Deponent and Anne Davies were present when she the decedent made and delivered her will as aforesaid.

3rd. That for the space of — or thereabouts, the Deponent beleeveth that the articulate Anne Davies and he this Deponent could not be admitted to come to this Courte to be sworne and examined in this cause. That afterwards the said Anne Davies being infected with the plague, departed this lief before she could come to be examined in this cause.

[408] MARRIAGE REGISTERS OF ST. OSWALD'S, CHESTER, 1655.

Richard Bennet of Chester, Shoemaker, and Alice Glegg of the same, spinster, married before William Ince. . .

Witnesses: William Drinkwater, Ales Thomas, Randle Bennet, &c. July 10

Thomas Mercer of Kingley, weaver, and Margaret of the same Spinster

Witnesses: William Fisher(?), Richard Radley &c. July 11

John Lee of Bebington, husbandman and Jane Allen of the same Spinster

Witnesses: Richard Allen, Robert Skellington Aug. 22

Thomas Griffith of Childer Thornton, husbandman, and Mary Coxon of the same spinster

Witnesses: Hugh Walton & John Kendriak. Aug. 4.

John Yoxon of Over Bebington, husbandman,
& Jane Golborne of Tronmere, widow.

Witnesses: Humphrey Caddock & Ellen Yoxon.
Sept. 12.

Richard Cook of Thornton, husbandman and
Bridget Urmson of the same spinster.

Witnesses: Thomas Coulthorst and Thomas
Pemberton Sept. 19

John Sparke of Chester, gent, and Mrs. Thomasin
Dod of the same

Witnesses: Mr. Richard Sproston, Alderman,
Thomas Humphreys and Humphrey Humphreys
Sept. 26

Hugh Lewis of Stanney, husbandman, and Jane
Spencer of the same, spinster.

Witnesses: John Ireland and Tho: Grace of
Stanney Oct. 3

Lawrence Breers of Hamerton, Yorks., Gent.,
and Eliz. Ince of Chester, widow.

Witnesses: Mrs. Marie Ince, Charles Broster,
and Hugh Dod. Oct. 4

George Hill of Barrow, tayler, and Mode Vernon
of Tarvin, spinster.

Witnesses: Richard Woods and Ellin Chew.
Nov. 14

APRIL 19, 1899.

REPLY.

[409] THE STORY OF GEORGE MARSH.

(See No. 408).

The erection of a statue at Boughton to the memory of George Marsh, burnt to death in 1555 for Protestantism, has directed some attention to the story of his life, and your correspondent, M.H.S., naturally asks, What is the authority for this story? Practically nothing is known of it outside the 'Acts and Monuments' of John Foxe, except an anecdote or two preserved by Fuller and the Cheshire antiquary, Cowper. A life of Marsh was published in 1844 by A. Hewlett; it may have some further particulars. The compilers of the 'Athenæ Cantabrigienses' (C. H. and T. Cooper) state that he 'commenced M.A. in 1542,' but this must refer to some other Marsh; a little consideration will shew that this date taken together with the rest of the story would imply that in 1555 George Marsh was an elderly man with children almost of full age, whereas he was still a 'young man,' and his children 'little.' Foxe being the main authority, what can be gathered from him? In Mr. S. R. Catley's edition (1837) the 'declaration of the life, examination, and burning' occu-

pies nearly thirty pages (vii., 39—68). The greater part is taken up by Marsh's own account of his imprisonment and examinations, and by letters from or to him; the part giving the final scenes at Chester is obviously the work of an eye-witness and a keenly interested and observant friend; while Foxe himself has supplied introductory and connecting matter, and appears also to have abridged some of the documents. It is, of course, this latter portion which is least satisfactory; one cannot be sure how far the editor has preserved all the characteristics of the original, or how far he has introduced comments and amplifications on his own account. Apart from this, the only uncertainty is as to the friend who supplied the documents, and other facts, including the description of the judgment and execution. For want of any clear indication, a suggestion may be allowed that the 'brother,' frequently mentioned by George Marsh, was this friend. Obviously he would be able to give information as to parentage and early history; he would be deeply interested in his brother's sufferings and fate, and he could, with less danger than any other, minister to the prisoner both at Lancaster and at Chester. Apart from mere supposition, some words in the letter to Robert Langley (see below) point to him as the one who would have charge of George Marsh's papers. On the other hand, he shews a familiarity with Chester faces which would at first suggest long residence in the city; he must at least have had some willing informant at his elbow. Apart from what may be Foxe's interpolations, and the bias naturally shewn throughout, there seems no ground to suspect the truthfulness of the narrative given. The following outline will shew what the story is, and in what way it may be supplemented by more exact information as to the various persons concerned; the merely controversial matter, which, of course, relates almost exclusively to the doctrine of the Eucharist, is omitted; there does not seem to be anything very notable in it.

I.

George Marsh was born in the parish of Dean (near Bolton), about the year 1520. Of his early education nothing is known; probably he was taught by one of the chantry priests in the district, as they frequently added to their stipends in this way. Foxe says "he was well brought up in learning;" the 'Dictionary of National Biography' adds that he was educated at a 'grammar school,' and suggests Warrington; but what

is the authority? He became a farmer in the neighbourhood of his birth-place; married at the age of 25, and was apparently settled in life and quite happy. However, about 1550 his wife died, and Marsh, having become attached to the Protestant doctrines then established by law, went up to Cambridge to qualify himself for the ministry. His young children he gave to the care of his relations—of whom he mentions as living, mother, mother-in-law, and brother. His brother-in-law, Jeffrey Hurst, of Shackerley, was also a Protestant, and in 1558 in danger (Foxe viii., 564).

Being much older than the ordinary undergraduate, and at an age when the formal exercises of a university course are the reverse of attractive, it seems unlikely that Marsh studied with a view to a degree; more probably he lived with one of the resident divines, and read such books of theology as would be of service to him as a preacher. He mentions the 'Common-places' of Philip Melancthon and Erasmus Sarcerus as books he highly esteemed. ['Sarcerus' seems unknown to the compilers of biographical dictionaries, but a Danish poet and musician named Erasmus Sartorius died in 1577. Is he the man?] He seems, about the end of 1552, to have been ordained (by the Edwardine form, of course) by the Bishops of London and Lincoln, and he was settled in the curacy of Church Langton, in the south-east of Leicestershire, and in Lincoln diocese. The rector was Lawrence Saunders, a Cambridge man and conspicuous on the 'reforming' side; he became rector, also, of All Hallows', Bread-street, London, in March, 1552-3. The possession of these two parishes may explain why Marsh was ordained deacon by one bishop and priest by another. One who has the opportunity of examining the registers may be able to supply exact dates; those given are approximations based on Marsh's statements that he had been 'curate but one year,' that he 'had not dwelled in the country [i.e. in Dean] these three or four years past, and that his 'continuance' had been at Cambridge. He seems to have been quite happy at Langton, ministering in church, and teaching in the school. This did not continue long. On July 6, 1553, Edward VI. died and Mary came to the throne, and before long the leading Protestants, having joined in the attempt to make Lady Jane Grey queen, felt the new monarch's displeasure. Saunders, who was at Langton at the time, returned to London in the autumn, and in deliberate defiance of the Queen's proclamation preached in his church; he was at

once arrested on charges of treason, sedition, and heresy, and put in prison. Marsh, therefore, would be left to take his own course. Parliament met soon afterwards, and the use of the new service books was prohibited on and after December 20.

Marsh accordingly, finding his occupation gone, returned to Lancashire to see his relatives and friends. He is said, but mistakenly, to have been 'curate of Dean.' He had some intention of seeking a refuge in Germany or Denmark, but could not in the meantime cease from denouncing the restoration of the old order of things. In January and February (contemporaneously with Wyatt's rebellion), the charge against him said "he preached and openly published most heretically and blasphemously within the parish of Dean, Eccles, Bolton, Bury, and many others, . . . directly against the Pope's authority and Catholic Church of Rome, the blessed Mass, the Sacrament of the Altar," &c. Marsh did not deny the facts alleged, but said his teaching was not 'heresy.' What the style of these vehement discourses was may be gathered from his own words in relating Bishop Cotes's visit to Lancaster: "The bishop, being at Lancaster, there set up and confirmed all blasphemous idolatry; as holy water casting, procession gadding, mattins mumbling, children confirming, mass hearing, idols up-setting, with such heathenish rites forbidden by God." It is not surprising, then, that his 'defacing of Antichrist's false doctrine' (to use Foxe's words) should have made him both conspicuous and obnoxious, and that the Earl of Derby should have been told about it at the Council meeting in London, with a hint that he had better look after this dangerous man.

(To be continued.)

NOTES.

[410] CLERICAL CHANGES IN 1559.

(Continued from No. 406.)

To sum up the matter. It appears from the list printed in Dr. Gee's book that 31 clergy were absent from all causes from the Visitation of 1559. We have now examined all these in detail, and the result is that the only deprivations that can be absolutely proved are two in number, Buckle of Chesdale, and Hill of Malpas. Two of the clergy died about this time, Collingwood of Christleton, and Wilbraham of Aldford, six are uncertain i.e., I can

glean no facts about them (and of these three were assistant curates, and the other three perpetual curates of small livings) while the remaining twenty-one took the oath required by Statute.

According to Sir Peter Leycester, in 1669 there were 75 Parish Churches, 18 Parochial Chapels, 34 Chapels of Ease, and 17 Domestic Chapels in the County of Chester—making in all 144. Leaving out of the question the 17 Domestic Chapels, three chapels in decay, and one only founded in 1637, we get 123, and adding to this the 10 city churches in Chester, we have 133 churches, with a probable staff of about 200 to 220 clergy.

So even if we credit deprivations with all the uncertain ones, we only get 8 in 200, or about 4 per cent. of the total, a result which fully bears out Dr. Gee's contentions.

At the same time a comparison of the 1554 visitation and that of 1563, so far as the number of officiating clergy is concerned, gives some very startling results, but with these I must deal in another article. Suffice to say, that in many cases the number of clergy returned for 1563 was less than one quarter of those who appeared in 1554, looking as if the changes were most severely felt in the ranks of the unbeneficed clergy.

I may add that since writing the article No. 394, I find that Richard Baneon signed the three articles in 1563. (*Sheaf*, vol. I., series III., p. 35).—Yours, &c.

WM. FERGUSON IRVINE.

Birkenhead.

[411] MARRIAGE REGISTERS OF ST. OSWALD'S,
CHESTER.

1655 (*Continued*).

William Carwright of Mickle Trafford husbandman and Mary Sale of the same, spinster

Witnesses: James Sale and Richard Sale.

Jan. 16

John Caxington of Ince, husbandman and Marie Herald of Whiddie, spinster

Witnesses: Mr. John Frogg and Mr. Thomas Bunburie

last of Februarie

John Barlow of Little Neston, yeoman and Elizabeth Cottingham of the same, spinster

Witnesses: Mr. Henry Greene and Mr. Thomas Cottingham

April 27

John Healey of Cappenhurst husbandman and Anne Hunt of the same, widow.

Witnesses: Robert Hesmith and William Greene.

June 5

Richard Burrowse of Prenton, yeoman, and Frances Ball of the same spinster

Witnesses: Thomas Platt and John Hostick

June 25

Richard Bertwissele of Weverham, husbandman and Marie Twisse of the same, widow

Witnesses: Thomas Johnes and Samuel Sellars

July 18

Randle Holme of this Cittie gentleman & Sarah Solie of the same spinster.

Witnesses: Mr. Randle Holme senior & Thomas Simson.

Aug. 23

Thomas Simson of this Cittie groocerar & Elizabeth Holme of the same spinster.

Witnesses: Mr. Randle Holme & Mr. Richard Hunt.

Aug. 23

Thomas Westen of this Cittie gent. & Mrs. Christian Gamwall of the same spinster.

Witnesses: Mr. William Plimley & Richard Dunbavin.

Aug. 23

Robert Calcoote of this Cittie & Alice Gamwall.

Witnesses: Mr. William Plimley & Richard Dunbavin.

Aug. 23.

John Jeffs of Beeston, husbandman, & Jane Joynson of Tatten-Hall spinster.

Witnesses: William Ince, Junior and Richard Radley

Aug. 20

Richard Kitchens, of Bidston, husbandman, and Elizabeth Lea of Morton, widow

Witnesses: Richard Radley and John Trewman

Sept. 28

John Mowson, of Chester, Tanner, and Elizabeth King, of the same, spinster

Witnesses: Mr. Hugh Mowson and William King

Sept. 29

James Sale, of Hoole, Yeoman, and Elizabeth Harper, of Chester, widow

Witnesses: Thomas Wright and James Sale, junr.

Oct. 17

Ralph Rutter, of Netharton, glover, and Hanah Rutter of the same spinster

Witnesses: William Ince Junior and Robert Addamson.

Oct. 16

John Beevan of Wervin, yeoman, and Alice Dutton, of Coddington, spinster

Witnesses: Robert Parker and Lewis Beevan.

Oct. 2

John Morton, of Stanford, shoemaker, and Jane Towers, of Norley, spinster

Witnesses: William Bridge, Ellanor Morton.

Oct. 13

APRIL 26, 1899.

REPLY.

[412] THE STORY OF GEORGE MARSH.

(Continued from No. 409.)

II.

Accordingly, on Lord Derby's return to Lancashire he (as Lord-Lieutenant) gave instructions to Master Barton, of Smithills, near Bolton, as the nearest justice, to have Marsh arrested. We have, as stated above, Marsh's detailed account of the sequel. The outline is as follows:—

March 12, 1554 (Monday before Palm Sunday). Marsh was at his mother's house, when he was told that Justice Barton's officers (Roger Wrinstone and others) were searching for him and had ordered Roger Ward and Robert Marsh to find him. His mother and friends advised him to fly, and he had some thought of doing so, but was afraid it would be cowardly. He wandered about Dean Moor till evening, considering it, and then returned to his mother's; here he heard that his brother and William Marsh had been ordered to find him that night, and were then looking for him in Atherton. He accordingly left his mother's, and slept that night at a friend's house on the other side of Dean Church; and by morning had resolved to give himself up, being confirmed in this by an unexpected letter he received at that moment.

March 13 (Tuesday). He accordingly set off to Smithills, going by the way into the houses of Harry Widdowes, his mother-in-law, Ralph Yeton, and Thomas Richardson's wife, asking his friends to pray for him and be good to his little children. He reached Smithills about nine o'clock; here Justice Barton shewed him Lord Derby's letter ordering his arrest, and charged the brother and William Marsh to see that he was at Lathom next morning by 10 o'clock. [The story of the miraculous footprint at Smithills, caused by George Marsh stamping his foot in his earnest denial of the charge of heresy, is given in Fuller's 'Worthies.'] The three then returned to his mother's, where they dined. In the morning George Marsh took leave of his mother and the wife of Richard Marsh, and set off towards Lathom, sleeping that night 'a mile and a half on this side' of it.

March 14 (Wednesday). The three arrived at Lathom early in the morning, but were not

summoned to the Earl of Derby's presence till four in the afternoon. He was then called by Roger McKinson, and found the Earl surrounded by his Council—Sir William Norris, Sir Pierce Leigh, Master Sherburn, the Parson of Grappenhall, Master More, and others. They began to question him as to his doings and teaching, the Parson of Grappenhall introducing the crucial matter of the Eucharist; but Marsh wished them 'not to ask such hard and unprofitable questions, whereby to bring his body into danger of death, and to suck his blood.' This naturally made them somewhat indignant; they told him 'they were no blood-suckers, and intended nothing to him but to make him a good Christian man.' After a few other questions, which he 'avoided as well as he could,' he was imprisoned in a 'cold windy stone house,' where he lay for some nights. His keeper was named Richard Soot. [The words of Marsh, somewhat impolitic, to say the least, for an accused man to address the magistrates, have a noteworthy parallel. When Saunders, in the previous October, had been brought before Bonner, the bishop asked him his opinion as to transubstantiation; Saunders wrote it down, and on giving it said, 'My lord, ye do seek my blood, and ye shall have it. I pray God that ye may be so baptised in it that ye may hereafter loathe bloodsucking and become a better man.' Bonner took no notice of this, but sent Saunders on to Gardiner as Lord Chancellor. The parson of Grappenhall was Richard Gerard, son of Wm. Gerard of Ince near Wigan; he was soon afterwards made rector of Wigan also, dying in 1558. His 'obiter dictum' as to the second Prayer Book of Edward VI. may be recorded—'This last communion was the most devilish thing that ever was devised.' The Master More would be More of the Old Hall, Liverpool.]

March 18 (Palm Sunday). After dinner he was again brought before the Earl and his Council, among them being Sir John Byron and the Vicar of Prescot, but Sir W. Norris and Sir P. Leigh were not present this time. He was again examined as to the Eucharist, having a long private discussion with the vicar; and as his answer seemed to shew a disposition to accept the established doctrine, he was dismissed, and was now allowed a fire and more liberty. [The vicar of Prescot was Hugh Brassey, a Cheshire man; he was no doubt brought in as a man of learning who would have weight with Marsh. He was made Provost of King's College, Cambridge, in 1556; dying in 1558, he was buried in the chapel there.]

March 20 (Tuesday). Marsh had been much troubled in conscience at his weakness in appearing to agree with the vicar of Prescott, and when again summoned to confer with him and Parson Gerard he expressed himself more resolutely, 'not consenting to them.'

March 22 (Shere Thursday). Master More brought him the articles which Dr. Crome had agreed to in the time of Henry VIII., but he said he could in no wise consent and subscribe to them. A little while after the vicar and parson again sent for him, and required him to agree to four articles they had drawn up, intimating that he would be sent off to prison if he refused. As might be expected, his response was the reverse of satisfactory. The two argued with him for a long time, counselling him 'to do and believe as the Catholic Church did;' but all was useless, and he was put under guard again. [Crome's recantation of 1530 was printed by the bishops; he was often in the like trouble, being at this very time in prison, but saved himself as before.]

March 26, 27 (Easter holidays). Master More and Master Sherburn tried what they could do with him, 'saying all the bringers up and favourers of that religion had evil luck,' and so on; 'as for the Scriptures, Master Sherburn confessed himself ignorant.' Marsh, however, was proof against arguments of that kind. The two were evidently much interested in him, Sherburn saying it was a great pity that a well-favoured young man, who might do some good in the world, should cast himself away for such foolish opinions. After this More brought him 'a book of one Alphonsus, a Spanish friar,' against heresies; but Marsh, finding it full of vehement writing against Luther and other of his favourites, seems to have troubled himself little with studying its arguments. More was greatly chagrined at finding his well-meant efforts of so little avail, and finally told Marsh plainly that 'he was unlearned and stubborn, standing altogether in his own conceit,' and, taking his book, he departed. [From a note further on in the volume (vii., 179), it appears the book was the 'Adversus Omnes Hæreses' of Alphonsus a Castro, a Spanish Franciscan (1st edition, Paris, 1534). The author afterwards came to England with Philip II. as confessor, and he had a discussion with John Bradford in prison.]

April 1 (Low Sunday). 'After dinner' he was delivered to two young men to be taken to Lancaster, a great company of servants and

others going with them as far as Richard Atherton's, beseeching him to alter his doctrines. They had 'dinner' by the way, and at night lodged at Broughton, about two miles north of Preston. [Can this Richard 'Adderton' be identified?]

(To be continued.)

NOTES.

[413] THE PLACE NAME GREASBY.

(See No. 299).

Touching the interesting note on Greasby, I may add here that few things are so well known as that a Borough-reeve, or Mayor, was in most of the old boroughs called a bailiff (probably, originally, from being bailiff or steward of the lord paramount, or perhaps the mesne lord, who gave the borough its Charter. And I suspect the title of 'Mayor' originally belonged only to cities).

The title of Bailiff, however, was used, as most readers know, to indicate the holders of a variety of other offices, and meant 'manager' or 'governor.' The Shire-reeve (Sheriff) was the Vice-Count (vicount) of the Count (Earl) of the county—as may be seen in numerous very ancient Charters of importance, to which he was witness—long before merely titular Earls were dreamt of, and when the Earl's or Count's title came from his office of governor, or prince, of a whole shire—such as the Earl of Montgomery, who held Montgomeryshire, and I think was also Palatine Count of Shropshire.

Nigel, baron of Halton, was—as a fact—of one of the very greatest families of Normandy, and Hugh Lupus, his suzerain lord, was of no greater, if so great? The head of Nigel's family at the battle of Val-ès-dunes (1047) was Neal (Nigel) Viscount of the Cotentin—the very kernal of Norman nationality. In this battle quite half, or more of the Baronage of Normandy opposed William the Conqueror's accession as Duke to the all but Royal Dais, or Duchy Throne, of Normandy. William, and his adherents, were aided by his paramount lord, the King of France, and the Baronage were defeated. But the Viscount of the Cotentin fought on; and it is recorded that 'it would have gone hard with William had not the King of France come to his assistance.' Neal, therefore, fell into 'disgrace' with Duke William, until about the time of the conquest of England, when the Conqueror knew too well his value, personally, as well as by the attachment to

him of the Cotentise, not to ultimately pardon him. Nigel of Halton is supposed to have been son of Ivo Viscount of the Cotentin (perhaps the immediate successor of the first-named Nigel or Neal); and it is all but quite certain that the 1st. baron of Stockport, and Dutton, Hatton, and two other lords, were 'Nigel's bretheren.' They all came over together, at the Conquest. But this is all old History.

Lupus's successor, Randle I., as 'Count of Chestre' Palatinate, held a great Barony in Normandy, and he and his descendant Earls-Palatine being thus interested personally in that great Duchy, for perhaps a century after, doubtless many Anglo-Normans of Cheshire would be found in the retinues of the Knights of the Palatine, again and again battling on the soil of Normandy.

Dunning, lord or thane of the Fee of Kingsley was probably enough identical with Dunning of Greasby and Dunning of Storeton. Indeed Mr. Ormerod makes him out as also the same with Dunning, thane of a manor in West-Derby or Preston Hundred—I think near Ormskirk, speaking off the book. T. H.

QUERY.

[414] REV. LEWIS SABRAN, S.J.

There lies before me a sermon 'preached before the King at Chester on August xxviii., 1687. . . . by the Reverend Father, Lewis Sabran, of the Society of Jesus.' It was printed in London 'by Henry Hills, Printer to the King's Most Excellent Majesty, for his Household and Chappel; and are to be sold at his Printing House on the Ditch side in BLACK FRYERS. 1687.'

Can any of your readers explain the circumstances under which this sermon was delivered, and give particulars of the preacher?

A. C. P.

[415] MARRIAGE REGISTERS OF ST. OSWALD'S, CHESTER.

1655 (*Continued*).

Daniel Fazackerlay of Trafford, yeoman, and Marie Penketh, of Stanney, spinster.

Witnesses: John Kelsall Thomas Owen Oct. 23

John Burokenhed of Weston, yeoman, and Elizabeth Cawley, of Kelsall, spinster.

Witnesses: John Cawley and John Burokenhed Nov. 17

William Done of Coddington, yeoman, and Elizabeth Blakemore of Over, spinster.

Witnesses: John Done and Randle Blakemore Dec. 1

Thomas Rutter of Moson (Moston), husbandman, and Anne Broke of Stannay, spinster.

Witnesses: Richard Radley and Anne Ashbroke Dec. 29

Robert Chantrell of Knocktorum, Gent., and Marie Probin of Wich-banke, spinster.

Witnesses: John Probin and John Chantrell Jan. 22

Marke Lloyd of Handley, husbandman, and Dorothe Hanson, spinster.

Witnesses: Thomas Catherall and William Bennet. Feb. 6

Edward Fisher of Middlewich, waller, and Katherine Jackson, of this citty, spinster.

Witnesses: Thomas Coulthurst and Raph Pearson. Feb. 9

John Jackson of Haulton, weaver, and Katherine Bann, of the same, spinster.

Witnesses: Robert Hignett and Alexander Hind. Feb. 9

Richard Poulson of Stoke, co. Stafford, carrier, and Alice Walker, of this citty, spinster.

Witnesses: Thomas Coulthurst and Edward Fisher. Feb. 14

Thomas Sproston of Middlewich, tayler, and Ellen Birkett of this citty.

Witnesses: Thomas Coulthurst and Edward Fisher. Feb. 14

Thomas Besticke of Kinderton, bladesmith, and Sarah Gorse of Middlewich spinster.

Witnesses: Thomas Coulthurst and Edward Fisher. Feb. 14

William Morris of Picton, husbandman, and Elizabeth Bostooke of the same, spinster.

Witnesses: Daniel Bavand, Gent., and Will. Norburie. Mar. 15

MAY 3, 1899.

REPLY.

[416] THE STORY OF GEORGE MARSH.

(Continued from No. 412.)

April 2 (Monday). They come to Lancaster.

April 3 (Tuesday). Marsh is delivered to the gaoler, who brought him to 'the highest prison,' where he remained.

From this time the exact dates are wanting. Marsh explains that he wrote the account, of which the foregoing is a summary, because he heard that all sorts of rumours had got abroad as to his behaviour at Lathom, and he wished his friends

to know the truth. At Lancaster he seems to have had a good deal of liberty, for Foxe prints a number of letters he wrote from prison, and there are also some fragments about his later experiences. He had, moreover, the company of a fellow prisoner of similar religious opinions, a man named Warburton. [This is a Cheshire surname. Is anything further known of him?] A great number of visitors also came to see him, priests and laymen; among others the school-master of Lancaster, Master Westby, Master Ashton, of Hill [qy., Ashawe of the Hill, in Heath Charnock], and Master Ashton, of Chadderton. The letters he wrote are:—

- (1) To the professors at Langton. An exhortation to be steadfast. Dated [Lancaster] June 28, [1554].
- (2) To friends at Manchester. Mentions 'me and John Bradford your countryman.' Dated Lancaster, 30 August, 1554.
- (3) To Jenkin Crompton, James Lever, Elice Fogge, Ralph Bradshaw, and Elice Crompton. From Lancaster.
- (4) To certain brethren in the congregation [? Cambridge]. Mentions the 'plenteous preaching unto you these years past by Lever, Pilkington, Bradford, Saunders, and others like.' No date.
- (5) To Robert Langley and others. Thanks them for visiting him in prison, and promises the report of his examination; 'this ye shall receive by my brother or some one of the Bradshaws of Bolton within this seven night; willing you to show the same to such faithful men about Manchester or elsewhere, . . . and then to deliver it again.' No date. [The last words lead us to suppose that the brother would get Marsh's account back again; through him therefore it would reach Foxe.]
- (6) To a godly friend (unknown to him personally). No date.

There are added Marsh's daily prayer, and a letter to him when in prison from one James Bradshaw. [See Bradford's Letters (Parker Soc. ed.) p. 236.]

Marsh adds a brief account of his trial at the sessions at Lancaster, before the Earl of Derby and other justices. He was 'thrice arraigned at the bar among the thieves, with irons on his feet, and put up his hands as others did;' and afterwards was examined privately, the magistrates evidently thinking he had been concerned in some seditious doings. However, when they found that heresy alone could be charged against him they sent him back to prison to

await trial before a competent court. The date of the sessions is not given, perhaps it was June or July.

(To be continued.)

ORIGINAL DOCUMENTS.

[417] EARLY NONCONFORMITY IN CHESHIRE.

I am indebted to Mr. J. Paul Rylands, F.S.A., for the following copy of a letter written by the members of the Baptist Chapel at Hill Cliffe, near Appleton, in Great Budworth Parish, to the members of the Baptist Chapel at Warford, in Alderley Parish, bearing date July 31, 1757. Mr. Rylands also sends some interesting extracts from the Hill Cliffe Chapel accounts, beginning in 1704.

According to an account printed in Urwick's '*Nonconformity in Cheshire*,' from the pen of the Rev. Joseph Pywell, of Stockport, Hill Cliffe Chapel can boast of a respectable antiquity. But as Mr. Pywell seems to base his belief in the early founding of the cause on the existence of gravestones in the Chapel-yard dated 1523, we may accept his conclusions with caution. It is hardly necessary to say that gravestones in the open air bearing such a date would indeed be curiosities. There seems to be no doubt, however, that a Baptist cause existed at Hill Cliffe in the 17th century, and as it was the mother chapel from which many others sprang, notably in Liverpool, any facts connected with its history are of interest.

Warford Chapel was also one of the early Baptist Chapels in Cheshire, arising soon after the passing of the Act of Uniformity in 1662, though tradition alleges that it was founded originally by some Cromwellian soldiers some years earlier. The John Rylance who signs the letter from Hill Cliffe was possibly the same as the John Rylance who in 1712 granted a lease of land to the Warford Chapel at a merely nominal rent. The Chapel at Hill Cliffe always seems to have taken the liveliest interest in the doings of members of Warford.

The most interesting name in the Account Book is that of Doctor Fabius (or Febyus as it is there spelt). According to Dr. Halley (*Lancashire Nonconformity*, Vol. ii. p. 326) he was the founder of the Baptist cause in Liverpool, his house being licensed July 25, 1700, as a meeting place for Baptists. Reference occurs also to a Mr. Turner. This may have been Mr. Francis Turner, who was some time minister at Hill Cliffe. His son, Mr. John Turner was

Minister at Warford in 1730, in which year he moved to the Liverpool Chapel. According to Dr. Halley he was an apothecary, and was sometimes called from his pulpit to attend his patients, when he left his people to sing and pray until his return. Dr. Halley adds that an old authority among the Baptists states that 'the only certain way to be used to sing the praise of the Lord is this—that such persons as God hath gifted to sing His mighty acts should have their liberty and convenient opportunity to celebrate the high praise of God *one by one*.' If any man 'had a psalm,' he was to have liberty to sing it, and the others were 'to wait on his gifts,' that to be quiet until he had done. This custom would seem to be very useful in such emergencies as are referred to above.—Yours, &c.,

Birkenhead. WM. FERGUSON IRVINE.

Copy of a letter lent to me 28rd May, 1878, by Mr. James Kenworthy, son of Mr. Abraham Kenworthy.—J.P.R.

We, the Church of Christ Meeting at hill Clift to the Church of our Dear Lord Meeting at Warford send Greeting

Brethran and Sisters

Dearly Beloved we Desire to praise the Great three one for his Great Love and grace and mercy to you Maneyfast in plucking you as Brands Out of the fire and Building you Up into a Spiritual house an holy preest-hood to Ofer up Spiritual Sacrifices Exceptable to God By Jesus Christ.

Our harts Desire and prayer to god for you is that your souls May Be Enriched your hands Enlarged with a Continual flow from the grace fullness that is in our all glorious head the Lord Jesus Christ that you may shew your Love to Jesus Christ By a strict adherence to the pure Doctrines of the Eaverlasting Gospell and by keeping Close to his holy ordainances and By keeping his Comandments: that it may allways appear in all your Conversation that the Grace of God has Realy Braught Salvation to your souls teaching you Efectually to deny all ungodly doctrines: and all ungodly praackties teaching you to Live as Becomes the Redeemd of the Loard: Denieing all worldly Lust Living Soberly Righteously and Godly in this present world. We pray that Our God Wold multiply you Laying Living Stones in the Building &c: and influence you to keep the unity of the spiritt in the Bond of peace: and Cause you to Drink Edeaf of those present Streams that flows from his Eaverlasting Love that makes glad the Sity of God.

Dear Brethren: Where as our Dear Broother John Taylor your minester and our Dere sister haneh Wood: are both in full Comunion

with Us: have desired thire Dismiton from us to you we Readily grant it and therefore Do hereby give them thire full Dismiton from us and reecomend them to you in the Lord we that the may Be Usefull and great Comforts to you in thire places. and we pray for the prosperity of Zion and the Desire a I have in your prayrs Breathren fare well Send By us att our meeting at hill Clift July 31, 1757.

(Signed) pastor Thos. Wainwright.
 Realm Eldr* Saml Dudlow.
 Decon Thos Dunbabin.
 John Bylance.
 William Rowlinson.
 Thos. Wainwright.

(Endorsed) To John Taylor
 the Church of Christ & Hana Woods
 Meeting at Warford. Dismission from
 Church att hill
 To Warford
 Corch.

(To be continued.)

NOTE.

[418] DR. WYTHINES, DEAN OF BATTLE.

The inscription on the brass of John Wythines, D.D., of Brasenose College, Oxford, 42 years Dean of Battle, in Sussex, states that he was born at Chester; he died May 18, 1615, aged 84. See Grose's 'Antiquities,' vol. i. plate 9; and for his character, Lans. MS., lxxxii., 49, and Horsfield's Sussex, i., 582. He had to provide in 1612 a 'musket and corslet furnished' for the coast defences. The arms on the brass are: Gules, a chevron counter-embattled Ermine, between three martlets Or. Crest: On a ducal coronet Gules, a talbot sejant Ermine, collared and lined, Or holding out the line with his dexter foot. Dean Wythines's daughter gave to the church the silver flagon and one of the patens now (1866) used for administering the Holy Sacrament. (See Haines's 'Brasses' and Walcott's 'Battle Abbey'.)

[419] MARRIAGE REGISTERS OF ST. OSWALD'S, CHESTER.

1656.

Ralph Bushill of this Cittie husbandman and Anne Price of the same widdow.

Witnesses: John Rowland and Eliz. Pecaroe.

Mar. 28

William Selsby of this Cittie butcher and Elizabeth Sanders of the same spinster before Mr. John Johnson.

* All very fair signatures—the letter and the words 'pastor,' 'Realm Eldr,' and 'Decon' in another hand; they are not well written.

Witnesses: Mr. Richard Townsend and Edward Burroughes. Aug. 11

Phillip Raphe husbandman and Jane Arrow-smith widdow both of the p'ish of Oswalds.

Witnesses: William Fletcher and Peter Stringer. Aug. 18

Garvais Squire of Londonderry Merchant and Dorothy Richardson spinster before William Bennet.

Witnesses: William Grice and Daniel Cross Oct 23

George Cottrell of this pariah yeoman and Elizabeth Leivealey (?) of the same, spinster . . before Robert Harvey . . .

Witnesses: George Fryer and Wm. Haslow Oct 25

Samuell Smallwood, of this cittie, gentleman and Mary Cottingham of Dunham spinster . . . by William Wright . . .

Witnesses: Richard Minshall, Alderman, and Peter Pinder gent. Dec. 22

MEMORANDUM: That Peter Stringer, Parish Clarke of Oswald's Church in the Cittie of Chester having been elected for Parish Register by the Parishioners of Oswalds aforesaid according to an Act of Parliament in that behalfe provided: I William Ince Alderman and Justice of peace within the same cittie have this nineteenth day of July in the year 1656 approved of the said Election, and have Ministred to the said Peter Stringer a corporall oath to observe and performe such things as are appointed and required to be done by a Parish Register in the said Act entitled 'An Act touching Marriages and the Regestring thereof, as alsoe touching Births and Buralls.' In witness whereof I have hereunto subscribed my name

WILLIAM INCE

Hugh Hotchekin of Saughton yeoman and Anne Maning of Cheavely spinster

Witnesses: John Hooskin and Rich. Maddocks. Feb. 2

An intention of marriage betweene John Taylor, yeoman, and Margaret Fleming, widdow, both of Preston upon the hill, hath bin 3 severall market dayes published according to the Act of Parliam., and no objection to the contrary Feb. 6

An intention of marriage betweene John Seddon of Limme, yeoman, and Elizabeth Okell, of Preston upon the Hill, spinster, hath bin 3 severall market dayes published according to the Act of Parliamt., and no objection to the contrary. Feb. 6

Thomas Robinson of Michells p'ish and Lidiah Critchley of the Abbey Court spinster . . . before Mr. Edward Bradshaw

Witnesses: John Ratcliffe Esq and Tymothy Davies March 16

MAY 10, 1899.

REPLY.

[420] THE STORY OF GEORGE MARSH.
(Continued from No. 416.)

III.

Meantime the old Bishop of Chester had been deposed, as a married man, and a new one (Cotes) consecrated; and he now began a visitation of his large diocese, starting at Chester on June 11 (*Sheaf* for 1896, p. 2). It would, of course, be some considerable time before he reached Lancaster, and found Marsh waiting for trial. However, he refused at that time to see the prisoner, merely ordering the gaoler to keep him more strictly. The reason for this injunction will be found in Marsh's statement that he and his fellow-prisoner prayed and read so loud that people in the streets could and did hear them; the nature of these outpourings may be guessed from Marsh's opinions, the Litany, for example, which was a regular part of their prayers, contained the petition—'From the Bishop of Rome and all his detestable enormities, good Lord deliver us.' It is little wonder, then, that Bishop Cotes thought the gaoler too lax. Marsh, indeed, expected nothing better from bishops; 'it is no new thing,' he says, 'for them to persecute the truth and the prophets of the Lord,' mentioning by way of example 'Bishops' Pashur and Jason in the Old Testament, and Annas and Caiaphas in the New.

Parliament met in November, and on the 30th the kingdom was formally absolved and reconciled by Cardinal Pole, who a week later received the bishops at Lambeth (December 6), and similarly absolved them. Parliament was dissolved on January 16, and soon afterwards the bishops generally began to try the prisoners charged with heresy. We are told that Marsh was kept 'in strait prison in Chester, within the precinct of the Bishop's house about the space of four months,' the porter being charged to keep strict account of those who came to visit him. He must therefore have been removed from Lancaster to Chester in December, or even earlier. His account of his early examinations at Chester is given by Foxe, but only in a condensed form. The bishop himself argued with him privately at great length, and at various times there came to him 'one Massie, a fatherly old man; one Wrench, the schoolmaster; one Hensham [qy. Henshaw], the bishop's chaplain, and the archdeacon, with many more,' all endeavouring, but fruitlessly, to convince him that he was wrong.

The bishop, finding all his efforts vain, at last had Marsh brought before him formally, in the Lady Chapel of the Cathedral, at two o'clock in the afternoon (the day is not given, probably it would be in March). Besides the bishop there were present Fulk Dutton, the mayor; Dr. Wall, one of the prebendaries, and other priests, near the bishop, but somewhat lower; directly opposite being George Wilmslow, the chancellor, and John Chetham, registrar. [The last-named seems unknown otherwise; he would be but a deputy or acting registrar, according to the list in Ormerod; a John Chetham, of Nuthurst (1522-73), occurs in the Chetham pedigree (Croston's Baines, ii.), and 'Sir John Chetham, clerk,' is mentioned in a contemporary will (Piacope ii., 171).] Marsh was sworn and had to answer 'yes or nay,' to a long series of articles read by the chancellor; his replies were duly recorded by the registrar, but Foxe adds that they 'cannot at this present be gotten.' Thus the official record of the trial disappeared very quickly. The court did not allow the accused to argue with it, and all he could do was to 'maintain the truth' touching the same articles, "as (he said) all you now present did acknowledge the same in the time of the late King Edward VI." [This counter-charge of inconsistency was a common one at the time. Marsh had before tried it with the Earl of Derby at Lancaster, but the latter very temperately replied that "he, with the Lord Windsor and the Lord Dacres and another, did not consent to those acts (of Edward's Council concerning religion), and that the Nay of them four would be able to be seen, so long as the Parliament House stood." One writer says that this Lord Derby changed his religion with the times; another that he was always constant to the old religion, and lost the favour of Queen Elizabeth in consequence. But if he could clear himself, Bishop Cotes could not; as Master of Balliol he must not only have conformed himself, but have seen that the recent changes were carried out in his college.]

About three weeks afterwards Marsh was brought up for sentence, under a guard of armed men. The place and persons were as before. The Chancellor first made a speech, setting out the Bishop's care of his flock, and then the accused man was called upon to recant his errors before sentence was pronounced. Some small argument followed, but Marsh expressed his firm adherence to what was 'by law established and taught' in the late reign. 'Here the Chancellor spoke to one Leach, which stood

near to Marsh, and bade him stand further from him, for his presence did him no good.' Then the Bishop took the written sentence of condemnation from his bosom and began to read it. By and bye the Chancellor stopped him, "If ye proceed any further it will be too late to call it again." So the bishop stopped; and the priests in the court and many of the people called on Marsh to recant, with many earnest words, one Pulleyn, a shoemaker, being prominent; they bade him kneel down and pray, and they would pray for him, and so it was done. The bishop again asked him if he would not have 'the queen's mercy' in time, but his conscience did not allow him; and so 'the bishop put his spectacles again upon his nose,' and resumed reading of the sentence, till a few lines further the chancellor again intervened, and the bishop taking off his spectacles once more, asked the prisoner if he would recant. The former scene of entreaties from the bystanders was renewed, but to no purpose, and the bishop read his sentence to the end, and delivered Marsh to the 'secular arm.' The city Sheriffs (Amery and Cooper), with their men, then led him away to the prison in the Northgate, 'where he was very straitly kept until the time he went to his death.'

Left alone in his dark cell, where no one ventured to visit him openly, Marsh must have had a severe struggle to preserve his courage. There were a few Protestants in the city, and occasionally, after dark, one or two would venture to speak to him from the city wall, there being a small opening in the prison wall on that side. 'Once or twice he had money cast him in at the same hole, about 10d. at one time and 2s. at another,' which he used for his daily wants.

At last, on April 24, 1555 (the Wednesday after Low Sunday), the Sheriffs, 'with their officers and a great number of poor simple barbers with rusty bills and poleaxes,' took him, 'with a lock upon his feet,' from his cell to the place of execution at Spittle-Boughton, outside the city. An interesting 'custom of the city' is recorded—that a felon on the way to execution was in the habit of holding out a bag in which charitable people put alms, so that Maases might be said for him. Marsh, of course, refused such offerings; 'he went all the way with his book in his hand, looking upon the same.' Arriving at the stake, 'one Vawdrey, then deputy chamberlain of Chester, shewed him a writing under a great seal, saying

that it was a pardon for him if he would recant.' Steadfastly refusing this, he was about to speak to the people, when one of the sheriffs stopped him with "George Marsh, we must have no sermonising now." And so the burning began, the unskilfulness of the executioners adding to the torture, and delaying the death of the only Protestant executed at Chester. Whatever may have been his defects or errors, he at least met a cruel fate with wonderful courage.

[It is stated that Sheriff Cooper (or Cowper), supported by some of the spectators, tried to effect a rescue by force, but was successfully prevented by the other sheriff; a result being that Cooper had to flee into Wales, hiding there till Elizabeth's accession. This is related by Hemingway, on the authority of Dr. Cowper, and as a family tradition may be accepted as not altogether baseless; on the other hand, when so good an observer as Foxe's informant says nothing of it, we may conclude that the incident was exaggerated in course of time.]

(To be continued.)

ORIGINAL DOCUMENTS.

[421] EARLY NONCONFORMITY IN CHESHIRE.

(Continued from No. 417.)

Mr. Kenworthy has in his possession an old account book of the chapel accounts, beginning 1704, January 1st. Some of the names &c. in it are—

	£	s	d.
1704 Received of Sister Heys that was left att Bror. Heys Death	2	7	1
and 12s. 6d. that was left by bror. Pycroft	12	6	
1704 feb. ye 10. Received of Sister Berkinhed for yeare 1704 ...	1	16	0
„ „ 18 Received from Sister Nickson	2	0	
1706 May ye 6. Received from Sistr. Hide from bror. David Jones..	1	3	
Received from ye quarters at the generall meeting July the 1, 1705	£5	8	0
Received from our quarter at Warrington	3	15	0
19th of xbr. Received from Liverpoole qrtter	1	15	0
from Chester and Bickerton	2	0	0
from Namptwich	2	0	0
from Newton	9	0	
Received from our quarter when Mr. Hall Tho: Hammaway a S (P) Jeenit Rylands has pd	4	3	0
Agred. with Mr. Hays our Pastor that is to live in ye House allowing Thirty shillings a year towards paying him 7 pounds with Interest being so much out of Pockitt which he hath laid out in			

building of ye new house at Hill Clift. Signed by ye Church May ye 18, 1737, and to commence ffrom Lady-day last past.

1706. October ye 8. Reced from our £ s. d.
freinds the q'rterly contribution 4 0 0
Reced more
wh I pd. 2s. to bros. Penlington and } 0 4 0
to Ralph Smith 2s.}

1706. Brothers Barlow, Shaw, Parsons, Hale, Jones, and Holland mentioned. Brothers Ellam, Coppock, Turner, Whitle, Cork, Eaton, Seddon, Preston. 1707. Bros. Samuel Coppock, Hall, Dunbabin, Urnston, Penlington, &c.

1704. Pd for this books 8d.

1708. given to Doctor ffeyus for a poore man } 4s
that came frome Ireland..... }
a horse to Liverpoole for bro. Junnor (sic.) 2s.
more to Doot. ffeyus for ye man at Liver- } 5s
poole..... }
pd to Mary Dunbabin for washing the } 6d
baptising garments..... }
a horse to Liverpoole for bro. Junnor (or
Turnor) 2s. payments for hampstoe to ye hill
4d. to Liverpoole 3s. to Namptwich 3s. 4d.
to Chester & Bickerton 2s. 6d.

1708. Dec. 21. pd Tho. Chadock (called Chadwick elsewhere) for his horse 6 times to the hill 3s.

1708. Dec. Contributions recd. B. Rowland Hall. 5s. Sistr. Heys, 1s. 3d. Mr. Leigh 1s. sistr. Hide 2s. 6d.

of Bror. Cheetem towards ye funeral expences of bror. Taylors wife 3s. 0d.
of sistr. Paneson 1s. of sistr. Holland 2s.

1709. Mentions of B. Davenport, B. Penlington, B. Easton, B. Turnor.

pd. to Jon. Summerford for Repairing the windowes, 5s.

Mentions of B. Henchall, sistr. Hide, bro. Rylands, sistr. Johnson, B. Man, B. Simpson

1710. Mentions of B. Estom, B. Cliffe, B. Taylor, B. Davenport, B. Halle. Payments for horses, &c.

1713. Mentions of Bro. Turnor, Jon. Henchall, Eleanor Coppack.

1715. July 7. pd. for grass for Mr. Dewhurst horse whilst here, 2s.

pd. for repairing the meeting house windowes 4s.

Aug. 1. pd. given Mr. Dewhurst, 9s.

Oct. 15. pd. for binding ye Concordance 8d.

Nov. 22. pd. for changing ye old cups for new ones, 4s. 2d.

Mentions of names wh. have occurred before, and Samuel Dudlow, James Platt, B. Seacome

(To be continued.)

[422] MARRIAGE REGISTERS OF ST. OSWALD'S PARISH, 1657.

John Wilson of Backford, clerok, and Elizabeth Clearke, of Tarvin, spinster May 8

James Woodfeine, of this parish, and Katherine Jeffreys, of Trinity p'ish ... by Richard Leicester

Witnesses : John Woodfine and Matthew Small-wood April 17

John Hurlston, of this p'ish, Esq., and Mrs. Mary Leigh, of Trinity p'ish spinster ... by William Crompton

Witnesses : Mr. Dan : Bavand and Mr. Reddish May 27

John Wyn, of the p'ish of St. Dunstan's in the West, Esq., and Mrs. Jane Eaton, of this p'ish, gent.

Witnesses : Kenrick Eaton, Esq., and Mutton Davies, Esq. Sept. 24

John Barnston gent and Alis Trafford spinst. both of Churton . . . by Richard Leicester.

Witnesses : John Stringer gent, Richard Massey gent, William Pallin Oct. 6

John Booth of this p'ish Esqr. and Anne Rigby of Trinity p'ish widow.

Witnesses : Robert Werden Esq., John Hurlston gent, Dan. Bavand gent Oct 15

Thomas Trollock of this p'ish weaver and Anne Tomlinson of Trinity p'ish spinster

Witnesses : Richard Cooke and Tho: Willowby Feb. 23

MAY 17, 1899.

REPLY.

[423] THE STORY OF GEORGE MARSH.

(Continued from No. 430.)

IV.

Having thus told the story of George Marsh in outline, from Foxe's records, it only remains to say something about the conduct of Bishop Cotes. In recent years we have had judges violently attacked on account of the condemnation of some accused person, whose cause had, for one reason or another, attracted public sympathy ; so that we need not wonder that the admirer of Marsh, who is our informant, should have conceived a very bitter dislike to the bishop who tried and condemned him. Those who read the story unprejudiced will perhaps not see anything to condemn in his conduct. He did not go in search of heretics, with a great zeal to burn as many as he could ; quite the reverse, for no one but Marsh seems to have suffered, and Marsh was arrested weeks before Cotes was consecrated, and, once accused of heresy, had to be tried in the regular way. If he persisted in his 'heresy' there could be but one result—death at the stake ; the only way to save him, therefore, was to induce him to recant, and this Bishop Cotes did, as will have been seen, by every means in his power. By his own personal argument and persuasion, by the entreaties and reasonings of others of

all degrees, priests and laymen, even by severe confinement, the Bishop—as the Earl of Derby before him—tried to induce his prisoner to recant. The last scene, when he twice so readily broke off the reading of the sentence, shews how gladly he would have welcomed the least sign of relenting. Even his 'dogged saying' at the conclusion "Now will I no more pray for thee than I will for a dog," supposing, for the sake of argument, that it is correctly reported, appears to be nothing but a final but ineffectual effort to make Marsh able to see himself as others saw him. In fact, there is nothing in the case to make one question the character given him in Bliss' additions to Woods's 'Athenæ' (ii., 763):—"By what I can discover, he was a good man and a most learned divine." The report of his sermon in the cathedral, wherein he 'affirmed that the said Marsh was a heretic, burned like a heretic, and was a firebrand in hell,' is probably a gross misrepresentation. The narrator does not profess to have been present.

This last remark equally applies to the somewhat disgusting story with which Foxe concludes. The first (English) edition (1563-4) of the 'Acts and Monuments' gave this story more at length, but with 'many indelicate and coarse expressions,' so that Mr. Cattley would not reproduce it. It is to the effect that on the bishop's death (in December, 1555) a rumour got abroad that his body shewed traces of some venereal disease, the actual cause of death. In its way even this affords testimony to the outward decorum of the bishop's life, for it is represented as having been a very great surprise to his more intimate friends. These among them being 'certain aldermen' and one Brassy the coroner, 'no heretic by the Romish profession,' thought they would be able to stop the scandal by an autopsy, but—rumour again—what they saw effectually silenced them ; they went away convinced that the report 'was not raised up altogether upon nought among the people.' Is anything really known as to the bishop's ending ? The exact day of his death seems unknown, and he is said to have been 'obscurely buried' somewhere in the choir of the Cathedral. Are these circumstances to be taken as marks of disgrace, or is there some other explanation ? Foxe, to give him due credit, seems ashamed of the story ; to him Cotes was probably a familiar figure, having taken his B.A. degree at Oxford in 1522, and spent most of his life there, while Foxe entered Brasenose in 1532, and became fellow of Mag-

dalen in 1543, Cotes having formerly been a fellow of the same college. J. B.

1. As to Marsh's alleged degree at Cambridge, Mr. J. W. Clark, University Registrar, in answer to an inquiry, very kindly says that he knows no reason for identifying the Marsh who became M.A. in 1542 with George Marsh of Dean; no Christian name is given in the official records, and the surname is a common one. It may therefore be taken for granted that the 'M.A.' of the inscription on the Chester statue is erroneous.

2. Judging from the quotation given, the photograph described in the *Courant* of April 12 is that of a page of Foxe's 'Acts and Monuments'—better known as 'Foxe's Martyrs.' If so, the date given (1557) must be wrong, as the first English edition of it was not printed till 1564. It should be clearly borne in mind that what is desirable is not a mere reproduction of Foxe's narrative, but some independent corroboration of it.

3. Jeffrey Hurst, of Shakerley, married a sister of Marsh's. He died early in Elizabeth's reign; his life is said to have been shortened by his grief at seeing how opposed the Lancashire people were to the restoration of Protestantism.

4. Lord Derby's movements in 1554 seem to have been as follows:—In London till January 21, 1553-4; (Wyatt's rising, Jan. 26—Feb. 7;) then apparently in Lancashire raising 500 men for the Queen's service (Feb. 12), which were, however, soon found to be unnecessary (Feb. 24). He may have paid a visit to London before ordering Marsh's arrest (March 10). He was again in London on April 9 (Parliament and Privy Council), remaining there apparently till the end of May, though Parliament was dissolved on the 5th. He was there once again at the beginning of July, and seems to have attended the Queen and Court till towards the end of August; (Mary was married to Philip at Winchester, July 25), he does not again appear in London till Nov. 17, for the Parliament which sat from Nov. 12 to Jan. 16, 1554-5. It thus appears that he sent Marsh to Lancaster for safe keeping just before he left Lathom to attend Parliament; and the sessions at which he presided must have been held in June, or else in September or October. If the latter, then Bishop Cotes's visit to Lancaster may have occurred before (not after) the sessions, and this would afford a simple explanation of the bishop's refusal to have any-

thing to do with Marsh at that time; for having been committed to the sessions the prisoner would have to be tried there before being surrendered to the bishop. The Earl's journey from Lathom to London would occupy about a week.

5. Bishop Cotes was consecrated at Southwark April 1, 1554; he immediately took his seat in the House of Lords, and was present at its meetings till May 5. He began the visitation of his diocese at Chester on June 11. This would be a troublesome work, occupying some time; but he was again in attendance at the meeting of Parliament in the winter (Nov. 21 to Jan. 15).

6. Roger Ward is mentioned in the will of Andrew Barton, of Smethills (Feb. 7, 1548-9), father of the Justice Barton to whom Marsh surrendered (Piccope ii, 100).

[424] EARLY NONCONFORMITY IN CHESHIRE.

(Continued from No. 421).

- 1715. Aug. 20. Received of friends and with wt I have given myself towards ye building ye stable 12s. 4d.
- 1716. xbr. 11. given Mr. Davenport by order of Mr. Hall and others when hee went for London, £1 0s. 0d.
- 1716. Jany. 22d. pd. for Repairing ye meeting house windowes, 1s. 6d.
June 9. given Mr. Ashworth, 5s.
- 1717. pd. for flaging meeting house, 2s. 6d.
- 1718. for 16 foot of boards for a doore for the stable, 1s. 6½d.
for 3 bars, nailes & making, 1s. 4d.
given ye Minister at Lerpoole, 7s. 6d.
given him, 2s. 6d.
for carrying ye stable doore to ye meeting house, 2d.
for bands and gudions & 2 stables [staples], 8d.
nailes for a window shutr., 3d.

Payments for bread & wine constantly occur throughout.

- 1720. Various repairs of the meeting house when July it seems to have been closed and a messenger and sent to Frandley to say there would not be any Aug. meeting. The windows again repaired, &c.
- 1721. Feb. 20. The chapel wall repaired, and the chapel yard wall.
- 1722. Sep. 5. The burial yard wall again repaired.
- 1723. Jany. 7. New window shutters, which cost 18s. 9d.
- 1723. Mar. 16. 23 slates for the meeting house, 2s.
- 1728. Mentions of Cosen Oulton, Tho. Higgenson, Brothers Rogers, Heys, Jon. Turnor, Elen Pickering, Richard Yeates, Hannah Heys, &c.

1731. A ballance in my hand £3 : 19 : 3½. As witness my hand this 26th of May 1733.

Samll Smith.

Reed. Sept ye 19. 1733 of Mr. Samll Smith the sum of 5li. due upon these Accounts by me

Tho. Dunbabin.

1733. Mentions of Bro. Roylance, Richd. Yeates Elen Pickring.

1736. 1737. The meeting house repaired again.

The last entry in the same handwriting is Aug. 19. 1737. The accounts that follow are in very bad handwriting. There are entries to 1775 and one page in 1833.

1799. April 6. *Burial*, Richard Barford aged 45 years.

See Douglas's Hist. of Baptist Churches in the North of England, under Hexham; also Stokes's Hist. of the Baptists.

Mr. Tillam (Mr. Kenworthy says) was minister at Hill Cliffe in 1648. He dates a letter, 'W'gton, June 26, 1654, and gives an account of his visit to the Coleman-street Chapel, London.' Anor. lre. dat., W'gton,* 4mo. 26day, 1654, is signed by

Will Booth	Thos. Follings
Peter Eaton	Thos. Holland
John Tomleson	Chas. Holland
Robt. Millington	Ric. Amery
John Sproson	

REPLY.

[425] JAMES II. AT CHESTER.

(See No. 414.)

The following notes may be of interest to 'A.C.P.' who asks about Fr. Sabran's sermon at Chester in 1687:—

King James left Windsor on August 16, and travelled via Portsmouth, Bath, Gloucester, Worcester, Ludlow, Shrewsbury, and Whitchurch, to Chester, where he arrived on Saturday, the 27th, about 4 p.m., lodging in the Palace with Bishop Cartwright, whose 'Diary' (Camden Society) gives the following account of the next day's proceedings:—

"August 28. I was at his Majesty's levee; from whence at nine o'clock I attended him into the choir, where he healed 350 persons. After which he went to his devotions in the Shire Hall, and Mr. Penn [William Penn, the Quaker, who accompanied the King] held forth

in the Tennis-court, and I preached in the Cathedral. His Majesty returned to dinner, on whom I attended, having introduced the Mayor and Recorder of Wigan, to whom he recommended their two former members, and also the Mayors of Preston and Lancaster. Then I dined with the Lord President, and went to evening prayers, as his Majesty did again to the Castle. After his Majesty was gone to bed I supped with my Lord Feversham [Louis Duras] in his chamber, having entertained Mr. Munsteven, Mr. Ware, and the Bishop of Man in the study."

Next morning the King rode off at 6.30 a.m. to Holywell, returning about 5; and on Tuesday morning, after hearing Mass in his presence chamber and healing 450 people in the Choir, he left Chester, expressing annoyance at the absence of a 'loyal address.' The following Saturday he reached Oxford.

In Brother H. Foley's 'Records of the English Province, S.J.', there are two accounts of Fr. Louis de Sabran (vol. v., pp. 291-5, and vii., p. 676); from which it appears he was a son of the Marquis de Sabran, of a great family in Provence, and French Ambassador in London in the reign of Charles I. (1644). His mother is said to have been an Englishwoman (Plowden), and he was born in Paris March 1, 1652; educated at St. Omer's; entered the Society of Jesus, 1670, and took 'the four vows' 1688. On the accession of James II. he was appointed a royal chaplain, and on the birth of 'the Old Pretender' became chaplain to the new Prince of Wales. His own story of his attempt to escape from England at the Revolution is printed; he succeeded, after an experience of mob violence at Rochester. He was Superior of the English Province from 1708 to 1712, when he was made rector of St. Omer's College. From this post he moved to the English College at Rome in 1715, and died on January 22, 1732, aged 80. He was accused of 'a design upon Douay College,' but solemnly denied the charge upon his deathbed. A list of seven short sermons or tracts is given, but, strange to say, the one described by 'A. C. P.' is not recorded, though No. 4 is 'Letter to a Peer of the Church of England, clearing a point touched in a sermon preached before the King at Chester, August 28, 1687,' 4to., 10 pp.

J. B.

* Another letter dated Warrington.

[426] MARRIAGE REGISTERS OF ST. OSWALD'S,
CHESTER.

1658.

Nathaniell Baanett of Peter's p'ish, Apothecary,
and Frances Richardson of this p'ish, Spinster.

Witnesses: Mr. John Anderson and his wife.

June 4.

Thomas Hoole of this parish, Yeoman, and
Elizabeth Tomlinson, of Eastham, widow.

Witnesses: Rich: Cooke and John Wilson.

June 7.

Wm. Grice and Margret Much of this p'ish

Dec. 28.

Samuell Dutton, yeoman, and Joane Yates,
widd., both of this p'ish

July 6.

Hugh Hutchinson of Minshall, yeoman, and
Anne Lightfoot, of Darnhall

Sept. 29, 1653.

Thomas Anyon, inholder, and Margaret Grice,
both of Chester.

Aug. 2.

MAY 24, 1899.

NOTES.

VARIA.

[427]

The *Maistersons* (No. 317), who were an old Saxon race, held no manorial estates, but were always of the 'brine town' of Nantwich, and ranking as esquires and gentlemen, like the *Wilbrahams* there, and the *Wettenhalls*, both of which were 'small' branches of knightly families. The *Maistersons* disappeared about a century ago, and the *Wilbrahams* also, to re-appear, however, in the younger line as Lords Skelmersdale and Earls of Lathom. The *Wettenhalls*, in the elder surviving line, re-appeared as Mainwarings of Peover. The head of the whole of the families of *Wilbraham*, including the one of Rode, is *Wilbraham* of Delamere. Of *Wettenhalls* there are still enough and to spare, of younger lines, chiefly in London. These are all very interesting houses, and none of them more so than that of *Maisterson*. The gentleman named in this letter was, like *Wettenhall*, either a Counsellor-at-law or an Attorney-at-law. For, about that period there might always be found a conveyancing barrister or two (such as *Leycester* of Toft in 1770) practising in the provinces—a fashion which originated quite two centuries since; the old honorarium of one guinea was a good one in those days, for an ordinary piece of business.

In this letter of 1708 also occurs the name of a well-known Cheshireman, Sir John Cheshire, Sergeant-at-law. He was, a little later on,

the King's or Queen's Attorney. He it was who established the Library at Halton, to which township, or Runcorn, his good old Yeoman ancestry belonged. He died a little too early, I think, for a peerage, unlike Kenyon of a little later fame or he might have gone to the Bench, like Yates, who was of a similar family to Cheshire's, in North Lancashire, and a contemporary of Kenyon's.

Sir John Parker, named in the same letter, the son of an attorney-at-law, of ancient official name and descent in Staffordshire, was also either the King's or Queen's attorney or solicitor. He was afterwards rather too well-known as about the last Bencher scapegoat of all those whose very ancient European and Eastern practices smelled far stronger of bribery, as judges, than even their bags smelled of books and briefs.

The Mr. Wells, of Sandbach, was a rather extensive purchaser, and got into some of the Butter estate at Kingsley.

Maddock Family of Farndon (No. 320.)

'David ap Madog,' whose son, Morgan, married Margaret, daughter of Geoffrey de Whitford, a 'Yeoman of the Crown,' was born in Wales, and was naturalised in 1461. Geoffrey's wife had lands in the Barony of Widnes (Widdens), co. Lanc. So had Richard Whitford, probably her brother, until his death in 1511. Geoffrey was also the escheator of the county of Anglesea in 1467. Whitford is a Flintshire territorial, as distinguished from a mere local name, near Holywell. (See *Meyrick's Visitation of Wales*, ii, 317.)

(No. 323.) Robert de Derby was no doubt of an early family of mesne lords of the Manor of West Derby, when the Lords Ferrars (?) were the lords paramount. William de Eccleston, another witness to this charter, was presumably of the house of Eccleston-juxta-Knowsley, which family last century took the name of the extinct family of Scarisbrick, of Scarisbrick, near Ormskirk, by the merger of the last representative of the latter in the former, through marriage. The last survivor male of this match was the late rather eccentric Charles Scarisbrick, well-known sixty or seventy years ago in London, of whom many stories were told in the society of those days. He was a somewhat furious Jehu with four, and sometimes six, horses in hand, between Scarisbrick and Liverpool. The sister of Mr. Scarisbrick married a French gentleman, and their son assumed the name of Scarisbrick, as heir to the estates.

X.

[428] JAMES II. AT CHESTER.

(See Nos. 414 and 425.)

The following extract from Bishop Cartwright's Diary seems to refer to Father de Sabran. The bishop frequently misspelt proper names. The italics are our own.

EDITORS.

25 August, 1687 [two days before the King's arrival at Chester], "Sir Richard Maleverer, Captain Bellingham, Mr. Fowles, Sir Richard Nangle, Attorney General, Sir — Rice, Chief Baron, *Mr. Sabrando*, dined and supped (with) me."

[429] MARRIAGE REGISTERS OF ST. OSWALD'S, CHESTER.

1659.

Dootr. Thomas Harrison and Mrs. Katherine Bradshaw Feb. 28

1660.

William Neilde, of Tarvin, and Elizabeth Cooke, of Horton (?) July 31

Robert Bastwell and Mary Walker Feb. 2

Edmund Grange, of Dublin, merchant, and Jane Panton, of Chester, spinster, by Wm. Clerck, clericus March 12

Alexander Elcock and Annie Winsoe March 13

1661.

John Fletcher and Anne Richardson April 15

Thomas King and Clare Poole May 6

Richard Eaton and Alsee Stubbs June 1

Joseph Siddall, of Mouldsworth, and Jane Hall Oct. 2

William Singleton, of Weston par. de Wibunburye and Mary Corne Oct. 10

John Neild, of Tarvin, and Mary Beckett Oct. 13

John Moore, of Eulowe, and Elizabeth Newman, Nov. 8

Joseph Glover and Hannah Gimbert Oct. 28

John Smith and Alice Dutton, both of Frodsham p'ish Nov. 14

Thomas Moores and Jane King Nov. 21

Joseph Davenport de Haulton and Jane Burohall Dec. 7

Wm. Godfrey and Alice Rutter []

MAY 31, 1899.

NOTES.

[430] A BREACH OF PROMISE CASE IN 1637.

(Continued from No. 267.)

The documents in this case are in a very imperfect and dilapidated condition, and it is consequently difficult to arrange them in their

proper order. We give here some of the allegations made by Richard Hockenhull in support of his marriage with Ann Spurstow.

He hath married the aforesaid Ann Spurstow als. Hockenhull before he was warned by any order of this Court to marry Ann Stanley. Therefore that he is not bound by law to marry any other, nor can this marriage with Ann Spurstow als. Hockenhull this wyse be dissolved for any pretended precontract whatsoever referring himself to law, *et ut supra*.

Item, that the said Ann Stanley doth know and hath heard before this suite began and doth beleve that David Jones, Clerke, Curate at the Chapple of Rostogough (?) did marrye him the said Richard Hockenhull and Ann Spurstow his now wyfe. And that so it is already adjudged by the judge of this Court . . . as may and doth appear by the Records of this Court. And she hath also heard that the said Davyd Jones was then when hee did so marry them and still is a Minister in Holy Orders, and so reputed and taken, and did and doth as a minister officiat the Cure at the Chapple aforesaid.

Here is another imperfect document, containing similar pleadings of Richard Hockenhull.

He says, first, that beinge free from all matrimonial contracte, he was for six or seaven yeares together . . . an earnest suitor unto Anne Spurstow als Hockenhull, and did often sollicit her to marry him. And after long continued affection and serious sollicitation still upon or aboute the sixt day of Februarie, 1637, he was sollemnely married unto her in the p'sence of severall credible honest witnesses by Mr David Jones, Clerke, Curate of the Chapple of Rologough (*sic*), and since then hath inhabited and lodged with her and hath begott one child upon her body . . . And the said Richard Hockenhull and Anne Spurstow als. Hockenhull are lawll. man and wife, and soe accounted, reputed, and taken. And ut credit the said Mrs. Anne Stanley hath heard and beleeves the p'misses to be true.

He hath beene sev'all years moved by the said Mrs. Anne Stanley and her brother and her freindes to marry her, and he did before them profess love unto her, but in regard his affections were formerly paid upon Anne Spurstoe als Hockenhull, his now wife and that he promised to marry her, he could not nor did he soe much affecte Mrs. Anne Stanley as to be contracted or married unto her. Saveinye he hath both given giftes and received giftes from her the said Anne Stanley, and both lodged with her and carnally knowne her.

He did often within the tyme mentioned . . . and before the sixt of Februaire 1637 many tymes acquaint and tell Mrs. Anne Stanley, and she did know that he was an earnest suitor and did purpose to marry Anne Spurstoe als Hockenhull, his now wife.

(To be continued.)

[431] THE HELSBYS AND QUAKERISM.

(See No. 354.)

There is no 'Joseph Helsby,' who, with his wife sailed in 1711 to America, in any of the family pedigrees. The only other Puritan names were Ebenezer and Enoch, younger issue (1710-14), with James, John (the eldest), and Thomas respectively, sons of John, who turned a Quaker for the love of Mary Torbock, 'the good Madame Torbock,' who paid all the 'Friends' fines, etc. All of their immediate issue renounced the connexion. But in a certified list, printed on vellum, and containing all of the surname, gathered out of the parish Registers of the 16th, 17th, and 18th centuries thirty years ago by the vicar, I find there was a marriage in 1700-1 of a Joseph Helsby to one Ann Tue (a Norman-French, or Channel Island name); and it is very probable that he was of some near collateral line, and that they were the pair who sailed for America.

The only other 'Joseph' that occurs in the list, which is very exhaustive and correct, was also an unidentified Joseph, of Kingsley, whose wife, Ursula, occurs in the list of burials in 1676. No doubt many collaterals in that age, 'legitimate' as well as 'natural,' went headlong into Puritanism and Quakery, when that remarkable man, George Fox, entered Cheshire, and drew overlords and tenants alike throughout the ancient parish of Frodsham. One of the earliest was a Richard Helsby, who had volunteered in 1642 into the Parliamentary Forces, 'for and on behalf of the whole township of Helsby. (*Parliamentary Returns, Record Office.*) But the chief name associated with Quakerism, and the Hydes, Gerards, and others was Rafe Helsby, who appears with Robert Hyde of Cattenhall Hall as defendant in one of the persecuting prosecutions of about 1660. Their names are in a list that the late Sir P. de M. Grey-Egerton shewed me some thirty-five years ago at Oulton, and sent me a copy, his ancestor being the nearest county magistrate at that period; for, commissions of the Peace were sparingly issued. This Rafe, I suspect from other documents, was identical with Randolph Helsby, the father of the John, who wedded Madame Torbock, though the diminutive Ralph (in lieu of Randal) is, strictly, improper.

Quakerism flourished in Frodsham; indeed the whole parish swarmed with Dissent of every description. Newton Chapel was the Quaker meeting-house, where this Joseph with his wife was sold into bondage, I suppose; as they went to America on the meeting's *approval*—a nice, easy word, for a rough voyage in a little, soli-

tary ship across that Styx, the Atlantic. In earlier times Newton was a small manor, partly held by the surviving line of Hellesby of Hellesby, one of whose younger sons afterwards seems to have been grantee of this property—a small estate there being still held by them in Richard III.'s time, according to one of the Randle Holms. Perhaps from this line this Joseph descended. His voyage would be to Philadelphia, whither all the Friends went in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries. Some of their interesting seventeenth century letters have, of late years, been published in American Magazines of the better class.

The Hollands, mentioned in the same Egerton list, were of Up and Down Holland, near Billinge Beacon, and Wigan: flourishing branches being also anciently settled in North Wales, and yeoman branches in Cheshire for many ages.

T. H.

P.S.—I may add that it is not improbable that this couple had issue. For I just recall to mind the fact of an offer made to me, some 20 years ago, by an American, of a hundred and fifty guineas, and finally two hundred and fifty guineas—also refused—for a small, old worm-eaten oaken casket, with many heraldic emblazoned, and other rich Gothic carvings on three sides and the lid. The coats are quarterings and impalements of that family whose surname was the surname of this Joseph, and also of the American's grand or great grandmother! The chest itself has, for over a century, been the depository of many Hellesby charters, which are now reduced to some half hundred, together with several ancient rolls. But the tradition, supported by the character of the quarterings, &c., is that it was formerly a 'workbox' of Joan Stanley, niece of Sir William, or Sir Rowland, of Hooton, *temp.* Henry VIII. and Elizabeth. I was not, to my recollection, informed that there existed any male representative of any emigrant of the above surname—the American was so anxious, perhaps, to secure any relic of value of his female predecessors, or, at all events, some evidence of his own representation.

QUERY.

[432] PARDON FOR THE MURDER OF JOHN POOLE.

Can any of your correspondents throw any light on the following extract? Who was the John Poole in question, and what were the circumstances of his death? A. C. P.

The Queen to all her bailiffs, &c., Greeting.

Whereas we have heard by the report of Sir Richard Lewkenor, Justiciary of Chester, that George Partington, late of Netherknottesford, co. Chester, draper, detained in the Gaol in Chester Castle for the death of John Poole, whereof he stands indicted, killed the said John in self-defence, as the only means of avoiding death himself, and not from any malice, we have therefore granted our pardon to the said George Partington.

Witness the Queen at Chester, 26 June, 42 Elizabeth.

[433] MARRIAGE REGISTERS OF ST. OSWALD'S,
CHESTER.

1662.

Wm. Godfrey and Alice Rutter	[]
Raphe Hilton and Magdalen Percivall	April 5
Thomas Ashton, Minister, and Margaret Sutton	May 3
Richard Catterall of Waberton yeom. and Jane Gibbons	June 10
Daniell Millner of Woodhouse p'ish of Frodsham and Mary Waine	June 23
John Pemberton of Mickle Trafford and Dorothy Watmore	June 24
Thomas Hildish of Bridgemesare and Mary Oرتون	June 24
Richard Cardin of Coddington and Blaunch Minshull	July 22
Will. Minshall and Mary Smith	Aug. 4
John Massie of Greate Saughall and Margaret Mullenuxe	Aug. 12
Hugh Ball of Heswall and Briget Deane	Aug. 13
Robt. Williams and Elizabeth Colly	Sept. 3
Roger Akerley of Plimstow p'ish and Elinor Lighboune.	Oct. 1
George Eaton of Little Budworth and Sarah Taylor.	Oct. 27
Thomas Clough de Wimbles Trafford and Alice Tatlow.	Nov. 4
John Johnson de Aldford and Mary Phillipps.	Nov. 11
William Greene of Neston p'ish and Alice Ryder.	Dec. 25
Adam Browne of Christlton p'ish and Margerert Caulkin	March 2
William Hickson and Margaret Dumbell of Backford.	last of Feb.

JUNE 7, 1899.

NOTES.

[434] A BREACH OF PROMISE CASE IN 1637.
(Continued from No. 430.)

The following is part of another document in extenuation of Richard Hockenhull's marriage with Anne Spurstow :—

That the aforesaid Anne Stanley the party promouent in this suite did shortly after understand that the aforesaid Richard Hockenhull had married and taken to wife the aforesaid Anne Hockenhull alias Spurstoe and that they were married without license or banes askeinge, and soe contrarie to the Constitutions of the Church of England and thereupon did procure proces out of this Courte and did convent them both, and did procure the said Anne Hockenhull alias Spurstoe by a diffinitive sentence of this Courte on her behalfe to be pronounced Excommunicated for her clandestine marriage aforesaid, accordinge to the law in such cases provided, and to be condemned in charges. And the said Anne Hockenhull, alias Spurstoe, was compelled to pay Five Pounds, Two Shillings and Sixpence, or some other such like sum for charges of suite in that behalfe to the said Anne Stanley on her behalfe.

That by the Laws and Canons of the Church the aforesaid Richard Hockenhull and Anne Spurstoe, alias Hockenhull, are lawfull man and wife, contracted and married, and are not to be separated or divorced from the bonds of marriage *referendo se ad iura*.

That the aforesaid David Jones was (at the tyme hee married the aforesaid Richard Hockenhull and Anne Spurstoe alias Hockenhull as aforesaid), and soe is a Priest in holy orders, at the Chapel of Roligough and soe commonly accompt., reputed, and taken thereabouts.

The aforesaid Richard Hockenhull and Anne Spurstoe, alias Hockenhull, were married together before any pretended Sentence in this Court was decreed to be executed or warninge served upon the said Richard to marry Anne Stanley, referringe himself to the acts and records of this Court.

That if and in case the said Richard Hockenhull did speake any words of contract in any sorte to the said Anne Stanley before he married Anne Spurstoe, alias Hockenhull, his now wife (*quod non fatetur*), yet were such pretended words counterfeite and spoken as they were sporteing, talkeinge, and drinkeinge at an alehouse in joste and merriment, and for a fortnight, without any serious or reall Intention or Resolution to contracte himselfe in marriage to her, or did he ever consente to any such purpose, but did professe the contrary at the same tyme, and many tymes after. And accordingly he made her know that he was an earnest Suiter unto his nowe wife, Anne Spurstoe, alias Hockenhull, and would marrie her, and soe he hath done. And his said marriage may not by the laws of this kingdome be dissolved for any pretended contracte whatsoever.

(To be continued.)

[435] DOCUMENTS RELATING TO RICHARD DE POOLE, 1398-9.

Welsh Records, Chester Recognizance Rolls, 73, m. 5 dors (1).

18 November, 22 Richard II.
A.D. 1398.

Writ by the King to the Chamberlain of Chester, commanding him, in view of the royal grant to John Norley, gentleman of the chamber, and Richard Litfote, of the principality of Chester, of the goods and chattels formerly of Richard de Pulle, forfeited to the Crown because the said Richard de Pulle killed a woman in the hundred of Nantwich, to have letters made to that effect, under the seal of the Palatinate of Chester.

2. Grant to the said John Norley and Richard Litfote, of the said goods, &c., to the value of £4, accounting to the King for the surplus above that sum, if any.

Welsh Records, Chester Recognizance Rolls,
73. m. 2 dors, No. 4.

15 January, 22 Richard II.
A.D. 1399.

Pardon to Richard, son of William de Pulle of Horsepulle for the death of Ameline wife of William de Pulle of Horsepull killed at Horsepulle by the said Richard on Tuesday before the feast of St. Luke the Evangelist then last past, whereof he stands indicted or summoned; annulment of outlawry if it shall be awarded on this account.

2. Writ to the Chamberlain of Chester ordering letters to the above effect to be made out under the Palatinate seal.

Welsh Records, Chester Recognizance Rolls 71,
m. 10 (9).

9 April, 22 Richard II.,
A.D. 1399.

Robert Danyell, of Rydleigh, William de Beston, David Fitz Thomas de Crue, of Pulcroft, John de Stoke, of Stoke, John Le Massey, of Coton, and John de Wodday came into the full Exchequer of Chester, and gave security for Richard, son of William de Pulle, of Horsepulle, lately indicted for felony in the county of Chester, for his good behaviour towards the King and all his people for the future.

[436] DISABILITIES OF DISSENTERS.

About the beginning of this century many benches of magistrates, acting, as they believed, on a decision of the Court of King's Bench, shewed a disposition to restrict the toleration granted to Nonconformists after the Revolution, in regard especially to the licensing of ministers of dissenting congregations. This led to a new and more liberal Toleration Act being passed in July, 1812. The following account of what took place at Chester, re-

printed from the *Evangelical Magazine* for May in that year, is an illustration of the legal restrictions which were sometimes used oppressively:—

At the Chester Sessions, H. Bowers, P. Williams, J. Thomas, and R. Bentham, made application for licences to act as preachers. The former, on producing a certificate of his being attached to a particular congregation, took the several oaths; but the Recorder objected to the admission of the others, from a deficiency in the testimonials of the specific appointments which they produced.

Mr. Cross, on behalf of Mr. P. Williams, addressed the court, and observed that numerous difficulties have lately occurred in obtaining licences, which were never heard of till the late new construction was put on the Toleration Act.

Mr. Recorder.—We are to follow the rule laid down by the Court of King's Bench. Does the applicant apply merely as a teacher or preacher?

Mr. Cross.—As a person pretending to holy orders.

In answer to several questions by the Recorder, Mr. Williams said he had not been ordained. He had a separate congregation, to which he is appointed at Kinnerton, although he is not particularly confined to one place of worship.

Certificates of distinct appointments being produced by Mr. Williams, Mr. Bentham, and Mr. Thomas, the Recorder expressed his consent that licences should be granted. J. B.

[437] EARLY CHESHIRE EMIGRANTS TO AMERICA.

(See Nos. 346 and 354.)

The Quakers' Certificates printed in the January number of the *Literary Era*, though containing several instances of emigrants from Lancashire and Yorkshire, do not include any Cheshire examples. There are a few from Cheshire in the February and March numbers. In No. 103 Lydia Farbuck should probably be Lydia Tarbuck, there being several families of that name in the neighbourhood of Hartshaw, and the name Farbuck is quite unknown to the writer, and does not occur in any of the lists of Wills for the district. Moreover, it looks as if Nos. 103 and 152 related to the same person. The Park certificate (193) has been included, although it is from Ireland, as the Parke family of Liverpool and the neighbourhood probably sent over some branches into Ireland, and this may have been a member.

The Abstract Certificate of William Clare, printed at the end, is of special interest to Cheshire antiquaries, as it gives the names of a number of early Friends. The Clares were a substantial yeoman family in Great Budworth parish.

103. Lydia Farbuok, 2 mo. 25, 1715, from Hartshaw Mo. Mtg., Lancashire, England.

108. Katharine Richardson, 7 mo. 26, 1715, from Hartshaw Mo. Mtg., Lancashire, England.

133. Joshua Low, of Coppull, wife Sarah and family, 4 mo. 30, 1718, dated 6 mo. 16, 1715, from Hartshaw Mo. Mtg., Lancashire, England. Endorsed by Flushing Mo. Mtg., Long Island, N.Y., 1 mo. 6, 1717-8.

142. Edgar Fell, unm., 7 mo. 29, 1718, dated 12 mo. 18, 1717, from Hartshaw Mo. Mtg., Lancashire, England.

145. William Cundill, late from Mo. Mtg. at Briggshouse, Yorkshire, England, dated 10 mo. 6, 1718, from Philadelphia. Marriage engagement with Elizabeth Tomlinson.

151. Catharine Richardson, wife of Isaac, 7 mo. 26, 1715, dated 12 mo. 15, 1714, from Hartshaw Mo. Mtg., Lancashire, England. She 'late resided in Cheshire [Frandy Mtg.] where she was Born, that in Regard She had her Settlement by being married to the Sd Isaac within the Compass of this meeting, & now being about to go along with her husband & Children into your parts.'

152. Lydia Tarbuok, 2 mo. 25, 1715, dated 1 mo. 16, 1713-14, from Hartshaw Mo. Mtg., Lancashire, England. She comes 'Servant to our Friend John & Patience Wright.'

196. Peter Dicks, 3 mo. 25, 1724, dated 12 mo. 4, 1723-4, from Mo. Mtg. at Newton, Cheshire, England, 'by whom [Peter Dicks] we received a letter of Recommendation from you [Chester Mo. Mtg.]'

193. Thomas Park, who 'Lived Since his Convincement which is Nigh 40 years amongst us.' Two sons, Thomas and Jonathan are unmarried. Received 11 mo. 25, 1724-5, dated 2 mo. 15, 1724, from Carlow Meeting, Ireland.

208. Robert Wilson, wife Ann, and family, from Mo. Mtg., at Great Strickland, Westmorelandshire, England, 11 mo. 27, 1729.

213. Hannah Jenkinson, young and unmarried. Mother yet living. Received 5 mo. 31, 1727, dated 12 mo. 21, 1726-7, from Pardshaw Cragg, Cumberland, England.

Abstract Certificate of William Clare of Northwich, Cheshire, England, shoemaker. He 'hath acquainted ye Friends of Frandy meeting to which he belongs' of his desire to

remove to Pennsylvania. Certificate from monthly meeting held at Newton, Cheshire, dated 1 mo. 2, 1713-4. Original certificate on file with Philadelphia monthly meeting records. (Signers) Richd. Wildman, Peter Prickley, Thomas Boulton, Thomas Gill, Thomas Hough, John Sawatt, Thomas Clare jr., Richard Pickering, Roger Roe, John Ledon, Hugh Pulford, Thomas Pulford, Thomas Gregg, Tho: Ranland, Tho: Hatton, John Done, — Merrick, James Garside.

GENEALOGIST.

[438] MARRIAGE REGISTERS OF ST. OSWALD'S, CHESTER.

1663.

Peter Leicester of Greata Budworth p'ish, gen. and Katherine Pemberton April 21

John Vigers of Bunbury and Elizabeth Baker April 21

John Smith of Dunham-on-the-hill and Katherine Smith April 21

Phillip Philkin of Tattenhall and Mary Taylor April 24

Jeremie Leech of Grappenhall and Ellen Cumberbach May 5

William Ince and Margaret Sparke May 29

John Lache (P) of Doddleston and Jane Wade June 16

William Maylor of Aston and Elizabeth Huett July 9

John Cobb and [] July 18

Henry Richardson and Eliz. Deane Widd. May

Thomas Fearnhead of Fearnhead and Christian Naylor Aug. 6

Randle Higson of Minahull and Ellen Ridgway Aug. 5

John Chritchley and Sarah Bettie of St. Martin's p'ish Aug. 13

Henry Holcroft and Anne Grice Aug. 31

Thomas Bickerton and Elinor Pulford July 2

Thomas Hixson and Jane Eavans Sept 30

Robert Cotton and Katherine King married at St. Peter's Nov. 8

William Finlow and Katherine Jonnes Nov. 30

Richard Simcock de Picton and Susanna Shone Dec. 6

Robert Sefton and Jane Connrick Dec. 31

Hugh Amson and Mary Lee Dec. 31

John Dean and Anne Hall Jan. 6

John Barlowe and Hannah Rawlinson Feb. 7

William Baggiley and Sarah Hall Feb. 11

Silvester Ingam de Streton and Thomasin Anger Feb. 23

Richard Lightfoote of Dutton and Elizabeth Olier Feb. 23

JUNE 14, 1899.

NOTES.

[439] BISHOP GEORGE LLOYD.

The purchase of the so-called 'Bishop Lloyd's Palace' in Watergate-street by a generous and public-spirited citizen of Chester has once more brought the name of the bishop into notice. It has therefore occurred to me that a short account of him would not be inopportune at the present time, especially since all existing lives of him, including that in the *Dictionary of National Biography*, are very imperfect and inadequate.

George Lloyd was the sixth son of Meredith ap John of Llanellian-yn-Rhos, in Denbighshire, by his wife Janet, the daughter of Hugh Conwy. The family claimed descent from Rhys ap Griffith, Prince of South Wales. (*See 1st Series of Sheaf II., 1680*). The future bishop was born in or about 1560, and from June, 1575, to September, 1579, was a King's Scholar at the Chester School. His family seem to have had a close connection with our city. Two at least of his brothers were in business here. One of them, David, became Mayor in 1593; another, Edward, followed the occupation of a mercer. It is probable that the young George, while at school at Chester, lived with, or under, the care of his elder brothers.

Lloyd proceeded from Chester to Cambridge, where he matriculated at Jesus College 1 October, 1579. His surname appears in the University Register as Floyd or Fludd. He took his B.A. degree in 1582, and his M.A. in 1585 as a fellow of Magdalene. He was no doubt ordained before the latter date, but he did not become a B.D. till 1593.

It is not surprising that Lloyd, on leaving Cambridge, soon found his way back to Chester, where his brothers' influence could stand him in good stead. Through their aid, perhaps, he obtained the position of Divinity Lecturer in the Cathedral, an office created in 1582, when Queen Elizabeth succeeded in wresting £150 a year from the spoilers of the Dean and Chapter and restoring it to its proper owner. The Divinity lecturer was bound to give two prelections weekly, for which he received a stipend of £40. I have not yet been able to ascertain the year when Lloyd received this appointment, but I strongly suspect that it was in 1594, in succe-

sion to Mr. Thomas Hutchins. A very interesting note on the death of Mr. Hutchins, and the application of Mr. Christopher Harvey for the vacant post was written by the late Mr. J. P. Earwaker, and will be found in No. 1 of the second series of the *Sheaf*. Lloyd appears to have held the Divinity Lectureship for some years.

In 1597,* according to the *Heswall Registers*, edited by the Rev. T. H. May, he was appointed rector of that parish, and must have resided there for several years, as is shewn by the following entries from the registers:—

9 October 1599. John Lloyd filius Doster Lloid (baptised).

1 May 1604. Edward Lloid (baptised).

13 May 1605. George lloid buried in Chester.

19 June 1607. Henrye lloid sonne to the Right Reverend Father in God George Byshope of Cester.

The last entry seems to shew that Lloyd retained the Rectory of Heswall in commendam with his bishopric.

In some books Lloyd is said to have been presented with the Rectory of Halsall in Lancashire, but I suspect that Halsall is a mistake for Heswall.

On the death of John Meyrick (7th Nov., 1599), Lloyd, who had become a D.D. the year before, was chosen to succeed him as Bishop of Sodor and Man. He was presumably nominated by William, Earl of Derby, the Lord of Man, who was closely connected with Chester, and so may have been acquainted with his merits. But the State papers make no mention of the Earl's nomination, and are so worded as to convey the idea that the Queen herself presented Lloyd to the bishopric. If this were the case, it looks like a decided encroachment on the Earl's rights, as the original grant of the island to Sir John Stanley conveys the patronage of the see absolutely, without any mention even of approval by the Crown. Elizabeth's presentation was accompanied by a request to the Archbishop of York to confirm and consecrate the bishop-designate. A curious letter from Lloyd to the Archbishop on the subject of his consecration is perhaps worth printing in full:—

My moste humble dutie remembred unto your Grace. My verie good Lord, the bishopricke of Manne being bestowed by her Highness' gracious favor upon me, though unworthie, I had in purpose, accordinge to my dutie, to have attended your Grace upon this occasion; but fyndinge my

* He paid his first fruits 14th March, 1597.

bodys weake by reason of my late travill from London, and my purse emptyd with long sute there, I was told by this messenger to acquaint your Grace therewith, and to understand by him your pleasure for my consecration, according to the tenor of my letters patents; wherein, as my very good Lord, the Bishop of Chester,* hath by his letters solicited your Grace for your honourable favor and respect of my poore estate, so do I humbly pray your Grace that you wold be pleased to give me as much ease, both for travill and expence, as you may, considering the smallness of the Bishopricke, and tyme of the years unpleasant for me and mooste of all for my Lords, the Bishops of the province to attend you for this necessary employment. In which respects my most humble request that your grace will be pleased to grant your commission to my Lord of Chester, to authorise him to joyne with twoe other Bishoppes near unto him (of whose voluntary readiness I doubt not) for the performinge of this action. And so, recommendinge myself now and alwaies to your Grace's good favor and honorable supporte in that poor place, wishinge your Grace's long continuance in all health and happyness, I humbly take my leave.

Chester this iijth of Jan. 1599 †

Your Grace's in all humility to command,

GEORG. FLOYD.

To the mooste Rev. Father in God, my verie good Lord, the Lord Abp. of York, his Grace, give these.

The result of Lloyd's request is not known, as the records of his consecration are missing. He was probably consecrated in the spring of 1600. He doubtless at once crossed to his seagirt bishopric to be enthroned in the Cathedral of St. German's, which had not yet become a ruin. But the pastoral oversight of the See of Man was no enviable post in the seventeenth century, and none of Wilson's predecessors seem to have been sharers of his devoted spirit. The island was spoken of as 'a place of banishment,' 'a melancholy retreat,' 'a Patmos,' 'a disconsolate residence.' The episcopal income, moreover, was miserably inadequate. It was, therefore, customary for the bishops to spend most of their time in England, often rendering assistance to some overworked or infirm brother there. Meyrick, Lloyd's predecessor, writing to Burghley in 1590, says:—"I came the last summer to Wales; having been the year afore in Man, as I am commonly between both, not of my own choice or will; but things are so. Neither hath any Bishop, my predecessor, been otherwise this hundred years. My living is but 80lb., wherewith I travail by sea and by land."

The only trace of Bishop Lloyd in the ecclesiastical records of Man is that he presided in 1603 at a Consistory Court, when several offenders against the spiritual law received punishment. He was doubtless glad when in 1604, on the translation of Bishop Vaughan to London, he was nominated to succeed that prelate at Chester.

(To be continued.)

[440] THE BOLDS OF UPTON.

(See No. 357.)

The Bolds of Upton, there can be no manner of doubt, were a branch of the knightly family of Bolds of Bold, near Warrington—extinct, in the male line, for nearly two centuries. There was a good story touching Sir Henry Bold Hoghton (of Hoghton Tower, and Bold, who assumed the name through his heiress wife), when some 80 or 90 years ago driving a carriage and four, he told a sturdy peasant of Bold to open a gate. The fellow refused. "Do you know who I am, sirrah? I'm Sir Henry Bold Hoghton, Knt. and Bart." "I don't care a damn," answered the man, "whether it's to-morrow or to-morrow neet, ass not oppon th' gate for 'ee!" The little fat coachman, who was afterwards the Essex coachman to my grandfather—an 'original' whom we boys called 'old Billy'—exhausted all his vocabulary one day in endeavouring to describe to me his former hot-tempered master's rage! This points another amusing story told me many years after by the late Mr. Rolt-Townley Parker, of Cueden—whose mother was widow of this Sir Henry. One day there appeared at Cueden a tremendous Yankee named Hoghton, or Houghton, who claimed collateral descent from the Hoghton Tower family. Lady Bold Hoghton (who was only a Patton-Bold), was then much advanced in years. She shewed her visitor some great pewter plates, engraved with the Hoghton coat, and said he might keep them. But, immediately afterwards withdrew her gifts, and said, "No. You're not a gentleman!" Then, fixing her eyes searchingly upon him, she replied, with great decision, "Yes—yes—I think you *are* a gentleman! You shall keep them. Here!" and she got hold of the lappels of one of the unfortunate man's coat pockets, and commenced to ram one of the plates into it with great force—until he disclaimed all desire to carry off the booty!

T. H.

* Rich. Vaughan.

† 1600, new style.

[441] MARRIAGE REGISTERS OF ST. OSWALD'S,
CHESTER.

1664.

Robert Wayne and Mary Jones	April 10
John Bennett and Margaret Warton	April 11
John Nichols de Hanley and Elizabeth Oulton	April 12
Richard Neild de Barrow and Mary Standbrige	April 20
John Vernon de Utlington and Elizabeth Vernon	April 23
Ric. Edwards and Jane Eavans	May 3
John Cooke of Ness and Margaret Wilson	May 5
William Helbs and Margery Dewsbury	May 18
John Humphreys and Anne Davies	May 19
Michael Bromley and Alice Howell	May 28
William Cooke and Elizabeth Plat	May 30
Thomas Walker of Church Coppenhall	June 2
Margt Kent	June 2
John Maycock and Mary Ogden	June 20
Thomas Betteley de Aldroft and Mary Leadbeater	June 24
William Harding of Tarpley and Margaret Dugdale	June 24
Peter Crompton of Capesthorpe and Hannah Linney	June 24
Peers Thomas de Bidland and Mary Hughes	June 25
Thomas Maddock of Kiddington and Jane Owens	June 25
Richard Webb of Shotwick and Mary Cowley	Aug. 4
Robert Heald and Alice Clifton	Aug. 17
John Clarke of Hookenhall and Mary Lightfoote	Aug. 18
John Cooper of Kinnerton and Margery Dob	Aug. 21
Rob. Dainteith of Dunham-on-the-hill and Elis. Barrow	Aug. 27
Richard Renshall of Sale and Mildred Owen	Sept. 12
John Whitby, of Ashton, and Margaret Allart	Sept. 14
James Dale, of Aston pooh Budworth, and Elis. Bett	Sept. 29
William Byrom, of Moore, and Martha King	Sept. 29
Thomas Barber, of Penketh, and Mary Morris	Sept. 29
Thomas Taylor, of Penketh, and Dorothy Rawson	Sept. 30
George Prenton, of Neston, and Ann Marsh	Oct. 3
Robert Hall and Jane Darlington	Oct. 6
Thomas Bayley and Anne Pickstock	Oct. 11
Richard Eccles and Mary Hartcliffe	Dec. 6
George Woodward, of Frodsham, and Elizabeth Brownhead	Dec. 17
Thomas Freeman and Margaret Bridge	Dec. 21
Robert Smith, of Mandley, and Mary Walley	Feb. 2
Thomas Heath and Jane Fox	Feb. 6

JUNE 21, 1899.

NOTES.

[442] BISHOP GEORGE LLOYD.

(Continued from No. 439.).

The congé d'élire for Lloyd's election to Chester is dated 18th December, 1604, and the Royal assent was given 5th January, 1605. He was confirmed on the 14th of the same month, and paid his First Fruits on 30th September.

In 1653 appeared a book with the following title page:—*A Briefe View of the State of the Church of England, as it stood in Q. Elisabeth's and King James his Reigne, to the Yeere 1608. Being a Character and History of the Bishops of those times. And may serve as an additional supply to Doctor Goodwin's Catalogue of Bishops, Written for the private use of Prince Henry, upon occasion of that Proverb.*

Henry the Eighth pull'd down Monks and their Cells,

Henry the Ninth should pull down Bishops and their Bells,

by Sir John Harrington, of Kelston, near Bath, Knight. London: Printed for Jos. Kirton, at the King's Arms in Paul's Churchyard. 1653.

In this book Lloyd, is thus referred to:—

Of CHESTER; and the present Bishop, Dr. Flood.*

Of this new Bishopricke, and new Lord Bishop also I have very little to say, and I need say the lesse, because your Highnesse hath heard him Preach often, and very well; I call him a new Lord Bishop, because though he were a Bishop before, yet was he not thereby a Lord of the Parliament House; howbeit his Title before sounded to the vulgar ears more universall than either *Rome* or *Constantinople*, namely Bishop of *Man*; but from thence he was translated to *Chester* the chiefe City of that Shire, that some call chiefe of men, which Shire having a special temporall blessing (to abound) not with milke and honey, as the Land of *Promise*, but with milke and salt, a matter more necessary in sacrifice; I wish it may also flow in spirituall blessings, and doubt not but that by the irrigation rather than inundation of this Flood they shall encrease in them, and as our Saviour commands to joyne peace with salt, and especially I wish that blessing to their Neighbours beyond the salt water, I meane in *Ireland*, who though they have milk, and are so weake in faith

* Another variant of Lloyd's somewhat troublesome name.

they cannot yet digest hard meat, yet for want of this salt and peace, they make many goe of Pilgrimage to *Westchester* against their wills from both Realmes, some of whom the Bishop of *Chester* was wont to entertaine in kinde sort, as my selfe can testifie, and this Bishop I heare doth herein succeed also his worthy Predecessor Doctor *Vaughan*.

In the first year of Lloyd's rule at *Chester*, the whole country was thrown into a state of wild excitement by the discovery of the Gunpowder Plot. This led to a renewed and strict enforcement of all the laws against Popish recusants. Through the indiscreet zeal of a few fanatics, the whole body of loyal Roman Catholics cruelly suffered. Heavy fines were levied upon them. They were forbidden either to educate their children at home or to send them to any foreign school. Their houses were exposed to visitations by the officers of the law, and their goods and books to confiscation. Yet, as is usually the case, all this persecution failed to bring about the result which was aimed at. The Romanists of Lancashire and Cheshire remained unshaken in their old beliefs.

References to the dealings of Lloyd with some of the Roman Catholics in his diocese are found in the following State papers.

In a letter from the Council to Lloyd, dated 24 October, 1608, with respect to his stay of proceedings against the Recusants, the Bishop is informed that the King does not wish these proceedings to be stopped altogether, but to be used with moderation, and only against obstinate persons.

In a letter dated 20 November, 1613, it is mentioned that the Bishop of *Chester* has sealed up and inventoried the books of *Ander-ton*, a deceased recusant; but that his goods cannot legally be sequestered before conviction. A later paper gives an inventory of these books.

In April 1615, the Bishop enquires how he is to proceed with certain Roman Catholics who refuse to be bound for the revocation of their children from foreign seminaries.

Towards the Puritans, who were daily growing in power, the Bishop acted with great mildness, and his dealings with them were afterwards contrasted with the more vigorous conduct of his successors. He suffered *Nicholas Byfield*, a powerful preacher and writer on behalf of the doctrinal Puritans, to remain several years as pastor of *St. Peter's* in

Chester; and the Nonconformist* clergymen were allowed to preach without molestation.

In 1606 Lloyd was obliged to interfere in an unseemly quarrel, which broke out between the Cathedral and civic authorities, with respect to certain rights claimed by the latter. A full account of this quarrel, by the late Mr. T. Hughes, will be found in Vol. III., pp 432-438 of the *Journal of the Chester Architectural, Archaeological, and Historic Society*. It will suffice to say here that it had been the ancient custom of the Mayor and Corporation to attend Divine Service at the Cathedral on certain days with the City Sword erect, point upwards, in front of the Mayor. A right of entrance by the west door was moreover claimed. On 13th January, 1606, on the occasion of a visit of the Mayor and Corporation, one of the prebendaries, *Peter Sharp*, 'put down' the sword; and on the Feast of the Purification in 1607, another, named *Roger Ravenscroft*, shut the west door. The civic authorities hereupon sent a protest to the Lord Chancellor, who in due course sent two judges to *Chester* to investigate the matter. By their award the claims of the Corporation were maintained. In this award occurs the following passage:—'And wee have alsoe scene and perused an order made in the said Cause, sithence the said swoorde put downe and church doore shut, as aforesaid, by the right Rev'ende father in god, *George*, lo. Bushoppe of *CHESTER*, and others the Kinges Ma'ties Commissioners in Causes Eccles'iall for appeasing of the said controu'rsies, to p'vente further troubles, disorders and breaches of the peace, in or towchinge the said Cause.'

Therefore, and to that ende that unitie, love, and peace betweene the said Maior and Cittizens, Prebendaries, and others the members of the said Church, maie be kepte and p'served, and that all occasions of further disturbance, or misdemenor to be hereafter attempted or Committed maie be staied and p'vented for the tyme to come. We doe order that the said Maior and cittizens, and their successors at all tymes hereafter, shall freelie and quietlie passe and repasse and goe through the said great west church doore into the said Church, at the tyme of anie funerall or attendance upon anie dead corpe to be buried in the same church.

* It must be carefully borne in mind that the word 'Nonconformist' did not at that time mean 'Dissenter.'

And we doe furthermore strictly order that when, and as often as, the Maior of the same citie for the tyme beinge shall hereafter repaier to the said church for the heringe of divine Service or Sermon, or upon anie other juste occasion, havinge his swoorde carried before him in the said church or p'cintes or lib'ties of the same, That then and soe often, neither the said Prebendaries, nor anie other officer or Minister of the said Church shall by themselves or anie other by themselves or anie other by their or anie of their meanes, Concente, or p'curement, stoppe, staie, or hinder the said Maior, or his swoorde-bearer, or either of them, in or for the carryinge up of the said swoorde, in the said Church at anie tyme hereafter; but shall p'mitte and Suffer the said Maior and swoord-bearer quietlie to carrie the swoorde of the said Citie, with the pointe upp, in the said Church, as hereto fore hath been used and accustomed, &c., &c.

(To be continued.)

ORIGINAL DOCUMENTS.

[443] THE PARLIAMENTARY ELECTION, 1727.

(See Nos. 203 and 215.)

In the last volume of the Sheaf appeared the names of the Electors of some of the townships round Chester. We now give the list of the *Wirral* electors. It will be remembered that the candidates were Sir Robert Salusbury Cotton, Bart., Charles Cholmondeley Esq., and John Crewe, Esq., and the result was—Cotton 3,348, Cholmondeley 2,820, and Crewe 2,597.

	Cotton.	Cholmondeley.	Crewe.
WIRRAL HUNDRED.			
ARROW.			
John Brooks [living in] Liverpool	...	1	
Jno Mason, Lea	...	1	1
BACKFORD.			
Thomas Kettle, Whitby	...	1	1
Jno Griffiths	...	1	1
Thomas Spencer	...	1	
John Higson	...	1	
Jno. Larten	...	1	
Robert Denson c'k	...	1	1
Wm. Lightfoot	...	1	1
Peter Jones [Sherr. Book, Gilbert Jones]	...	1	
Chester	...	1	
BARNSTON.			
Wm. Pemberton	...	1	1
Thomas Miller	...	1	
Thomas Pownall, Neston	...	1	
Peter Johnson	...	1	
Thomas Goodacre	...	1	1

Joseph Owen	...	1
Robert Harrison	...	1
Thomas Bostock	...	1 1

BEBBINGTON.

Thomas Rowlinson, Stoak	...	1 1
Henry Malts [PMoals]	...	1 1
Hugh Poole, C'k	...	1 1
John Odon, Higher Bebbington	...	1 1
Wm. Hodson, Poolton	...	1 1
Jno. Ridgate, Bromborough	...	1 1
Thos. Banks	...	1 1

BEBBINGTON LOWER.

Joseph Yoxon	Neither Bebbington...	1 1
Hugh Huntington	...	1 1
Thomas Johnson	...	1 1
Hugh Beck	Barnston...	1 1

BEBBINGTON NEITHER.

Thomas Crompton	...	1 1
John Yoxton	...	1 1
George Mainwaring	...	1 1

BEBBINGTON OVER.

Samuel Jackson	...	1 1
Thos Watmough	...	1 1
John Millington	...	1 1
Thomas Robinson, gent.	...	1 1

BROMBROUGH.

William Tellett	...	1
Wm. Green	...	1
Thos. Whitfield	...	1
James Mainwaring, Esq.	...	1
Robert Anglesey	Bebbington...	1 1
Thos. Cook	...	1
Thos. Prenton	Parkgate...	1 1
Jno. Bagnall	...	1 1
Jeremy Carrington	...	1
Randle Bagnall	Handley...	1 1
Jno. Williams	...	1
Wm. Davies	...	1
Jno. Atkins	...	1

BURTON.

Robert Woods	...	1 1
Peter Hamond	...	1
Ben. Bennett	...	1 1
Thos. Taylor	...	1 1
Wm. Trigg	...	1 1
Thos. Sharp	Willaston...	1 1
Thos. Foxley	Saughall...	1 1
Danl. Jackson	Chester...	1 1
Geo. Gregory	...	1 1
Jno. Williams	...	1 1

CALDLEY.

Saml. Mason	Haslington...	1 1
Simon Mathew	...	1 1
John Totty	...	1 1
Jno. Prenton	...	1 1
Joseph Totty	...	1 1
Wm. Joinson	...	1 1
Thomas Rathbone	...	1 1
Wm. Wharton	...	1 1
Joseph Matthews	...	

(To be continued.)

[444] MARRIAGE REGISTERS OF ST. OSWALD'S,
CHESTER, 1665.

Lawrence Starkey and Rose Jonnes	Mar. 27
John Dickinson, of Spurstow, and Anne Harding	Mar. 30
Raphe Maddocks, of Over, and Alice Page	April 6
Anthony Nickol and Ellen Bunting	April 23
Thomas Greenhalgh, Esq., and Elizabeth Bridgeman, daughter of Dr. Henry Bridgeman, Deane of Chester, were married the [] in presence of William Bispham, Sub-deane, Symon Land, the Lady Calveley, and others, William Ince, Alderman, and Mrs. Sarah Chamberlaine	April 17
George Pemberton and Anne Lee	April 27
James Atherton of Preston sup. montem and Alice Barton	May 15
Henry Storer of Crow Lane and Mary Gregg	May 15
Robert Dewsbury of Kelsall and Alice Lewis	May 20
Charles Walmesley of Coale Coates and Katherine Dancy	May 24
Richard Jonnes and Ellen Millington	May 27
Richard Dod de Bunbury and Elizabeth Simme	June 24
Edward Hughes de Pwlhelly and Dorothy Greene	June 28
Bartholomew Fiswick de Barrow and Jane Ardern	July 2
Henry Lewis Clarke de Steinbrough and Magdalen Outler	July 6
John Dutton de Bunbury and Katherin Powell	July 15
Robert Hall, Baker, and Elizabeth Milner	July 16
William Hinton of Netherton and Mary Bushell	Aug. 3
Steven Williams and Katherine Queene	Aug. 6
John Garrat de Lea and Anne Ratolife	Aug. 10
Symon Edwards de Dodleston and Margaret Griffith	Aug. 24
George Moore de Burton and Mary Penkett	Aug. 26
William Lightbone de Minshall and Mary Neild	Sept. 19
James Harrison de Wiggan and Ellen Fairclough	Sept. 26
William Barker, of Torpurley, and Mary Vernon	Sept. 28
Edward Williams, of Mollington, and Catherine Quelle	Oct. 14
Robert Hignet, of Stapleford, and Elizabeth Loyd	Oct. 15
William Singleton and Mary Jonnes	Oct. 22
Thomas Davies, of Farndon, and Dorothy Shrigley	Nov. 18

Robert Martin and Anne Hinde	Dec. 9
Thomas Minshall de Hanmore and Mary Mathews	Dec. 12
William Rydgate, of Frodabam, and Frances Hughson	Jan. 6
Rowland Bowland and Anne Birkenhead	Jan. 13
Joseph Maddooke of Longe Greene and Anne Harpur	Jan. 14
Thomas Reece and Elizabeth Wms.	Jan. 14
John Bayly of Manley, and Margaret Wilson	Feb. 1
James Hey, of Holmes, and Mary Lee	Feb. 2
Rafe Chrichley, p'ish of Blakeburne, and Anne Travis	Feb. 4.
Thomas Dewsbury and Mary Danald	Feb. 25
Thomas Price, of Northope, and Jane Price	Feb 2

JUNE 28, 1899.

NOTES.

[445] BISHOP GEORGE LLOYD.

(Continued from No. 442).

Among the Harleian Manuscripts is a document dated 1608, which refers to a tax falling exclusively on the clergy. As they were exempted by their sacred calling from bearing arms in times of danger, they were required to furnish in lieu of personal service the whole or part of the equipment of a soldier. In the year in question, when insurrection prevailed among the people, to prevent the country from being depopulated by letting land go out of tillage into pasturage, a rate was imposed by Lloyd upon his clergy in Lancashire and Cheshire. The poorer incumbents were only called upon to furnish a caliver or a musket 'furnished;' but holders of rich benefices had larger demands made upon them. Thus the Rector of Wigan had to supply a 'light horse furnished,' and his brother of Halsall a 'corslett furnished.'

The bishopric of Chester was at this period very inadequately endowed. It was therefore customary for the bishop to hold one or more livings in *commendam* to enable him to ensure a sufficient income. Thus Lloyd held the rectory of Heswall till 1613, when he resigned it on obtaining that of Bangor Monachorum. In addition to this, he became also rector of Thornton-le-Moors. I cannot ascertain the exact date of his entering on this charge, but I expect that it was in 1607, the year in which the will of William Seaburne, his predecessor,

was proved. The bishop seems to have made Thornton his constant residence. This was doubtless on account of its nearness to Chester, which the prevalence of plague during a great part of Lloyd's episcopate rendered a dangerous abode.*

In 1613, the Bishop preached the sermon at the funeral of Mr. Thomas Gamul, recorder of Chester, 'which was performed by a great multitude of people.'

Lloyd died at the Rectory house of Thornton-le-Moors, 1st August, 1615, in the fifty-fifth year of his age. He was buried privately in the choir of his Cathedral, near Bishop Downham. Mr. Thomas Shute, his lordship's domestic chaplain, according to the custom of the time, preached his funeral sermon in the Cathedral, the Sunday following his death.

According to Browne Willis, the bishop was of a most amiable and lovely countenance—of a mild and righteous nature. King James I. called him the 'Beauty of Holiness.' He was liberal to his friends, merciful to the poor, and died in the prime of life, being much lamented by all.

In memory of the bishop an alabaster stone was placed in the Cathedral, with a brass plate bearing a Latin inscription. Both stone and plate have long disappeared, but the inscription has been preserved. It ran as follows:—

*Immatura mors hoc concludit sepulcro cor
Georgii Lloyd, cujus memoriam reveretur Cestria.
Natione fuit Camber, educatione Cantabr, theol-
ogiae doctor, theologorum ductor. Sodorensi
præfuit et profuit Episcopatus quinque præ-
fectus pacto. Mater Anglia repetiit prolem et
dignata est sinu Episcopatus Cestrensis, ubi
undecim messibus non sine procellis dolorum
elapsis, quinquagesimo quinto ætatis suæ anno,
et primo die mensis Augusti anno Domini, 1615,
lacrimatus, lacrimandus obiit. Nec pudet vitæ,
nec piget mortis.*

(To be continued.)

[446] THE OLD DENHALL COLLIERIES, NESTON.

A correspondent writes:—In an interesting article on 'Deeside Gleanings' the writer, in his summary of mysteries and danger signals, drew public attention to an old dilapidated and disused coalpit shaft, the brickwork cupola of which had partially fallen in, and was therefore

*According to Tanner, Lloyd was also presented to the Rectory of Llanmost in 1596, by Lord Chancellor Egerton. During what years he held this living I do not know.

a source of public danger. There is an interesting chapter of history in this locality. About the year 1750 the Stanley family of Hooton opened the Denhall Collieries, to work which foreign labourers from the county of Lancaster, and also from North Wales, were introduced. The names of some of these still remain in the district. For the space of about one hundred years these collieries were carried on with much vigour, and their scale of operation was very extensive. To facilitate the trade of shipping, a fine quay, now in ruins and all but submerged in the Dee sands, was built. The activity of these collieries was at a time when the railway was not thought of, and the marine engine had not begun to puzzle the active brain of man. The collieries supplied the whole of Wirral with coals, and to the distant locality of Leasowe Castle and back was then a tedious journey. We have heard it stated that vessels frequenting the colliery quay were apt in severe weather to run up for shelter beyond Burton head, where the Midland railway now runs.

'Mortimer,' in his history of Wirral, refers to the old working of these collieries by way of navigation. We have conversed, many years ago, with aged men who worked that navigation. The coal seams of Denhall were mostly thin. There was one called the two-foot. 'He works in the two-foot' was a common saying. We have heard the men that worked in that mine say that in some parts the seam was so thin that with their elbow resting on the floor they could touch the roof with the tips of their fingers. Does it not seem incredible that human beings could be found to descend a mine and work a seam of coal the thickness of two feet; or that they should have been so accustomed to this horrible employment, as to be happy and content in working a boat laden with coals far away under the bed of the river Dee from the workings to the shaft and within the narrow space that permitted them to force the boat along by lying on their backs and using as propellers the leverage of their feet against the roof? There is much sympathy, and properly so, with the dangerous life of the miner. At the Denhall collieries there was no clamour for eight hours a day. Boys, at the tender age of seven years, went down those pits to be employed as 'door tenters.' We have heard old colliers say that for months together in the winter season they never saw the light of day. What slavery could have been worse than this? The penal laws were then such that combination had to be

spoken of with bated breath, and for making such an attempt a prominent miner was sent by a local magistrate to Knutsford prison. Trades unionism has made great progress since the beginning of this century.

At the time when Nelsen was scouring the Mediterranean in search of the French fleet, and England straining every nerve to defend both her homesteads and her empire, Old Parkgate was of much importance as a centre of commerce. The great drain of the then prevailing wars made it imperatively necessary that every eligible citizen should take an active part in the defence of his country. And besides resorting to the ordinary and un-English means of conscription, men were ruthlessly torn from their homes and physically forced into the service. 'The press gang' found ample scope for its employment in Parkgate. Local tradition declares that 'the press gang,' laid hands on a 'Denhall Collier.' This hated act of injustice fired with indignation the men, who rose in their might, and with the implements of their daily toil fell upon and vanquished the press gang, and thereby liberated their comrade. The mounds of the Old Denhall Collieries, like those of some ancient and vanished city, are still to be seen and in evidence of an activity of a bygone age. We never cross those old pit-brows but with some feeling of trepidation. During the long decades through which those works progressed, many pits were opened. We remember one of several in operation that went by the name of No. 10. And besides those, several were opened, but one only worked, at a more recent date, by the Cottingham family in the township of Little Neston. The question here rises, "What has become of all those old pit shafts?" We are now living in a very different age, when the hours of labour are considerably curtailed, and when, through the ease and convenience of travelling, and led by various impulse, the teeming population of our large towns go to every part of the country. Do those old pits require a cordon of danger signals around them, or are they filled up, or sufficiently protected? We know from the past that many of them were but prefactorily closed. More than fifty years ago, two local men, one belonging to Neston, and a member of the Wesleyan body, in moments of forgetfulness walked across those death traps, and in each case the covering gave way. What a terrible death! The thanks of the community are due to the writer of 'Deeside Gleanings' for drawing public atten-

tion to this subject. He it was that prompted these remarks. Let us therefore hope, in these days of enlightenment, with our network of councils, urban, district, and county, that disused coal-pit shafts, for public safety, will be well protected, and not left as hidden and unknown dangers, and possibly death traps to future generations. GEORGE GLEAVE.

[447] MARRIAGE REGISTERS OF ST. OSWALD'S,
CHESTER.

1666

Edward Roberts and Grace Jonnes	April 22
John Hopley of Chorley and Anne Dutton	April 16
Raph Cumberbache of Alvenley and Elizabeth Milner	April 21
Rich. Bushell and Jane Amery	April 22
John Shelly and Mary Davies	April 24
Thomas Ravenscroft of Acton and Anne Tickett	May 7
John Sharman of Browne Low and Sarah Stevenson	May 17
William Parr of Knardley in Prescott p. and Alice Acton	June 23
Richard Kelly and Martha Stringer	June 25
Thomas Vernon of Barnston and Ellen Goulden	June 25
William Basford and Anne Webster	June 26
Randle Holmes and Elizabeth Wilson	July 7
William Allerhead and Miriam Golden	July 31
Richard Hignett of Frodeham and Elizabeth Wright	Sept. 29
John Dentith of Over and Ellen Betteley	Oct. 1
William Bowker of Malpas and Anne Peers	Oct. 1
Thomas Speakman of Namptwich and Elizabeth Edgley	Oct. 3
Randle Farrington and Mary Croughton	Oct. 23
William Catherall and Margaret Tomlinson	Oct. 29
James Scamler of Wallasey and Elizabeth Hill	Nov. 30
Robert Birchall de Northwich and Elizabeth Edgerton	Nov. 24
Thomas Woollam de Norbury and Jane Ravenscroft	Nov. 26
Edward Harrison and Kath. Robinson	Jan. 14
Maurice Williams and Margaret Heyes	Jan. 21
Samuel Bruen and Mary Edwards	Feb. 9
Edward Gibbons of Bebbington and Margaret Curry	Feb. 15

JULY 5, 1899.

NOTES.

[448] BISHOP GEORGE LLOYD.

(Continued from No. 445.)

In the Lansdowne MSS. 879 in the British Museum is a pedigree of the Lloyd family, by which it appears that the bishop married Anne daughter to John Wilkinson of Norwich, by whom he had a family of three sons and three daughters, namely:—

- (1) David, m. Mary Garrard.
- (2) John, baptised at Heswall, 1599.
- (3) Edward, baptised at Heswall, 1604.
- (1) Anne, married (a) Thomas Yale, son of Dr. David Yale (b) Theophilus Eaton.
- (2) Mary, m. (a) John Bruen (b) — Paget.
- (3) Alice.

Other children of the marriage appear, by the Heswall Register, to have died in their infancy.

Mrs. Lloyd long survived her husband, living till after the siege of Chester. The following is her will:—

1640-8. In the Name of God, Amen. [4 Nov. 1640.]

Anne Lloyd of City of Chester widow sick etc.

My bodie to be buried in the Quier of the Cathetherall [sic] Church of Chester where my lousinge husband George Lloyd late Buishop of Chester aforesaid was interred or as neere to the place as may be.

To sonne David Lloyd £30 & my great Bible.

To daughter Eaton 20/-

To sonne Edward Lloyd if he beliveing £30.

To sonne Paggett 20/-

To daughter Marie Paggett £40 & to her two children which she had by Mr. Bruin £40 that is £20 a piece & to the two children she hath by her now husband Mr. Paggett £5 a piece.

To my lovinge cosen Francis Gammell Esquire xxs.

To my God-daughter Alice Gammell his daughter my best piece of plate & to my cosen Freencis Gammell's eldest daughter my presse.

To cosen Mrs. Jane Wright 40/- & her sister Mrs. Elinor Mynshall 40/-

I leave 2 black gownes to 12 poore widdowes.

4 Nov. 1640.

Codicil to Jane Plimley my cosen 20/-

Exors: Francis Gammell & Mrs. Jane Wright.

Witnesses

Wm. Heald.

Anne Lloyd.

Wm. Plimley.

Her mark.

Proved 8 Jan. 1648-9.

by Jane Wright exor. John Wright.

(power reserved)

(Endorsed Mrs. Lloyd's Will.)

The will of DAVID LLOYD, the bishop's eldest son, was proved in 1672.

JOHN LLOYD was dead in 1649, as will be seen by the extract from Gastrell, given below.

Much interest attaches to the bishop's eldest daughter Anne, on account of her successive marriage to two men, whose names are of note in the early settlement of America. Her first husband, Thomas Yale, was the grandfather of Governor Elihu Yale, from whom Yale University received its name. Her second husband, Theophilus Eaton, a native of Stony Stratford, went in 1637 to Boston, in America, and founded in 1639 the settlement of New Haven, of which he was governor till his death in 1658. Descendants of Governor Eaton and his wife are still in existence in America.

Alice Lloyd, the youngest daughter, predeceased her mother, dying 28 June, 1631. She was buried at St. Mary's-on-the-Hill. The arms (in a lozenge) on her funeral certificate are Gules, a chevron between three mullets Or. In the *Blason of Episcopacy*, the bishop's arms are given as Sable, three horses heads coupéd Argent.

I do not know whether a competent authority has ever seriously tried to understand the heraldic inscriptions on the so-called 'Palace.' If he would do so, and give his results in heraldic language, he would confer a great benefit on many inquirers.

In Bishop Gastrell's *Notitia*, p. 169, occurs the following:—Shotwick, in the Deanery of Wirhall. The rectory was granted by Leave of the Dean and Chapter, dated 30 Nov., 1608, to Mr. Henry Wilkinson (probably Mrs. Lloyd's brother) for three lives, viz., Anne, wife of George Lloyd, Bishop of Chester, and David and John, sons of the said bishop, paying £3 0s. 2d. per ann. for the corn tythe. David Lloyd was the only life in being in 1649."

Any further facts respecting this bishop so closely connected all his life with Chester, will be much welcomed.

F. S.

[449] CLERICAL CHANGES IN 1559.

(See Nos. 365, 382, 391, 394, 397, 402, and 406.)

It is perhaps natural that Challoner's 'Missionary Priests' should have little to say of the Marian clergy who conformed to the changes made by Elizabeth, for his record begins only in 1577, with Cuthbert Maine, and at this time most of the old clergy must have died out. Yet he mentions some incidentally. Thus Maine 'had an old schismatical priest to his uncle, that was well beneficed,' and wished Cuthbert to succeed him; and a Richard Williams, 'a venerable priest, who had been ordained in England before the change of religion,' was hanged at Holloway in 1580 for some offence against the new laws. One case, however, may be regarded as local; that of James Bell, 'born at Warrington in Lancashire, and made priest in Queen Mary's days.' He conformed and acted as 'a minister'—the regular term used in contrast to 'priest'—in various parts of the country, but was at last 'reconciled to God and his Church,' and after due penance 'resumed his priestly functions,' apparently in Lancashire. He was arrested, taken from Manchester to Lancaster, and executed there April 20, 1584, aged 60. I have not found his name in Foster's 'Alumni Oxonienses,' but perhaps some of the readers of the *Sheaf* may be able to give information about him.

According to Kay's 'Stranger in Liverpool' the Bishop of Chester was about 1569 'severely reprimanded by the Queen for the laxity of discipline in the service in his diocese, the greatest part of the churches being shut up or supplied by Popish priests.' In November, 1570, the Bishop and the Earl of Derby were summoned to London to explain matters to the Queen, she supposing that it was through the Bishop's 'remissness' that the Prayer-book law was not obeyed. Some years earlier (c. 1564) Pilkington of Durham had written to Abp. Parker: "The Bishop of Chester has compounded with my lord of York for his visitation and gathers up the money by his servant, but never a word spoken of any visitation or reformation; and that, he says, he does of friendship, because he will not trouble the country nor put them to charge in calling them together." From all which it appears that the old clergy of Lancashire and Cheshire, not only retained their benefices, but also to some extent kept up the old services, and that Bishop Downham finding himself helpless shut his eyes and let them do as they please; even when a vacancy occurred through death he could not always fill it.

J. B.

ORIGINAL DOCUMENTS.

[450] THE PARLIAMENTARY ELECTION, 1727.

(See Nos. 202, 215, and 448.)

		Cotton.	Cholmondeley.	Grave.
CAPENHURST.				
Jno. Briscoe	Ledham...	1	1	
Thos. Hesketth	...	1		
Jno. Cowper	Croughton...	1		1
Charles Webster	...	1		
Hugh Worrall	...	1		
Hugh Webster	Tushingam...	1		
Joseph Davies	...	1		
Samuel Briscoe	...	1		
John Hallwood	Sutton...	1	1	
Daniel Hampton	...	1		
Thoms Baxter	...	1		
Thoms Larton	...	1		
CHALTON.				
John Hatton	...		1	1
CRABBALL.				
Wm. Gammull, Esq.	Chester...	1	1	
CROUGHTON.				
Jno. Frodsham	...	1	1	
Jno. Frodsham D.	...	1	1	
EASTHAM.				
Thomas Wharton	...	1	1	
Jno. Jones	...	1	1	
Thomas Gibson	Oxton ...	1	1	
Wm. Deaves	...	1	1	
John Perry	...	1	1	
Samuel Hayes	...	1	1	
John Moore	...	1	1	
John Robinson	...	1	1	
John Coarse	...	1	1	
Jno. Martin	...	1	1	
Jno. Grice	...	1	1	
Thomas Marshall	...	1	1	
James Whithead	...		1	
Robert Hayes	...	1	1	
William Beckett	Leverpoole...	1	1	
FRANKBY.				
Peter Widdens	...	1		
Daniel Rathbone	...		1	1
Arthur Bennett	...		1	1
Robert Young	...		1	1
GRATON.				
John Fowles	...	1		
Thos. Jones	...	1		
Robert Norris	...	1		
Wm. Glegg, Esq.	...	1		
George Minshall	...	1		
Robert Crabb	...	1		
Jno. Hughes	...	1		
Henry Totty	...	1		
Edward Green	...	1		
Arthur Johnson	...	1		

GRAISEY.

Ralph Burrows	Chester...	1
Samuel Warton	...	1
Isaac Hale	Meols Mag...	1
Thomas Youde	...	1 1
Robert Warton	...	1 1
Thomas Gill	Tranmore...	1 1
Jno. Crompton	Liverpooles...	1 1
Peter Bethin	Geaton...	1
James Southern	...	1 1

GRANGE.

Wm. Glegg, Esqr.	...	1
Wm. Blower	...	1
Peter Whitley	...	1
Peter Kelsall	...	1
Thom's Robinson	...	1
Joseph Meason	...	1
Thomas Washington	...	1
Peter Williams	...	1
John Young	...	1
Joseph Young	...	1
Thomas Potter	Mostyn...	1 1

HESWELL-CUM-OLDFIELD.

Jno. Bennett	...	1 1
Jno. Ainsworth	...	1 1
Saml. Hancock	...	1 1
Rogr. Ainsworth	...	1 1
Thos. Vandrey	...	1

HOOTON.

Robert Spark	...	1 1
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HIGH LAKE.

Thom's Bedson	Chester...	1
Edward Bolland	...	1
Wm. Rowland	...	1
Charles Molliley	...	1

IREY.

George Ball, gent.	Chester...	1 1
John Glegg, esqr.	Neston...	1
Jno. Hammond	...	1 1
Nat. Dawson	...	1 1
Joseph Briscoe	...	1 1

LANDICAN.

John Ballymore [? Dallymore]	...	1
Henry Heys	Liverpooles...	1 1
Israel Leach	Frodsham...	1 1

LEDHAM.

Thomas Cross	...	1
Thomas Cross	...	1

LEIGHTON.

Thomas Price	...	1 1
Jno. Wolstenholme	...	1 1
Wm. Humphreys	Parkgate...	1 1
Robert Hill	...	1 1
Thos. Johnson	...	1 1
Wm. Baker	...	1 1
John Porter	...	1 1
Jno. Briscoe	Parkgate...	1 1

(To be continued.)

[451] MARRIAGE REGISTERS OF ST. OSWALD'S,
CHESTER.

1667.

Thomas Axon and Anne Brookes	April 26
Robert Boulton and Frances Vaux	May 28
Randle Tunnah (?) and Joane Brock	July 29
Roger Chetwoode and Margaret Wright	Aug. 20
Tho. Acton and Mary Handcooke	Oct. 1
Robert Gardiner and Ales Walton	Oct. 22
Will. Allen and Anne Burrows	Nov. 5
John Leigh and Elizabeth Gooze	Dec. 21
Owen Shone and Jane Denhall	Dec. 31
Robert Bather and Jane Moores	Jan. 1
John Taylor and Margery Much	Jan. 9
Will Willson and Elizabeth Marsh	Jan. 15
John Howell and Elizabeth Lowe	March 24

JULY 12, 1899.

NOTES.

[452] RICHARD BLUNDELL, THE COLLIER
ARTIST OF NESTON.

Unlike some other parts of Wirral, Great Neston has not been eminently successful in the production of great men. The one of humble birth, and remarkable worth, to whom I am about to refer, was a prominent character in the streets of Neston sixty years ago.

A British statesman, and a model of perseverance, declared as his opinion that every man, if he so willed, at some period of life had a chance of bettering his condition, if not of becoming great. And the man debarred of such chance was deserving of pity.

The greatest of England's dramatists must have held this view when he wrote, 'There is a tide in the affairs of men which taken at the flood leads on to fortune.' Another poet, and with deep pathos, declares, 'How many a gem of purest ray serene, the dark unfathomed caves of ocean bear.'

These lines are appropriately applicable to 'Richard Blundell,' the collier artist, who was born in Neston when the merest rudiments of knowledge were not to be had by such as he.

'The Chylde of Hale,' John Middleton, is said to have been nine feet three inches in height. The Rev. Wm. Stewart, in his memorials of Hale, says that a descendant of his, living in 1804, was more than six feet; and other descendants are now living, of the name of 'Blundell,' very similar in bulk to the 'chylde,' but only of common size as to height. Richard Blundell, of Neston, and the coincidence is sin-

gular, was of great stature, some six feet two or three inches, and remarkable for his erect and well physically-developed appearance. He also descended from a Lancashire family not far distant from the pretty village of Hale.

Richard Blundell was entirely illiterate; yet, with his great physical power, the most harmless of men. In his convivial moments, among his fellows, he was ever ready to render harmoniously the ballad history of those wars which had made England famous down to the year 1815. The daily life of this man was spent at an adjoining colliery, in the arduous occupation of a surface man, a labour, for which, at the pit mouth, his huge strength had eminently fitted him.

Nature, however, seemed to have intended him for a very different class of work. This uneducated, untutored, and entirely untrained, and friendless colliery-man was no mean artist. Nature, in her distribution of genius, makes no invidious distinction; he was doubtless destined and impelled to be a painter of animal life. After putting off the grim garb of a collier, this horn-handed son of toil might have been seen in his cottage home, his huge form, a picture in itself, bent over the canvas, amid surroundings far from contributing to the comfort of his work. He, however, could assiduously wield the brush, and apply himself with ease, surrounded by thoughtless, and gossiping idlers.

The horse was his favourite study. And many racehorses of the past; notably those of Sir Thomas Stanley, of Hooton, and Mr. Mostyn, he put on canvas. Those pictures may not have gained admission to the Royal Academy; yet, they nevertheless were deserving of much praise, especially the Queen of Trumps, the victor of the Oaks and the St. Leger.

Richard Blundell in his spare moments was never idle. His labour, however, was, unfortunately, not very remunerative. The dog he could paint well, as he could also the game-cock. In his time the sport of the cock-pit was not considered brutal. It was not then a proscribed sport. It was inseparable from the Chester and many other race meetings. But the cock-pit was on the decline, and is now, happily, extinct. The sport then was largely patronised by the colliers of Little Neston and Ness. Richard Blundell was not only a patron of the cock-pit, but he benefited from it in his humble profession, by transmitting many a favoured and victorious chantecler to the canvas.

The brutal clamour, and pandemonious hideousness then prevailing at the Cock-pit, shocked the morals, in a not very moral age, of the inquisitive, and ever active 'Mr. Samuel Pepys' in London nearly two hundred years before. The following is the description he gives:—"Dec. 21st, 1663. To Shoe lane to see a cock fighting at a new pit there, a sport I was never at in my life, but Lord! to see the strange variety of people, from Parliament man by name 'Wildes,' that was deputy governor of the Tower when Robinson was Lord Mayor, to the poorest prentices, bakers, brewers, butchers, draymen, and what not; and all these fellows, one with another, in swearing, cursing, and betting. I soon had enough of it. It is strange to see how people of this poor rank, that look as if they had not bread to put in their mouths, shall bet three or four pounds at one bet and lose it, and yet bet as much the next battle, so that one of them will lose £10, or £20, at a meeting." The betting propensities of our countrymen have little abated since the days of 'Samuel Pepys.'

We now refer to Richard Blundell as a painter of public-house signs and signboards. The antiquity of the signboard is an interesting subject. Great changes have taken place with regard to their fashion. Now, since a great revolution has taken place in the management of the inn, the signboard is hidden out of sight. It was not so at the time of which we write. Then, when the stage-coach passed through the turnpike, and the footpad had barely left the highway, the painted swing signboard was a work of art that charmed the village and enlivened the road. The painted swing signboard stood well out from the front of every hostelry. The griffin, the green man, the boar's head, and the golden lion found much work for the local artist.

Notwithstanding the varied, grotesque, and multitudinous pictures that adorned, and gave names to the old hotels, the versatility of Richard Blundell was such that he could paint those signs with satisfaction to his numerous patrons. We cannot omit naming the Chesapeake and Shannon. Those two historic ships he painted for a publican at Thurstaston, who served on board the latter ship. It was a grand sight to see the American ship sail gaily out of Boston Harbour, the band playing, and with flying colours, to meet in single and deadly combat her ready antagonist. We have heard Blundell sing the song descriptive of that fierce conflict.

Here was a Neston man, now forgotten, in the lowest grade of life, entirely without influence, and without knowledge, so much so that he could not even pencil the letters he had to write, working at the drudgery of a colliery, yet endowed with the ability of an artist. So enthusiastic was he with animal life, that in happy moments we have seen him with his fingers shadow on the wall the figure of a rabbit.

His want of knowledge, however, was such that he did not know the name, nor did he ever see the work of a great master. Benjamin West was of humble origin; but, through travel (although under great difficulties), he saw the great works of foreign masters in Rome, and afterwards attained great fame.

The animal paintings of Sir Edwin Landseer are considered of great merit, yet Blundell, in his unfortunate position, would not have hesitated in saying that he could paint as good a picture. Had Blundell lived in these days of compulsory education, and enjoyed the advantage of technical training, now so cheap, or had there been in Neston to take him by the hand some wealthy admirer of art, how different might have been the result.

Richard Blundell had the intuitive knowledge of an artist, but lacked woefully that education and fine conceptive training so eminently necessary to qualify a man for the attainment of high honour. He, however, continued the dual work, go entirely opposed, of colliery-man and artist. It is pitiable to think that his genius was in a great measure lost to the world. He died in indigence. And it may be said of him—

That he was born to bluish unseen
And waste his sweetness on the desert air.

GEORGE GLEAVE.

[453] THE PARLIAMENTARY ELECTION, 1727.
(See Nos. 202, 215, 443, and 450.)

	Cotton.	Chol.	mondeley.	Crews.
LISCARD.				
Thomas Richardson	..	1		
Thos. Shirlock	...		1	1
Thos. Nicholls	...	1		
Thos. Tongue	...	1		
Wm. Strong	...	1		
Jno. Urmstone	...	1		
Jno. Molyneux	...	1		
LISTER.				
Thos. Cotton	...	1		

Henry Taylor	MEOLS.	...	1
Joseph Dun		...	1
Thos. Daulbin	MEOLS MAGNA.	...	1 1
Saml. Peacock		...	1
Thos. Gay		...	1
Jno. Harrison		...	1 1
Lawrence Husband		...	1 1
Henry Gyle		...	1
Thomas Birtles	Wallasey...	1	1
Jno. Rice	MEOLS PARVA.	...	1
Richard Rimmer		...	1
Thos. Mulliley		...	1
Daniel Beumson [P] Urmson		...	1
Wm. Johnson		...	1 1
Peter Griffith		...	1
Henry Price		...	1 1
Thomas Coventry	Wallasey...	1	
Jno. Dod		...	1
Henry Little		...	1
Arthur Fogg, D.D.	MOLLINGTON LOWE.	Chester...	1 1
Thos. Welchman	MOLLINGTON.	...	1
Laur. Swarbrick		Chester...	1
Robert Ridge		Chester...	1 1
Thos. Jackson		Bebington...	1 1
Daniel Burrows	MOLLINGTON MAGNA.	Whixsall, Salop...	1
Robert Gregory		...	1
Thos. Griffiths		...	1
Thos. Peers		Huntington...	1 1
Thomas Robinson	MORERTON.	Chester...	1 1
George Wilson		Chester...	1 1
Joseph Edwards		...	1
Thomas Stanford		...	1
Joseph Nangreave		...	1
John Webster		...	1
Daniel Barrow	NESS.	..	1
Theodore Cottingham	NESTON MAGNA.	...	1
John Pickance		Burton...	1 1
John Mathers		Parkgate...	1 1
Wm. Wilkinson		Nesse...	1 1
Thoms Bolland		...	1 1
Edward Bury		Parkgate...	1 1
Edward Heap		...	1 1
John Green		Parkgate...	1 1
Wm. Blackburn		Parkgate...	1 1
Wm. Firgison		...	1 1
Thos. Wolstenholme		...	1 1
Henry Wolstenholme		...	1 1
Henry Edwards		...	1
Robert Jones		...	1 1
Joseph Boardman		...	1

George Benson	...	1
Peter Rider	...	1 1
Thos. Mason, Esq.	Place Mollan...	1
John Ball	...	1 1
Richard Hudson	...	1 1
Jno. Kelsall	...	1 1
James Wolstenholme, Senr.	...	1 1
Joseph Pemberton	...	1
Richard Warring	...	1 1
Wm. Jones	...	1 1
Saml. Ansdall	...	1
Thos. Whitall	Parkgate...	1 1
Hugh Bennett	...	1 1
Wm. Philips	...	1
James Wolstenholme Junr.	...	1 1
John Hancock	Ledham...	1 1
Wm. Bridge	...	1
Thomas Johnson	Upton...	1
Joseph Buckley	...	1
Thomas Laik	...	1 1
George Bedson	...	1 1
Robert Maddock	...	1
Samuel Bayley	...	1 1
Wm. Young	...	1 1
Henry Ball	...	1 1
Jonathan Youde	...	1 1
Wm. Fletcher	...	1 1
Crouch Somerset	...	1 1
Richard Warning	...	1 1

(To be continued.)

[454] MARRIAGE REGISTER OF ST. OSWALD'S,
CHESTER.

1668.

George Malbone and Elizabeth Leigh	Mar. 26
Mr. Francis Massey and Anne Powell	April 23
Will. Hely and Elizabeth Newton	April 30
Tho. Newsam and Deborah Bennett	April 30
John Battersby and Elin Scofeifeild (<i>sic</i>)	Ap. 30
Rowland Rowlin and Elizabeth Winne	May 7
Richard Starkey and Anne Moores	May 11
Arthur Smyth of Coppenhall and Hannah Breiveley	May 11
Mr. John Young and Mrs. Martha Winckley	June 2
John Lancelet and Margaret Kenion of Leverpoole	June 24
John Brookes and Lydia Rylands, of Reddish, of the parish of Manchester	July 10
Phillip Tomson and Siscoley Jonson	Aug. 12
John Colley and Mary Hough, wid.	Aug. 13
Richard Michell and Bebecka Taylor	Aug. 29
John Hunt and Elizabeth Charnock	Sept. 8
Thomas Crane and Elizabeth Davies	Sept. 10
John Bashford and Margret Heawood	Sept. 22
John Holland de Budworth parva and Frances Pollit	Sept. 29
John Kelley, jun. and Elizabeth Whitehall	Dec. 24
Isaac Lawd and Ruth Formbie	Dec. 24
Isaac Crosse and []	Jan. 26
Richard King tallce changler and Katharine Starkey, both of this parish	Feb. 2
Mr. Beeven married Mr. Swift sister	Feb. 9

JULY 19, 1899.

ORIGINAL DOCUMENTS.

[455] AN EARLY CHESHIRE LETTER.

In going through a hairy portfolio of horsehide, containing old letters and other documents which have lain in obscurity for a great many years, I find an almost forgotten ancient Hellesby letter—the sole survivor of its kind and day—though others, in the year 1852, may have been destroyed with numerous other documents. By the character of the handwriting, it must be of late Hen. Vith date, or perhaps of the reign of Edw. IV. It is written on a scrap of paper, in fair condition, and measuring 8ins. by 5. The following is a copy, directed—“To my Worl Cozyn Rafe Vernon esquire—be Theise deliv'ed in haste.” And endorsed below, in a hand of the reign of Elizabeth—“Palm Sunday A^o 1459—L're Randle hellesby esqr. unto Randle Vernon esqr.”—the date being mere guesswork, and it may be 10 or 20 years earlier—though not much later. Mr. Beaumont, I remember, thought it was a contemporary copy, until I drew his attention to the folds and seal stain. It is the *original*; and may have been brought back to Helshy by Mr. Vernon in the hurry and confusion of the occasion. There are very few, if any, letters extant of so early a date in any county.

“Ryghte Worschyppl. Cozyn I com'end me unto you And forsuethe [forsooth] as my gadde ladye your moder remayneth in grete sykenesse att Hellesby shew wyll nott retorne to haalyntone tyll better butt she schalbe amended as quiklie as mayebe [may be], my ladie butteler came hidder on monedaye my maistrisse Rotter and my ladye venabelles and dyveres other [*sic*] gentellwomen lykewysse com' hidder & desyred to have hadd yow there they yeden [*sic*—ridden?] hence thys daye: cozyn I praye you haste hidder & send my somme Henghe to frere Petres or sum' oder gode leche hastilly I have sente the Chestre leches aways noe gode could' thaie doe butt mayde her sykenesse growe gratelie, the barer Marmaduke dutton will saie yo' furdur in yis [this] mattre and thenking ryghte hartelie youre goode cozynschyppe for yore gode & gentill l'res & prayeing you to bee godde mayst' to my kynnesmanne Jeffraye doune [Done] who hethe journeyed to londonn yest'daye: Ryghte entyrelly beloved cozyn I beseeche the blisshed Trinyte kepe & p'serve you in hon'er & p'spitie: Wretten att hellesby on palme Sondaye

By yor. bedesmanne and Cozyn

RAFE HELLESBY.”

It should here be noticed that as William Hellesby (called Wm. de Hellesby in some earlier charters, and who was the last of the 'de's') married John Vernon of Haslington's daughter, 28 Hen. VI. (after his first wife, Mary Massey, died, or was divorced—or had been merely espoused), this 'Rafe Hellesby,' the writer of the letter, must, by all the evidences, have been William's father, 'Ranulph de Hellesby,' (who died after 1460) by Dorothy de Trafforde, his widow, 8 Edw. IV. His aunt was Matilda de Warburton, cousin of Richard de Warburton, a sheriff of Cheshire not on the list of sheriffs between 1400 and 1424, as perhaps he succeeded a sheriff who had died in his year of office. However, Ranulph de Hellesby—the diminutive of which is Randle—was, I think, on several occasions miscalled Rafe. 'Rafe,' however, was probably used if not from a mere whim (although they cared little for names in those days), to distinguish him from another Ranulph—the diminutive of which is "Randle"—who was probably his own son, 28 Hen. VI.

'Of all Cheshire names I never before met with a 'Marmaduke'—an almost purely Yorkshire name—which, however, reminds me that about a century afterwards a scion of Dutton turned up near Whitby Abbey (Scarborough), and married the daughter of Sir Hugh Cholmondeley, the abbey grantee, who, being a younger son, himself, appears, by his diary, to have sympathised with young Dutton. The latter, however, was not named 'Marmaduke.' The Lady Mutteler of the letter was doubtless wife of the Baron of Warrington—Boteler (Butler). T. H.

[456] THE VAWDREY FAMILY.

An old paper (not the original, but perhaps 100 years old) in the possession of Arthur W. Wray, Esq., London, 1884.

These are to certify whom it may concerne That Edward Vawdrey was born at Owlbarrow in the Parish of Bowdon in Cheshire, was the son of M^t. William Vawdrey by Alice sister to Sir Edward More of Kerlington in Nottinghamshire, the Father of which William was Mr. John Vawdrey of the Banke in the same Parish of Bowdon whose Father was Mr. Robert Vawdrey of the Reddings and of Bank too in the aforesaid Parish and had other Lands in other Places in the said County and in the City of Chester and in the City too of London of a considerable yearly value and had been (as by some writings I have seen) Vicechamberlaine of Chester, those of the said gentlemen that lived in my memory were allways accounted gentlemen and did bear Armes as I have seene. July 20th, 1683. Signed EDW. LEGH.

Examr, per Gr. King Rougedragon }
Unâ cum Amanuensi suo }

Robertus Vawdrey de la Reddings et de
Banke in Parochia de Bowdon in Com. Palatino
Cestria Generosus et Vice Camerarius Civitatis
Cestrie
Johannes Vawdrey de la Banke in
Parochia prædictâ Generosus.

Gulielmus Vawdrey de Owlbarrow in dictâ
parochiâ de Bowden. Duxit Aliciam filiam
Gulielmi More de Thelwall in Com. Cestrie
Generosi, Soror Dni Edwardi More de Kirt-
lington
Com. Nottinghamis Baronetti

Edwardus Vawdrey Generosus jam Superstes
Ao. 1683.

NOTES.

[457] CHESHIRE MARTYRS.

It would seem that none of the heroes of 'Foxe's Martyrs,' were Cheshire men, Protestantism having secured but a very slight hold on the North of England so early as the reign of Mary. It is otherwise when one comes to read of the victims of her successor's persecution in Challoner's 'Memoirs of the Missionary Priests.' Here there are accounts of the following, whose names are recorded in the hope that some reader may be able to give fuller details as to parentage and family history:—

Crockett, Ralph. Born at Barton on the Hill, Cheshire; studied and ordained at Rheims; sent on the English Mission 1585; executed for his priesthood at Chichester, October 1, 1588, along with another priest, Edward James of Braiston in Derbyshire.

Holford, Thomas (alias Acton). Born at Aston in Cheshire; his father was a minister. Being tutor in the family of Scudamore of Holm Lacy, Hereford, he had a discussion with a priest, the result being a journey to Rheims, reconciliation to the Roman Church, and ordination. In about two years he returned to London, and escaping a search, went into Cheshire to make converts among his friends; was taken and imprisoned in Chester Castle, and thence brought to London. He escaped once more, but next year (1588) was captured and executed (Clerkenwell, August 28). He was one of seven who suffered for their religion on the same day in or near London.

Sherts, John. Born in Cheshire; educated at Brasenose College, Oxford (B.A., 1566-7). Became a schoolmaster in London; then

crossed the seas to Douay (1578) and Rome, where he was made priest; returned to England in 1579, and laboured in Cheshire. Being arrested, he was sent to the Tower July 14, 1581; condemned in the following November, and executed at Tyburn, May 28, 1582, with two other priests. He is entitled 'Blessed,' in accordance with the decree of Pope Leo XIII., Dec. 29, 1886.

Ward, Margaret. Born at Congleton, in Cheshire, of a gentleman's family. While residing in London, in the service of a lady of rank, she assisted a priest (Richard Watson) to escape from Bridewell prison, by carrying a rope to him, concealed under some provisions. The priest lowered himself by the rope, and escaped; but Margaret Ward, and one of the boatmen who assisted his flight were convicted and executed. She suffered at Tyburn, August 30, 1588, in company with a priest and four laymen.

Wilcox, Robert. Born at Chester. Educated and ordained at Rheims, and returned to England in 1586. Laboured in Kent, and was executed at Canterbury, October 1, 1588, with two other priests and a layman.

Besides the above, Challoner relates that *Henry Starkey*, a younger brother of John Starkey, of Darley, in Cheshire, was condemned as a priest in the 'Popish Plot' agitation of 1679-80, but reprieved. He had fought on the king's side in the civil wars, and had had one of his legs shot off by a cannon ball. Being banished, he resumed his studies, and was (by dispensation) ordained.

[458] MARRIAGE REGISTERS OF ST. OSWALD'S,
CHESTER.
1669.

Robert Harefinch of Neerer Sutton in Worrel and Catherine Armeby	April 21
John Jones of Whiteby and Gwenn Jones, widow	May 1
James Hatch and Elizabeth Kirokham, both of this parish	May 26
Thomas Mason and Ales Wright, both in Tarvin parish	June 24
Thomas Smith, of Malpas par., and Ales Walker, of Coddington par.	June 24
Mr. Edward Daxson (?) and Anne Halton, both of Malpas par.	June 24
Peter Price, of St. Michell's par., and Dorrathy Joynson, of St. Oswald's par.	July 4
Henry Richardson and Ellen Eaton, both of St. Trennity	July 20
James Hobson and Grace Colsall, both of the parish of Chill (?)	July 27
James Moss and Margreat Nickalds, both of St. Oswald's par	Sept. 25

John Rowland and Catharine Buckeley (?), both of Stapleford	Sep. 29
William Lightbound of the houlr par and Margreat Dod, of Malpas par.	Sep. 30
John Realye and Mary Richardson, both of Hessall par.	Sept. 30
Hu'phrey Witherton, of Ince par., and Anne Woodlands, in Thornton par.	Sept. 30
John Ormes and Margreat Edwards	Oct. 9
John Adams and Elizabeth Stookton, both of Fradsume par.	Oct. 30
Thomas Wakefeild, of St. John's par., and Hannah Pemberton	Oct. 31
Mr. William Therlesfall and Chatharine Williams	Nov. 18
Peter Bennitt and Anne Croughton	Nov. 27
Thomas Church and Chatharine Buckley both of Namptwich par.	Dec. 28
Thomas Houlr of Thornton par. and Margreat Widens of Stoke	Jan. 22
William Wilson and Jane Barker	Jan. 23
Richard Lewis of St. John's par. and Chatharine Holmes	Jan. 31
Thomas Gleaton and Elnor Merrick both of Tarven par.	Feb. 5
Charles Bradshaw and Margreat Edge both of the par. of Gresford	Mar. 19

JULY 26, 1899.

NOTES.

[459] A 'SEDITIONOUS PAPER' FOUND AT
CHESTER IN 1561-2.

In January 1561-2 Sir W. Cecil (Lord Burghley) sent a certain paper to Archbishop Parker to be copied and returned. It appears from the notes in the Parker Society's edition of the Archbishop's correspondence (p. 163) that a 'paper book' had been found in the street at Chester, and, appearing seditious, sent by the Council of Wales to the Privy Council. It seems to have been a manuscript, because Cecil intended to send it back to Chester, 'thereby to try out the writers, because their hands might be sought.' The contents of the book are believed to be the tract printed in Bishop Pilkington's works (Parker Soc., pp. 481-644), and the story is this: On June 4, 1561, St. Paul's Cathedral was badly damaged by fire; on the following Sunday (June 8) Pilkington preached on the subject at Paul's Cross, making it a call to repentance, and on the 10th an account of the accident, with an outline of the sermon, was printed. This stirred up a certain John Morien (or Morwen, or

Moren), who had been chaplain to Bishop Bonner, to write an 'Addition,' with certain 'Questions' appended, suggesting that the burning was a Divine judgment on the change of religion which had lately been carried out by the Queen, and urging forcibly that any compliance with the new services by priests or by laymen was unlawful and schismatic. Pilkington's answer, in the proportion of eight or ten pages to each page of the original, was not printed till March, 1563-4, or more than two years after the paper book had been picked up in Chester. One sentence from the reply may be quoted, as it seems to contain a play on the name Morien:—"I have seen and heard many foolish unlearned Papists, but a more ass than this I have not." The 'Additions' and the reply contain a number of interesting points, but the question is, how was it that this book of Morien's was 'cast abroad' in Chester, who cast it abroad, and what became of them? Perhaps someone versed in the local annals will be able to solve the puzzle.

ORIGINAL DOCUMENTS.

[460] WITTON (OR NORTHWICH) GRAMMAR SCHOOL.

In the *Sheaf* of last year were printed the statutes of the above-named school. We add as a supplement to these a list of all the deeds, &c., belonging to it. The list is from a manuscript one in the possession of the Rev. Francis Sanders, and is apparently in the handwriting of the Rev. Wm. Hadfield, an antiquary of some repute.

EDITORS.

The Attorney Genr. }
v. } Copy Schedule.
Chantler }

The Attorney General at & by the Relation of John Mint & others.

plaintiff.....against.....Thomas Chantler the Elder Defendant.

The LIST or Schedule referred to by the above named Defendant & therein stated to be left in the Hands of his Clerk in Court of all and singular the several deeds Muniments Escripts Evidences and Writings relating to the Free Grammar School of Witton in the county of Chester now in the Hands, Custody or possession of the above named Thos. Chantler the elder surviving Bailiff Feoffee of the said school.

1558:—A parchment roll said to be the original Statutes and orders of the Founder of the said School etc.

K

[1578] October. 20th Elizabeth A Book containing the Bailiff's feoffees accounts for the said School.

1630. Another containing the Bailiff's Feoffees accounts for the said School.

1657. Ancient writings and memorandums relative to a Bill and Answers in Chancery Exhibited about that time by George Venables of Agden against Peter Venables and George Lowe Bailiffe Feoffees for relief against a Decree of the Commissioners for Charitable Uses concerning a Chief Rent of 3/4 per annum payable to Witton School and 16 years arrears of same.

30th December, 1712. A Lease of a house in the Swine Market in Northwich from the Trustees of Witton School to Peers Massey.

18th February, 1714. Counterpart of a Lease from the Trustees of Witton School to Thomas Urmeon for 21 years of a House and Lands [in] Larton [in] Wirral in the County of Chester.

19th April, 1716. Lease and Counterpart from the Trustees of Witton School to Daniel Pickance of Two houses and two Closes of land in Chester.

22nd and 23rd April, 1722. Indentures of Lease and Release of Witton School Land from Thomas Mouldsworth and others surviving Trustees to Richard Mouldsworth and others new Chosen Trustees.

19th September, 1728. Copy lease from the Trustees of Witton School to Gabriel Wettenhall of Lands in the Forest Street in Chester for three lives and 53 years after to Build on.

7th January, 1736. Lease and Counterpart for 21 years of Lands in Wirral from the Trustees of Witton School to Samuel Urmeon.

7th and 8th April, 1746. Indentures of Lease and Release in Trust for Witton School being an appointment of new Feoffees.

18th October, 1754. Counterpart of a Lease from the Trustees of Witton School to Daniel Pickance of 3 Houses and 2 Closes in Chester.

25th March, 1758. Counterpart of Lease from the Feoffees of Witton School to Josiah and George Day of a tenement in Larton Wirral, late Urmsone.

1st May, 1760. John Massey's assignment of Lease of a House in Northwich to James Pinkstone.

28th July, 1766. Lease from Sir Peter Leicester Baronet to the Right Honorable George Lord Vernon and others Trustees for Witton School of a Close or parcel of Land in Witton near to the said School.

27th and 28th August, 1767. Indentures of Lease and Release in Trust for Witton School being an Appointment of new Feoffees.

1st and 2nd Sept., 1772. Indentures of Lease and Release in Trust for Witton School being an Appointment of new Feoffees.

15th and 16th October, 1834. Indentures of Lease and Release in Trust for Witton School being an Appointment of new Feoffees.

1st January, 1785. Lease from the Feoffees of Witton School to George Day of a Tenement and Lands in Larton for 7 years.

A Map of the Estate at Larton Wirral belonging to Witton School. A Survey and Valuation of the said Estate.

(To be continued.)

[461] THE POLL BOOK OF CHESHIRE, 1727.

(Continued from No. 453.)

		Cotton.	Chol.	mondeley.	Crews.
NESTON PARVA CUM HARGRAVE.					
John Thomason, gent.	Tarvin...	1	1		
Saml. Warning	...	1			
Thomas Charnook	...	1	1		
Andrew Potter	...	1			
George Earlam	...	1	1		
Joseph Wilson	Burton...	1	1		
NEWTON CUM LARTON.					
Richard Smith, clerk, Woodchurch [PWhit-	church] Salop...	1	1		
John Briscall	...	1	1		
James Williamson	...	1	1		
Wm. Rider	...	1	1		
James Turkinson [PJenkinson]	...	1	1		
PLIMYARD.					
Robert Glazier	...	1	1		
POOLE.					
James Stanley	...	1			
Robert Pye	...	1			
Robert Pulford, Chester	...	1	1		
Thomas Simcock	...	1			
POOLE NEITHER.					
Francis Poole, Esq.	...	1			
POOLE OVER.					
Robert Booth	...	1			
Edward Hawkins	Buerton...	1	1		
Samuel Lee	...	1			
Jno. Goodacre	...	1			
POOLTON-CUM-SEACUM.					
George Clive	...	1			
Joshua Young	...	1	1		
Joseph Bird	...	1			
Jno. Wilson	...	1			
Thos. Wilson	...	1			
Henry Tyrant	...	1	1		
Richard Wilson	...	1			
POOLTON-CUM-SPITTLE.					
George Linoh	...	1	1		
Jacob Heyes	...	1	1		
John Bolland	...	1	1		
Francis Sutton					
Thomas Curry	...	1	1		
POOLTON.					
John Martin	...	1	1		
Wm. Bedson	...	1	1		
Thomas Fairclough	...	1			
PRENTON.					
Thomas Williams	Tranmore...	1	1		
Robert Dod	...	1	1		
Jno. Tyson	...	1	1		
Ben. Burgess	Upton...	1			
SAUGHALL.					
Peter Jackson	...	1	1		
SAUGHALL MASSY.					
Thos. Ansdale	...	1	1		
Thos. Harrison	...	1			
SAUGHALL MAGNA.					
Richard Denson	Wervin...	1	1		
Obadiah Johnson	Chester...	1			
Jno. Davies	...	1	1		
Rich. Whitby	...	1			
Peter Conghin	...	1			
Mathew Brown	...	1			
Daniel Dun	...	1			
Joseph Wilson	...	1			
Samuel Bennett	...	1	1		
Thomas Chamberlain	...	1			
George Chamberlain	...	1			
SAUGHALL PARVA.					
Lawrence Jackson	Blacon...	1	1		
Thomas Deo [sic for Doe]	Chester...	1	1		
SEACOMB.					
Edward Young	...	1			
Jno. Rutter	...	1			
SALTER'S HOUGH.					
James Wilkinson	...	1	1		
SHOTWICK.					
Robert Jones	Puddington...	1	1		
Peter Tudor	...	1			
Thos. Brereton, Esqre	Westminster...	1			
Thos. Webster	...	1			
Thos. Pheasant	...	1			
Richard Massey	...	1			
Thoms Maddocks	...	1	1		
Jno. Spark	Sutton...	1	1		
Henry Leche	Denham...	1	1		
Edward Molyneux	...	1			
SPITTLE.					
Edward Briscoe	...	1	1		
Jno. Rea	...	1	1		
STANWAY [STANNBY].					
Sir Henry Bunbury, Bart.	Chester...	1	1		
Jonathan Gamon	...	1	1		
Wm. Wilkinson	...	1	1		
Thos. Audley	...	1	1		
STOAK.					
Charles Barns, Clerk	Picton...	1	1		
Thomas Kemp	Chester...	1			
Richard Bevand	...	1	1		
John Alley	Upton...	1	1		

(To be continued.)

[462] MARRIAGE REGISTERS OF ST. OSWALD'S
CHESTER, 1670.

Robert Johnson and Ellin Yates, both of Grapnall	April 3
Francois Heaward of Great Budworth and Mary Jaxson	April 7
Thomas Ellam and Sarah Tickle both of Fradsome	April 16
Thomas Pollett of Tarvin and Elizabeth Davis of Bumberie	April 16
William Bristo and Jane Morris both of St. John's par	April 21
Richard Johnson of Plimstone and Elizabeth Penny of Barrow	April 23
William Willoughbie and Jane Muchell	June 30
Ralph Massie of St. Oswald's and Chatharine Reece of Trennity par.	May 9
Thomas Richardson of Blimstone (Plemstall) par. and Frances Sefton of Eunkhorne par.	May 30
John Celsall of Pickton of Blimstone par. and Anne Bidder of Gilden Suttan	May 30
Thomas Filken and Mary Morte both of Tarven par.	June 15
● John Goulbourne and Chatharine Barrett	May 12
John Calcott of St. Ollives and Sarah Wats of St. Oswalds	June 16
Thomas Millington and Martha Henahall both of Namptwhich	June 23
Thomas Pue of Pulford and Ellin Ridgate of Hearden	June 23
Randle Smith, of Namptwhich par., and Elizabeth Stanniell, of Mare par.	June 24
William Robinson and Ellin Berrie, both of Gt. Budworth	June 25
Charles Lightfoote, of Thornton par., and Margaret Williams	June 25
John Smith and Jane Gough	July 25
William Robinson and Mary Hall, both of Tilstone par.	July 28
Jeffrey Cheere and Elizabeth Knowles, both of Plimstone par.	Aug. 6
John Boycroft and Lucie Roberts, both of St. Ollives	Aug. 9
John Hiocke and Alles Maddock	Aug. 15
Mr. Thomas Spearin Marchante and Mrs. Catherine Russell, both strangers	Aug. 27
Mr. John Whitter, minister, and Ellin Bushell, both of Ince par.	Sept. 1
Charles Swinley and Elizabeth Taylor, both of Plimstone par.	Sept. 18
John Massie and Margery Hinde, both of Tarperley	Sept. 22
Peter Newport and Jane Hough, both of Tarperley	Sept. 22
John Blaken, of Littell Nesse, and Beteridge (Beatrice) Barlow, of Eastome par.	Oct. 1

John Barlow, of Little Nesse, and Anne Robbin, of Sutton, of Eastome par	Oct. 1
Roger Linnicor, of the grange, Wescerbye, and Margery Ofenley, in Fradsome par.	Oct. 21
Peter Mosse and Rebecka Taylor, both of Ashton par.	Nov. 5
William Roberts, of St. Maryes par., and Anne Howell at St. Bridgit's	Nov. 10
John Fox, Butcher, and Ellin Boore, both of St. Oswald's par., at St. Peter's	Nov. 3
Joseph Moreton and Anne Boyle	Dec. 24
Francis Fernald of St. Peters and Sarah Mathews of St. Oswald's at St. Peters	Jan. 16
Mathew Johnson and Elizabeth Woodfin both of Fradsime par	Jan. 17
Thomas Ireland and Anne Fletcher both of St. Oswald's par. at Barrow	Jan. 3
Timothy Yearwood and Elizabeth Evans both of Dodelstone	Feb. 2
Thomas Knowles of Helsby and Shusannah Standbridge of Gt. Barrow	Feb. 18
Thomas Wats of St. John's par. and Anne Jones	Feb. 21

AUGUST 2, 1899.

QUERIES.

[463] A REPUTED ANCIENT CUSTOM AT
THURSTASTON.

At a meeting of the British Archæological Society at Thurstaston in 1887, the late Sir James Picton made a short statement as to the origin and meaning of this place-name. He derived it from what he stated was called Thor's stone, a large isolated block of red sandstone which outcrops on the north-east side of Thurstaston hill.

It would be interesting to know whether this name for the stone is one of any antiquity in the village, or whether it originated in the fertile brain of Sir James Picton. Sir James also stated that the children of the neighbourhood were in the habit of repairing to this spot on the first of May, and placing garlands of flowers upon it. This statement also requires confirmation, and the writer would be very glad if any of your readers would support or confute these two statements, as practically the whole of Sir James Picton's theory as to the origin of the place-name rests upon them.—Yours,

Bootle.

ENQUIRER.

[464] THE WORD YEDEN IN RALPH HELSBY'S LETTER.

(See No. 459.)

In the account of that delightful old Helsby letter given in the "Cheshire Sheaf" of July 19th, I note that the word "yeden" ("they yeden hence thys daye") is rendered "p ridden." Is it not rather a p.p. of A-S. verb, of which the past tense—"yode," "yede," or (North Country) "yewed"—i.e., hied, wended, is frequently to be met with in old ballads?—Yours truly,

ETHEL LEGA-WEEKES.

[465] PACE-EGGING AT THURSTASTON.

I shall be glad if any of your readers can turn light upon a somewhat quaint ceremony which used to be performed by the village children at Thurstaston about 15 or 20 years ago. In their rough way they described themselves as "going paste-egging," by which they doubtless meant "pasch-egging." Their habit was to come to the Hall about Eastertide; four of them dressed, as far as their fancies could suggest and their means would permit, to represent the following characters, the fifth in his ordinary clothes. The prologue was said by this last, who entered the hall and perambulated round the table as he recited. Next came Lord Nelson, who took his part, the two together marching round the table. This went on until the whole five were assembled, by whom the last two verses were spoken in chorus. The "lady" was always represented by a boy attired in female costume, while "Old Tossopot" was dressed in the garb of a disreputable old tinker, and was conspicuous by the slovenliness of his aspect.

The following are the verses which were written down by a child at the dictation of one of the actors; they are obviously incorrect, but will suffice to explain the nature of the ceremony:—

I.

Here come four or five hearty lads all of one mind;
We have come a paste-egging if you will prove
kind;
If you will prove kind and never will fail,
We'll treat our young lasses to the best of x ale.

Fol di-diddle dol-di-day.

II.

The next that steps in is Lord Nelson, you see,
With a bunch of blue ribands tied on to his knee;
With a star on his breast like silver doth show,
And he comes a paste-egging with his jolly crew.

Fol di-diddle dol-di-day.

III.

The next that steps in is the jolly Jack tar,
Who sailed with Lord Nelson during the war,
Who is now come ashore Old England to view,
And has come a paste-egging with a juvenile crew.

Fol di-diddle dol-di-day.

IV.

The next that steps in is a lady so gay,
Who from her own country has run far away,
With the red cap and feathers that look very fine,
And all her delight is in drinking red wine.

Fol di-diddle dol-di-day.

V.

The next that comes in is Old Tossopot you see,
He's a valiant old fellow in every degree,
He's a valiant old fellow and wears a pig's tail,
And all his delight is in drinking mulled ale.

Fol di-diddle dol-di-day.

VI.

The Master and Mistress that sit by the fire
Put your hand in your pocket, that's all we desire
Put your hand in your pocket and pull out your
purse

And give us a trifle, you'll ne'er be any worse

Fol de diddle dol-di-day.

VII.

Some eggs and strong bacon we'll never deny
For the eggs we can suck while the bacon doth fry
Now all ye young lasses just mind what ye are
about

If you give nought we'll take nought, so we'll bid
you good night

Fol de diddle dol-di-day

It would be interesting to find out what is known as to the origin and age of this custom; also what variations, if any, occur in different localities.

It appears to me to be not improbable that "Old Tossopot" and the "Lady" originally may have represented well known characters, or at any rate possessed some significance which is not now apparent.

There may also have been other verses.

Yours, &c.,

ALABIC HOPE.

Cavendish Park, Rock Ferry.

ORIGINAL DOCUMENTS.

[466] WITTON (OR NORTHWICH) GRAMMAR SCHOOL.

(Continued from No. 460.)

PAPER WRITINGS.

A Petition to the House of Commons of the
Peoffees of Witton School for allowance of Money
for repairing the Saracen's Head public-house in

Chester which was destroyed at the Siege there to the damage of £1,400. Signed by ten Feoffees and the High Sheriff, and Sir George Booth and other Gentlemen.

6th April, 1563. 5th Elis. Copy of Sir John Deanes Will.

2nd and 3rd April, 1606.) Copy old surveys of and some Estates belonging to Witton School
2nd and 3rd June, 1646.)

29th April, 1710. Articles between the Feoffees of Witton School, and Aaron Nicholls for Mr. Nicholls resignation and allowing him £8 per annum for his life.

1st September, 1741. Bond from Mr. Harrison to the Feoffees of Witton School to observe the Statutes and Orders of said School

30th October, 1741. Mr. Williamson's Bond to the Feoffees of Witton School to resign the place of Head Master if he accepted of any Spiritual preferment

24th March, 1747. A list of Candidates for the Upper Master of Witton School same date. Proposals from the Feoffees of Witton School to the Candidates for Head Master

5th April, 1748. Mr. Barton Shuffleworth's Bond to the Feoffees of Witton School on being appointed Head Master

20th Nov., 1750. Mr. John Eccles' Bond to the Feoffees of Witton School on being appointed Head Master

4th March, 1754. A list of Candidates to the Upper Master of Witton School.

Same Date. Proposals from the Trustees of Witton School to the Candidates for the Head Master

The Rev. Henry Meyer appointed. [In later writing.]

5th April, 1760. License from the Feoffees of Witton School to John Massey to assign a Cottage or Dwellinghouse in Northwich to James Pinkstone

12th August, 1765. Minutes made at a meeting of the Feoffees of Witton School about School Croft.

1st October, 1767. Proposals from the Trustees of Witton School to the Candidates for Head Master.

1st October, 1767. Mr. Thomas Jones' Bond to the Feoffees of Witton School on being appointed Head Master.

21st December, 1767. Mr. Thomas Jones' License as Head Master of Witton School.

5th October, 1770. Mr. William Hadfield's Bond to the Feoffees of Witton School on being appointed Head Master.

Same Date. Proposals from the Trustees of Witton School to the Candidates for Head Master.

16th October, 1784. Minutes and Orders made at a Meeting of the Feoffees for the Witton School.

1785. A Rent Roll or Particular of rents belonging and payable to Witton School.

1784. Feoffees Minute Book.

10th October, 1786. Messrs. Brayne and Chantler Declaration that £50 part of the principal Sum of £100 advanced by them on Mortgage to James Stanley of Hartford is the property of and belongs to the Feoffees of Witton School in the county of Chester. N.B. the above mentioned sum of £50 was received and carried to the credit of the School account on 5 April, 1800 see [—?]

(To be continued.)

[467] THE PARLIAMENTARY ELECTION, 1727.

(Continued from No. 461).

STOARTON.		Cotton.	Chol.	mondeley.
		Crewe.		
John Watt	Childer Thornton...	1	1	
Joseph Wrenshall	...	1	1	
Saml. Chatterton	...	1	1	
Joseph Ireland	...	1	1	
Isaac Warrington	...	1	1	
Joseph Wettenhall (or Watmough)	...	1	1	
Richard Stanley	...	1	1	
Thomas Macklin	...	1	1	
Thomas Englerton [? Inglefield]	...	1	1	
Stanley Orrett	...	1	1	
Arthur Bennett	...	1	1	
John Stanley	Liscard...	1	1	
SUTTON MAGNA.				
John Wilkinson	...	1	1	
Benj. Robinson	...	1	1	
Daniel Peers	...	1	1	
Roger Jones	...	1	1	
Wm. Hilton	...	1	1	
Thos. Fletcher	Chester...	1		
Jno. Denson	...	1	1	
Wm. Robinson	...	1	1	
Puleston Watt	...	1	1	
Bradford Tanner	Chester...	1	1	
Peter Parry	Chester...	1	1	
John Lee	Backford...	1	1	
Ral. Wilkinson	...	1	1	
Charles Bennett	Chester...	1	1	
George Bushell	...	1	1	
Robert Jones	...	1	1	
Roger Maddock	Chester...	1	1	
SUTTON PARVA.				
Jno. Hinton	Drayton, Salop...	1	1	
Henry Holcomb	Chester...	1	1	
Robert Edmundson	...	1	1	
Robert Taylor	Holt, Denbigh...	1	1	
Wm. Bushell	...	1	1	
THINGWELL.				
Jno. Banks	Landican...	1		

THORNTON HEYS.			
Wm. Wilson	Baby...	1	
THORNTON HOUGH.			
Jno. Leen	...	1	1
Joseph Bellin	...	1	1
Wm. Gartree	...	1	1
Bartholm. Pearson	...	1	1
Wm. Clough	...	1	1
John Walley	Neither Poole...	1	
Wm. Smith	...	1	1
Ralph Bellin	...	1	1
Wm. Vernon	...	1	1
Daniel Porter	Doddleston...	1	1
CHILDER THORNTON.			
Wm. Francis	...	1	1
Wm. Hasting	...	1	1
Saml. Washington	...	1	1
Wm. Whitehall	...	1	1
John Holland	...	1	1
John Hallwood, Junr.	...	1	1
Thos. Young	...	1	1
John White	...	1	1
Jno. Francis	...	1	1
THURSTINGTON.			
Ralph Lion	...	1	1
Thos. Hastings	...	1	1
Jno. Harrison	...	1	1
Richard Stoot	...	1	1
John Young	...	1	1
Wm. Smith	...	1	1
Jno. Rennesy	...	1	1
Wm. Goodacre	...	1	1
Robert Williamson	...	1	1

(To be continued.)

[468] MARRIAGE REGISTERS OF ST.
OSWALD'S, CHESTER.

1671.

William Smith of Wharmingham Parish and
Hannah Swinton of Nuttsford of Roostorne Parish
6 Aprill

Edmond Challenor and Ellin Whitting of Helsby
both of Fradsome Parish 2 May

Richard Lummas and Anne Knowles both of
Fradsame parish 10 June

Thomas Wight and Mary Howell both of
Doddleston parish 13 June

Samuell Ellis and Jane Simcooke both of Frad-
same parish 13 June

Evan Taylor of this parish and Elizabeth
Higginson of St. Maryes Parish 13 June

Thomas Hancooke of Ness and Ales Lancelett
both of Nesson Parish 24 June

Thomas Pritchett and Catherine Halliwell both
of Pulford Parish 24 June

Robt. Edmundson and Elizabeth Hallwood both
of Estem Parish 25 June

Richard Almond and Margaret Painter both of
St. Michael's Parish 17 July

Garratt Jordane and Mary Griffith, both of St.
Oswald's Parish 22 August

Henry Woodcooke, of Gildensutton Parish, and
Elizabeth Bridges, of St. Oswald's 31 August

Richard Dodd, minister of Warton, and Anne
Harrison, of St. Oswald's 14th Sept.

Edward Williams, of St. Bridgett's parish, and
Ales Yannes, of St. Oswald's 18 Sept.

William Davies, of Dunham, of Thornton, and
Mary Harrison, of the same parish 29 Sept.

William Farrall, of Bunbury Parish, and Ales
Wilcooke, of Thornton Parish 30 Sept.

Richard Woods, of Overley, of Fradsome Parish,
and Elizabeth Smith, of Dunham, of Thornton,
14 October

Edmond Boulton and Ales Mason, both of this
parish 15th October

Robert Barber, Post-Master at Stone, in Staffor-
shire, and Jane Taylor, of St. Oswald's 17 Nov.

Thomas Hamnett and Elizabeth Eaton, both of
Eccleston Parish 18 Nov.

George Hough, of Sutton in Fradsum Parish,
and Ales Geust, of Neitherton 25 Nov.

Richard Richardson and Elizabeth Philipsee, both
of Eastome Parish 6 Dec.

William Loe, of Sutton, and Anne Davenport
26 Dec.

William Pulford, of Farne parish, and Margaret
Cotton, of Saughton, of this parish 1 Jan.

John Fleete, of this parish, and Bridget Carden,
of Warton parish 2 Jan.

William Stasie, butcher, and Margery Prickett,
of St. Oswald's 3 Jan.

Thos. Deane and Mary Bostocks, both of Nuttsford
parish 4 Jan.

Richard Hughes and Elizabeth Askbrooke, of
Stanney of Stoke parish 8 Jan.

Peter Hammon and Anne Taylor, both of Burton
parish 9 Jan.

Samuel Taylor and Elizabeth Rench, widow,
both of Great Nesson parish 17 Feb.

AUGUST 9, 1899.

NOTES.

[469] JOHN WESLEY AT PARKGATE.

The once famous packet station on the Wirral
banks of the Dee is now known as ancient his-
tory. Of the many eminent men that during
the last century went this way to Ireland there
was none more eminent than was John Wesley,
who "spent his whole life, time, strength, and
fortune in spreading the knowledge of Christ
and His Word," and who has further left an
imperishable name on the religious life of this

country. The extracts, written by his own hand, which we are about to give, throw much light on this passage, and also give indubitable evidence of the work he did while at Parkgate.

Between the years 1760 and 1789 he travelled at intervals this way, and must therefore have been well-known in the locality. The packets in which he sailed he names as follows: "The Nonpareil," "Jourdon," "King George," "Kildare," "Prince of Wales," "Princess Royal," and the "Dorset." These regal names seem to have caused a little confusion in the minds of some writers who have made the "King" at Parkgate (the King George packet) into King George III. staying at Parkgate for the benefit of his health. In looking at Parkgate to-day, with its dreary stretch of sand, uncovered for days together by the flowing tide, what a contrast it presents to the year 1760, when John Wesley landed from the "Nonpareil," and when, rather than wait for the landing of his horse at low water, he bought a horse in Parkgate, and at once proceeded on his journey.

We read in the first extract that the "Nonpareil" had forty or fifty passengers on board. As half of these were cabin passengers, John Wesley apprehended an "uneasy time in the midst of such a crowd of gentry." However his surmise was groundless, for the offer of a sermon was thankfully accepted, and a request made for another sermon the following afternoon.

Extract No. 1.

"Wesley's Works, vol. 3, p. 14."

August 24th, 1760.

Sun. 24. At seven I took leave of my friends, and about noon embarked on board the "Nonpareil" for Chester. We had forty or fifty passengers on board, half of whom were cabin passengers. I was afraid we should have an uneasy time in the midst of such a crowd of gentry. We sailed out with a fair wind, but at four in the afternoon it failed, and left us in a dead calm. I then made the gentlemen an offer of preaching, which they thankfully accepted. While I was preaching the wind sprung up fair, but the next day we were becalmed again. In the afternoon they desired me to give them another sermon, and again the wind sprung up while I was preaching, and continued till about noon. On Tuesday we landed at "Parkgate." Being in haste, I would not stay for my own horse, which I found could not land till low water. So I bought one; and having hired another, set forward without delay. We reached Whitchurch that evening."

On this journey, he evidently did no preaching on the Cheshire banks of the Dee.

In less than two years we again find John Wesley at "Parkgate." The record of this, which we are about to give, is remarkably interesting from an historic point of view. Here we have from John Wesley himself an authentic account of his preaching at "Parkgate" more than one hundred and thirty years ago. As John Wesley does not name Neston: "I preached in the small house just built," seems to imply built at Parkgate, for although some distance apart, the new chapel in Neston was an approximate building to Parkgate.

To make this more clear, it is well to say that there was an old chapel in Parkgate, and the field on which it stood is called to this day "chapel field." But this chapel, of which the following is an account, was built after John Wesley's time, and did not belong to the Methodists.

"Upon the passing of the Toleration Act, two Nonconformist chapels were opened in Wirral—one at Bromborough, and the other at Upton. The population, however, tided towards other centres in the district. In the year 1809, an Independent chapel was opened at "Parkgate," and the Cheshire Congregational Union supported an agent, Mr. Foster, of Cheshunt College, who preached at Parkgate and Heswall, and itinerated in Wirral. The Scotch Presbyterians now hold the Parkgate chapel. A new Congregational chapel was built at Lymm in 1863 at a cost of £2,500. Towards this, £500 have been received as the proceeds of the sale of Parkgate Chapel to the Presbyterians."—"Historical Sketches of Nonconformity in the County Palatine of Chester."

The Parkgate Dublin Packet Station was in 1762 at the very height of its popularity. John Wesley found several ships here, and further sailed with three score passengers. He says "I gave notice of preaching at five in the morning, an early hour for the Nestonians." He was, however, an early riser. These are his words: "When at the age of 73 I constantly rose at four, I never lost a night's sleep, and I could fall to sleep immediately." This accounts for his sleeping throughout the storm, which, on this passage, he so well describes.

"The cabin being filled with hops, we could not get into it, but by climbing over them on our hands and knees." What a contrast to the Campania "that does not wait for a fair wind," and to the luxuries of her cabin passengers, as they step down the gangway from the Riverside station, within the cordon stretched across the Liverpool Landing Stage at each end of this wonderful ship.

We may here conclude that the Neston Methodists' Chapel, "now a stable," had just been built, when in the year 1762 the great founder of Methodism there preached.

Extract No. 2.

Wesley's Works. Vol. 3, p. 83.

1762, Friday, April 1st.

I rode to Parkgate and found several ships; but the wind was contrary. I preached at five "in the small house they have just built," and the hearers were remarkably serious. I gave notice of preaching at five in the morning. But at half hour after four one brought us word that the wind was come fair and Captain Jordon would sail in less than an hour. We were soon on the ship, wherein we found about three score passengers. The sun shone bright, the wind was moderate, the sea smoothe, and we wanted nothing but room to stir ourselves; the cabin being filled with hops, so that we could not get into it, but by climbing over them on our hands and knees. In the afternoon we were abreast of Holyhead, but the scene was quickly changed. The wind rose higher and higher, and by seven o'clock blew a storm. The sea broke over us continually, and sometimes covered the ship, which both pitched and rolled in an uncommon manner, so was informed, for being a little sick, I lay down at six, and slept with little intermission till nearly six in the morning. We were then near Dublin Bay, where we went into a boat which carried us to Dunleary. Here we met a chaise just ready in which we went to Dublin."

GEORGE GLEAVE.

(To be continued.)

ORIGINAL DOCUMENTS.

[470] WITTON (OR NORTHWICH) GRAMMAR SCHOOL.

(Continued from No. 466.)

13 April, 1786. Proposals from the Trustees of Witton School to the Candidates for Head Master.

1 May, 1786. The Reverend Robert Littler's Testimonials.

10 May, 1786. The Rev. Robert Littler's Bond to the Feoffees of Witton School on his being appointed Head Master.

29 July, 1786. Rules and Orders to be observed by the Scholars of the Free Grammar School of Witton.

1785. A Folio Book entitled the accounts of the Bailiff Feoffees for the Free Grammar School of Witton in the County of Chester.

1789. John Johnson Survey and Report of the state of repairs wanting at Witton School.

13 April, 1786. The Revd. Robert Littlers Nomination to Witton School.

20 October, 1790. Mr. John Johnson Report of the state of the repairs at Witton School.

10 May, 1791. Survey and Valuation of the School Estate in Wirral by James Calveley.

19 October, 1791. John Johnson's reports of the state of Repairs at Witton School.

7 November, 1791. Survey and Valuation of the School Estate in Wirral by John Mort Esqre.

29th September, 1786. Lease from the Trustees of Witton School to Mr. Johnadab Mort of a Plot of Land in the Swine Market Street in Northwich for 3 lives and twenty one years.

31 January, 1792. Lease from the Feoffees of Witton School to Josiah Day of the School Estate in Wirral for 7 years.

1 & 2 October, 1793. Indentures of Lease and Release in Trust for Witton School being appointment of new Trustees.

30 June, 1794. Survey of the School Estate in Wirral by Mr. Barker and Mr. Littler.

May, 1795. A Map of Lands and Buildings lying within the liberties of the City of Chester belonging to Witton School and in lease to the Representatives of the late Daniel Pickance deceased.

May, 1795. A Map of House Gardens Buildings and premises in the City of Chester aforesaid belonging to Witton School under Lease to the representatives of late Gabriel Wettenhall deceased.

12th June, 1795. Copy Receipt from the Rev. Robert Littler Head Master of Witton School to Thomas Henshaw for 6 years Rent of a Loont of Land near Nether Peover Church.

30 June, 1795. Mr. Littlers Survey of the Estate in Wirral.

29th September, 1795. Counterpart Lease from the Feoffees to Mrs. Emma Jeffereys of a Seat or Pew in Witton Chapel.

17th October, 1796. Lease from the Feoffees to Mrs. Mary Walley and another of Messuages Lands and Hereditaments in the City of Chester formerly in lease to Mr. Daniel Pickance deceased.

7th November, 1797. Receipt for £345-13-7 consolidated 3 per Cent. annuities purchased for £170-5-0.

19th September, 1798. Survey and Valuation of the School Estate in Wirral by Mr. James Calvely.

5th November, 1798. Lease from the Feoffees of Witton School to Josiah Day of an Estate in Wirral for 11 years.

6th January, 1800. Counterpart Lease from the Trustees of Witton School to the Honourable Mrs. Vernon of Dwelling houses and premises in the City of Chester for the term of 31 years commencing 6th February 1800.

12th October, 1809. Survey and Valuation of the School Estate at Larton in Wirral by Joseph Dunn.

25th and 26th January, 1811. Indentures of Lease and Release the release made between Sir John Fleming Leicester, John Cheshire, John Hunt, Thomas Chantler, and Thomas Barker Surviving Feoffees of Wotton School of the one part and John Marshall, Thomas Marshall, William Bradburne, John Naylor, John Barker, William Twemlow and Thomas Chantler the younger of the other part Being appointment of new Trustees.

THOS. CHANTLER.

In Chancery

The Attorney General at and by the relation of John Hunt and others Plaintiff and Thomas Chantler the Elder Defendant.

The above Schedule was signed by the above named Defendant Thomas Chantler at the time of taking his Answer in the above cause and declared by him to be the Schedule referred to in his said Answer—

Before us

STEPH. LEEKE.

HENRY POTTS.

[471] MARRIAGE REGISTERS OF ST. OSWALD'S, CHESTER.

1672.

John Handley, of Dunham, of Thornton parish, and Elizabeth Dodd, of this parish 9 Ap.

Edward Rowland, of Trennity parish, and Anne Harrison, of St. Oswald's 5 May

John Fleete, of Saughton, and Margaret Gibbons, of Odford parish 13 May

William Orffer and Mary Warden of Barrow Parish 1 June

Thomas Hall and Anne Burrowes both of St. Oswald's Parish 7 June

John Johnson of Thurstington Parish and Mary Bluer of Haswall 11 June

William Crane and Alice Gutteridge both of St. Oswald's Parish 17 June

Joseph Venables gentleman and Margaret Skrimshaw wid. 24 June

William Kirkes and Alice Cent [Kent] both of St. Oswald's Parish 24 June

David Evans of Bangor Parish and Anne Ellis of this parish 24 June

Thomas Lewis and Jane Hunt both of Stoke Parish 24 June

Thomas Mosse of Woodchurch Parish and Mary Ball of Haswall Parish 24 June

Thomas Carter of Christlington Parish and Sarah Lewis of this parish 4 July

Joseph Hinkes and Eunice Slatter both of this parish 16 July

Ralph Bellen and Jane Cook of Thornton Hough of St. Neeson Parish 17 Aug.

John Jones and Anne Bench, both of this parish 26 August

John Cope and Elnor Jackson, both of Bunbury Parish 30 Sept.

Ralph Massie and Mary Lewis, both of Tarven Parish 5 Oct.

Richard Woods, of St. Martin's Parish, and Lucie Rider, of St. Oswald's 6 Oct.

John Whiteby, of Plimstone Parish, and Anne Palin, of Sutton Parish 6 Oct.

Thomas Bradbury, of Plimstone Parish, and Mary Lightfoot, of Stoake Parish 10 Oct.

Mr. Edward Ogles Esquire of Prescott Parish and Mrs. Margaret Preston of St. Oswald's Parish 12 Nov.

Mr. John Whitter pottycarry [apothecary] of St. Peter's Parish and Mrs. Elizabeth Street of St. Bridgett's Parish 20 Nov.

Mr. John Hale of St. Peter's Parish and Mrs. Ales Ralphson of Great Barrow Parish 16 Dec.

William Whicheley, of St. Ollive's Parish and Anne Owen of this Parish 25 Dec.

William Martin of St. Bridgett's Parish and Anne Thorpe of this Parish 31 Dec.

QUERY.

[472] THE CHESHIRE FAMILIES OF JANNY, WORTHINGTON AND ALRODDE.

A certain Thomas Janney, of Styall, in Pownall Fee, married a Margery Heath, of Horton, in Staffordshire, in 1660, and came to America in 1683. His father was named also Thomas Janney, and married in 1625 Elizabeth Worthington, as shewn by records of Wilmslow Parish. He was the son of Randle Janney, who in 1602 married Ellen Alrodd, and died in 1613. Randle was the son of Thomas Janney, who died in 1602, and who probably married Jane Worthington as one of his wives. In 1561 is the first entry of the Janney name in the Wilmslow parish registers.

Can any of your readers give me any idea as to whence this family of Janney, Jenuy, Jany, or Jennie, as it is variously spelled, originally came? Are they related to the Jenneys, of Norfolk and Suffolk, or of any other shires. An Edward Janney, of Manchester, left a sum of money to found a free school at Bowden, and as early as 1490, I believe, the name is mentioned in the Chetham Society's publications. There was quite a prominent family of Worthingtons, who lived in the Palatinate, but I do not know whether the Worthingtons, of Styall, were related to them. I have not seen any mention of the Alrodds in any publication. Any information as to the Janneys and Worthingtons, of Styall, will be gladly received.

In 1639 Thomas Janney was Mayor of Stockport, but as there were Janneys then living there, I suppose he did not come from Styall.—Yours,
M. W., Jr.

AUGUST 16, 1899.

NOTES.

[473] JOHN WESLEY AT PARKGATE.
(Continued from No. 469.)

In August of this same year we find John Wesley on his return passage again in Parkgate. As he lodged there on this, and many other occasions, how interesting it would be to know where! The place to-day is similar in appearance to what it was in 1762. The new part of the Mostyn Arms Hotel was certainly then not built. The Old White Lion, bearing the date 1708, we may presume to have been an attractive hotel. We know this hotel was, early in this century, in the occupation of one Benjamin Switzer, a retired butler from Nerquis Hall, Flintshire. But the great centre of Old Parkgate was Drury-lane. Here the majority of the passengers, waiting for a "fair wind," were doubtless located. And this we may imagine a lively spot.

Extract No. 3.

Wesley's Works, vol. 3, p. 107.

"August, 1762, Saturday, 31.

Embarked on board the "Dorset," for "Parkgate." Weighed anchor at eight in the evening. Between nine and ten on Sunday morning, the Captain asked me if I would not go to prayers with them. All who were able to creep out were willingly present. After prayers I preached on Prov. 3, 17. We had scarce any wind when I began; but while I was preaching it sprung up, and brought us to "Parkgate," between six and seven. Monday, Sep. 2nd, I rode to Chester."

In the year 1765 John Wesley is once more in Parkgate. He tells us on this occasion "several ships were ready to sail," which shews the great importance of Parkgate at that time as a packet-station. He waited there two days for the tantalising "fair wind." He does not tell us this time in what way he spent those two days; but doubtless not in inactivity. He, however, who travelled in his large parish more than four thousand miles in a year, over the rough and treacherous roads of his time, could not brook waiting longer at Parkgate, but went to Liverpool, where he seems to have spent his time with greater satisfaction. The Church of St. Thomas's, Park-lane, was where he often preached.

Extract No. 4.

Wesley's Works, vol. 3, p. 206.

Tuesday, April 26, 1765.

As several ships were ready to sail from Parkgate, I waited there two days; but the wind continuing foul, on Friday 29 I crossed over to Liverpool. I was surprised at the evening congregation, particularly on Sunday. So that I was not sorry the wind continued in the same points, on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday, only it shifted on Wednesday morning, on which some important captains sailed immediately. But in a few hours it came full west again; so that they were glad to get well back."

Extract No. 5.

Wesley's Works.

March 21st, Tuesday, 1769.

Again at old Parkgate.

"I went to Parkgate; and about eleven embarked on board the "King George." We had mild weather, and smooth water all day. The next day the west wind blew fresh, yet about five, we were in Dublin Bay, where we procured a fishing boat which brought us to Dunleary. Here we took a chaise and got to Dublin about eight o'clock."

The following extract is full of local interest. "I preached in the evening to most of the gentry of the town. I preached likewise morning, and evening, on Thursday." Wednesday and Thursday therefore, the 20th and 21st of March, 1771, should be red-letter days with those who revere, in Neston, the memory of John Wesley. Again, from this we cannot say definitely where he preached, as he himself does not use the words church or chapel. We must, however, infer that as he preached to most of the gentry of the town, that he means the town of "Great Neston," and that the preaching took place "in the small house they have just built." John Wesley in this extract writes in very complimentary terms upon the packet ship "Kildare," in which he sailed. He says "it was abundantly the best and cleanest ship which I have sailed in for many years."

Extract No. 6.

Wesley's Works, vol. 3, p. 425.

"On Wednesday, 20 March 1771, having agreed with a captain, who promised to sail immediately, we went down to Parkgate, but the wind turning I preached in the evening to most of the gentry of the town. I preached likewise morning and evening on Thursday. Friday 22, I embarked on board the "Kildare," abundantly the best, and cleanest ship which I have sailed in for many years. But the wind failing we could not cross the bar till about noon. Saturday 23, about one, the wind being high, and the sea rough, I judged it was my best way to

He down and go to sleep. Meantime the ship went forty leagues in about twelve hours, and reached Dublin early on Sunday morning, I landed at the Quay. I walked straight to the new room, very well, blessed be God, and very hungry."

In August of this same year, he returns to Parkgate on board the "Nonpareil." John Wesley must have been well-known on this passage. He seems ever ready, and on the impulse of the moment, to preach a sermon.

Extract No. 7.

Wesley's Works, vol. 3, p. 440.

August, 1771.

In the evening I embarked on board the "Nonpareil" for Parkgate with a small fair wind so that the sea was as smooth as a looking-glass. Tuesday 24 as we went slowly on, the gentlemen of whom we had many on board desired me to give them a sermon. This I willingly did, and all were seriously attentive. We landed about seven on Wednesday, and took chaise for Liverpool.

When John Wesley was at the age of 72, we find him in close communion with the Church of England, to which he was ever loyal. He says in the next extract, I again assisted at St. Patrick's in delivering the elements of the Lord's Supper.

Extract No. 8.

Vol. 4, p. 50, Wesley's Works,

August 23, Sunday, 1775.

I again assisted at St. Patrick's, in delivering the elements of the Lord's Supper. In the evening I embarked in the "Nonpareil," and about ten on Tuesday morning landed at Parkgate.

In the ensuing extract, we have a graphic description of the most serious and dangerous passage John Wesley made between Dublin and Parkgate. He chartered the whole "Prince of Wales Parkgate Packet" for himself and friends. We have no information as to so large a company travelling with him. Many itinerant preachers, from time to time, went to Ireland. Charles Wesley, and the eloquent George Whitefield, had also been on this mission and may have gone from Parkgate.

Extract No. 9.

Wesley's Works, Vol. 4, p. 387.

Dublin, Wednesday, July 11, 1787.

At five o'clock I took an affectionate leave of this living people; having finished all my business here. In the afternoon I went down with my friends; having taken the whole ship; and went on board the "Prince of Wales," one of the Parkgate Packets. At seven we sailed with a fair, moderate wind. Between nine and ten I lay down as usual, and slept untill four, when I was awakened by an uncommon

noise, and found the ship lay beating upon a large rock, about a league from Holyhead. The captain who had not long layed down, leaped up, and running upon the deck, when he saw how the ship lay, cried out, "Your lives may be saved, but I am undone." Yet no sailor swore, and no women cried out. We immediately went to prayers; and presently the ship I know not how, shot off the rock and pursued her way without any more damage than the wounding of a few of her outside planks. About three in the afternoon we came safe to "Parkgate," and in the evening went on to Chester.

The next is our concluding extract of John Wesley's last visit to Ireland. His long and eventful life was then drawing to a close. This extract records also his final visit to Parkgate. For forty years he had been going to Ireland; and for twenty-nine of those years he had mainly gone by Parkgate. He slept well as usual on this passage. We are told that he shut himself up in his chaise, to read undisturbed the biography of some known author. There was no remission in his arduous duties, although in his 87th year. He preached on board the Princess Royal for the last time. His text was a solemn one. And it is just one hundred and ten years ago since he passed for the last time the old Neston Chapel on the Parkgate-road. What a suitable spot for a memorial to John Wesley.

Extract No. 10.

Wesley's Works, Vol. 4, p. 465.

Sunday, July 12, 1789.

About two we left Dublin and hastened down to the ship, "The Princess Royal of Parkgate." The neatest, and most elegant Packet I ever saw. But the wind failing we did not get out of the Bay till about twelve. We had exceeding agreeable company. And I slept as well as if I had been in my own bed. Monday, 13, the sea became smooth. I shut myself up in my chaise, and read over the life of the famous Mr. George F. In the evening we sang a hymn upon deck, which soon drew all the company about us. I then without any delay began preaching on "It is appointed unto men once to die." I believe all were a little affected for the present. We were then constrained to slacken sail, and lie by for some hours, not having much water to cross the bar. However we landed between four and five in the morning Tuesday, 14, and after resting an hour I went to Chester.

GEORGE GLEAVE.

[474] THE PLACE-NAME GREASBY.
(See No. 418.)

The writer was in error in supposing that the Nigel who held the Manor of Greasby at the time of Domesday Survey was the great Baron of Halton. It was quite a different man—Nigel

de Burceio. Is anything known of him or his, or of his connection with Earl Hugh? It appears from the charter of St. Werburgh's (1093) that he succeeded to this manor by inheritance, and was therefore not the first holder after the Conquest.

Dr. March, in "East Lancashire Nomenclature," p. 29, says:—"In some parts of Lancashire *graves* still means a constable, and constables' rates are called "Grave-leys." J. B.

[475] THE PLACE NAME THURSTASTON.

(See No. 468).

Not knowing Thurstaston, but interested in place-names, most likely after intelligent search it will be found that it means that it was ages past the abode of priests (Asti), who kept the sacred fires and other observances of Thor, the God of Fire, Thunder, &c., in a comparatively pre-historic time, partially only thought of by a few. READER.

ORIGINAL DOCUMENTS.

[476] THE PARLIAMENTARY ELECTION, 1727.

(Continued from No. 467.)

		Cotton.	Chol-	mondeley.	Crews.
TRANMORE.					
Edward Jones	Park Gate...	1	1		
Joseph Bird	...	1	1		
Isaac Thorp	...	1	1		
John Taylor	...	1	1		
Peter Clewy	...	1	1		
Thomas Pendleton	...	1	1		
Richd. Gamon	Willaston...	1	1		
Richd. Worrall	...	1	1		
Gilbert Jarratt	...	1	1		
Henry Cook	Moreton...	1	1		
Thoms Delamere	...	1			
George Langford	Aston, Salop...	1			
Joshua Langford	...	1			
Saml. Rice (or Grice)	...	1	1		
Samuel Preston	...	1	1		
Robert Copland	...	1	1		
Mat. Fisher	...	1	1		
Jno. Briscoe	...	1	1		
UPTON.					
Samuel Huntington	Highlake...	1	1		
Henry Linnaeare	...	1	1		
Peter Lowe	...	1	1		
Thomas Young	...	1			
Foster Concliff	Leverpoole...	1	1		
Peter Gill	...	1			
John Denson	...	1	1		
Jno. Wade	Thingwall...	1			
Thomas Martin	Tranmore...	1	1		

WALLASEY KIRBY, AND LISCARD.

Samuel Johnson	Bedstone...	1
Joseph Walker	...	1
James Robinson	Leverpoole...	1
John Robinson	...	1
John Smith	...	1
Israel Gleave	...	1
Owen Gratchett	Leverpoole...	1
Henry Bird	...	1
Joseph Robinson	...	1
Jno. Dean	...	1
Thos. Robinson	...	1
John Rogers	...	1
James Rainford	...	1

WEST KIRBY.

Thomas Linacre	...	1	1
Jno. Brishall	...	1	
Jno. Warrington	Chester...	1	
Robert Whitlowe	Whitford...	1	1
John Tarbuok	...	1	1
Samuel Walton	...	1	1
Ben. Barkley	...	1	1
Wm. Pick	...	1	1
Thos. Dalby	Hulse...	1	
Ben. Wilson	...	1	1
Jno. Bennett	Harrow...	1	1
Joseph Jennings	...		

WHITBY.

Jno. Wilkinson	...	1	1
Robert Robinson	...	1	
Jonathan Maddock	...	1	
Wm. Jones	...	1	
Joshua Newall	...	1	
John Roberts	...	1	
Wm. Johnson	Chester...	1	1
Thos. Hallwood	Audlem...	1	
Isaac Wright	Gilden Sutton...	1	
John Edwards	...	1	1
Joseph Jennings	...	1	1

WILLASTON.

Edward Hilton	Chester...	1	
Wm. Wilson	...	1	1
Thos. Briscoe	...	1	1
Wm. Green	...	1	1
Wm. Hayes	...	1	1
John Bennett	...	1	1
John Wood	Wallasey...	1	1
Thos. Ashbrook	Baby...	1	1
Eaton Rider	Neston...	1	1
Wm. Green	...	1	1
Wm. Lloyd	...	1	1
John Hayes	...	1	1
John Johnson	Geaton...	1	1
Wm. Robinson	...	1	

WOOD CHURCH.

Thoms Green Clerk	...	1	1
John Spann	Brombrough...	1	

THE WHOLE HUNDRED 233 294 240

[477] MARRIAGE REGISTERS OF ST. OSWALD'S,
CHESTER.
1673.

William Price of this parish and Jane Rachdale
of St. John's parish March 30

William Newton and Julian Perkins both of St.
Oswald's parish April 1

William Wrenshall of Soreton (Storeton) in the
parish of Babington and Sarah Barlowe of Eastham
parish April 7

William Pemberton and Emm: Nevett both of
Whiteby, hee of Stoake parish and she of Eastam
parish were married April 11

Mr. Thomas Touchett de Lostock Gramam in the
County Chester, gentleman, and Mrs. Mary
Marbery de Davenhead in the same county April 29

Thomas Williams and Elizabeth Thomas of the
Abby, Wallisie Grange June 4

John Massie Esqr. of Coddinton and Elizabeth
Willson, daughter unto Mr. William Wilson,
Regester in St. Oswald's parish April 24

Edward Parry of Bromfeild parish in the county
of Denbigh and Dorrathy Joanes of this parish
April 23

Thomas Hunt of Stany of Stoake parish and
Elizabeth Evens of Little Sutton of Eastam parish
June 24

Hugh Bevan and Mary Denson July 28

William Capper of Nantpwhich and Margreat
Smith Aug. 13

William Plumpton of St. Ollive's parish and
Frances Leadbeater of St. Mary's parish Aug. 19

Thomas Smith of St. Oswald's par. and Margreat
Robbinson of St. John's par. Aug. 24

Richard Roades and Elnor Hughes Sept. 1

John Johnson, Slatte, and Elizabeth Smith
Oct. 30

Mr. Thomas Mullett minister and Elizabeth
Brete of St. Oswald's parish were married in the
quire Nov. 18

Rebecca Meacooke of St. Bridgett's par. and
John Smith beere brewer of St. Oswald's parish
Feb. 3

John Ridgway silkweaver and Margreat
Treaver Feb. 16

John Hixson and Grace Davies Feb. 24

Robert Heefeild gardener of St. John's parish
and Mary Brooke Feb. 26

Mr. Henry Hall, tanner, and Mrs. Hannah
Younge Feb. 27

Mr. Henry Bunbury, sonne unto Mr. Thomas
Bunbury, of Boughton, Esq., and Mrs. Mary
Eaton, daughter unto Sir Kendrick Eaton Feb. 7

John Williams and Elis. Shone Feb. 28

QUERY.

[478] THORNTONCROFT, OF ASTBURY PARISH.

Will any of your readers kindly say if the
Congleton, or any other, parish registers con-
tain entries of this name; and if any persons of
the name still dwell in the neighbourhood?

M.

AUGUST 23, 1899.

NOTES.

[479] SOME NOTES ON THE CHESHIRE
DOMESDAY.

The following scrappy notes on the Domesday
record for this county may perhaps require an
apology from the writer; if so, will his belief
that what has interested him may, though not
very novel, be of interest to others, be accepted?

The first point to be cleared is that of errors
in the record. The Commissioners for the
great survey, travelling from place to place
and taking evidence at a great number of suit-
able centres, must have heard many place-
names for which they could not invent a good
spelling; e.g., we have Eleacier for Alsager.
After the evidence was taken it had to be
classified, the lands of each owner in the
county being gathered together. Here the
ordinary errors of transcription come in—for
example, Tuignelle for Tinguelle (Thingwall
in Wirral)—and in arranging the great number
of details some are sure to be transposed.
Thus, if Mr. Beaumont's suggestion be accepted,
Caluintone (Calverley near Bunbury) has been
entered as the second of Richard Pincerna's
manors instead of as the second of Richard de
Vernon's at the head of the same column; while
four of this latter's manors are displaced and
assigned to Hugh Fitz Osbern. It must, how-
ever, be said that, considering the difficulties
to be overcome, the errors are very few
in number, the work having been
executed with the greatest care, as it was
intended to form an indisputable record
for all future time. Hence it is better to be
very slow in adopting the supposition of a
mistake in any particular case, as the record
may be justified by further research; Mr.
Beaumont, for instance, referring to a former
series of the *Sheaf*, says the Edelaue of Wirral
Hundred must be Ewloe in Flintshire; but it
has since been identified with Hadlow in
Willaston (see Mr. W. F. Irvine's map and

essay in "Wirral Notes and Queries"). A curious correction or addition has been made by the scribe himself in one place. Finding he had omitted a small piece of land (in Ollerton) belonging to Earl Hugh, he took advantage of the margin at the foot of a column, and entered it there. It is only a line and a half, but happens to be in the middle of the entry about Frodsham, with which, of course, it had no connection. On one point, however, it must be confessed the scribe-editor is often in fault, and that is the omission of the name of the hundred, particularly when beginning the entries of a fresh tenant. Thus in Earl Hugh's lands the line "Riseton Hundred" has been omitted before the manor of Rushton, whereby this and the next four manors appear to belong to the adjacent hundred of Dudestan. In the entry of Richard Pincerna "Dudestan Hundred" has been omitted at the beginning, and in that of Teselin "Hamestan Hundred," so that Pulton (near Eaton) and Somerford (Booths) appear to be in Nantwich and Wirral respectively; and a similar omission in the case of Bigot's lands fixes Thornton-le-Moors in Dudestan Hundred instead of Roelau. In the case of Potitone (Puddington) there is an actual error, "Warmundestron" being written instead of "Wilaneston," and further on "Riseton Hundred" has been placed after Alburgham instead of before. The needful corrections having been made we can go on to survey the hundreds separately.

The whole county was given by the Conqueror to his nephew, Hugh Lupus, but the bishop's lands formed one exception, and apparently St. Werburgh's another; it is expressly stated that the bishop held the lands of his bishopric from the king. These ecclesiastical holders, therefore, take the first place; then follows Earl Hugh, and after him come his tenants great and small, beginning with Robert FitzHugh, Baron of Malpas, and going down to holders of small manors of half a hide assessment. The end of Cheshire proper is occupied by the laws regulating the Wiches or salt-pits. Then, after a blank column, the record of Atiscros Hundred follows; succeeded, after a blank page, by that of the lands "Between Mersey and Ribble." These two regions seem to have been regarded as outskirts of the county; not within its bounds, yet not independent of it. Including Atiscros, of which a small portion is to-day in Cheshire, we find that in 1086 the county was divided into twelve hundreds, as against the seven (or rather

eight) of later times. The following brief descriptions of them may be of use.

1. *Atiscros Hundred*. Roughly speaking this now forms Flintshire. It takes its name from Atiscros (Croes Ati), on the Chester side of the town of Flint, at which no doubt the meetings of the hundred took place. Who Ati was, and why the cross was erected, seem to be unknown points. Its situation was central, about halfway between Chester and Watt's Dyke, which was no doubt the north-western boundary of the hundred originally; the rest of Flintshire was but a nominal extension, mostly waste and undivided into hides. Its south-west boundary may be determined by the fact that Claverton, Marlston and Leche, and Doddlestone were in Atiscros; while Ecclestone, Eaton and Pulford were in Dudestan, i.e. in Cheshire proper. As already stated, the record of this hundred is placed by itself, the only exception being parts of two manors (Wepre and Leche) which St. Werburgh's held and which are placed at the end of the Canons' other estates. Here we seem to have evidence of the procedure of the Commissioners. First they took Atiscros proper, sitting perhaps at Hawarden or at Flint to take evidence, which is duly summarised under each owner's name; next they went to Rhuddlan and took evidence there, recording the manors held by the two lords, Earl Hugh and Robert of Rhuddlan (Rodelent or Roelent); and then coming back, they sat at Bistre (Biscopstreu, or Bishop's Tree), and made their record of what there came before them. They conclude with the statement that the aforesaid Robert of Rhuddlan held North Wales from the King, but give only one or two details. The English had in fact no hold upon Wales proper, though Domesday bears out the statement that Offa's and Watt's Dykes constituted the generally accepted boundary between the two races. One further point must be noticed. At the end of the record of the first portion of this hundred is a note beginning "Of these 20 hides." It will be found, on adding up the hides recorded, that we get a sum of $17\frac{1}{2}$ hides and 5 virgates; and if the lands of St. Werburgh's be counted in, as perhaps they should be, we have 18 hides and 6 virgates, i.e., 19 $\frac{1}{2}$ hides, reckoning four virgates to the hide, so that half a hide seems to have been missed in the record. But some error seems to have been committed in the entry of Edritone (unidentified; qv. Bretton?); perhaps a hide and a half have been omitted here, and if so, we should have just over 20 hides without reckoning in St. Werburgh's.

2. *Bochelau*. This is the eastern portion of the present Bucklow Hundred; the name which has in this case been preserved to our time, belongs to a hill near Rostherne about the centre of the hundred, doubtless in this as elsewhere, the meeting place of the freemen for local self-government. Its boundaries on three sides—north, east, and south—seem to have been much the same as at present, except that Norwordine (Northenden) was included within them. On the west the limits seem to be given by Thelwall (fortified 923) on the Mersey and a point opposite Northwich, on the brook called Peover Eye, so that Lyman and Wincham are within this hundred. This was the poorest of all the Cheshire hundreds; not in statute acres, but in the hides, or ratable value. This, on addition, is found to be $16\frac{1}{2}$ hides, $5\frac{1}{2}$ virgates, and 7 bovates—less than 20 hides in all. The individual manors were small, and in many cases subdivided; even Hamo, of Dunham, the chief man within the district, had but three manors, each assessed at a hide. The Earls of Mercia, before the Conquest, do not seem to have had any manors here.

3. *Cestre*. This hundred is still extant, as "the county of the city of Chester," and the city still elects a "sheriff." At the time of the survey it was rated at 50 hides; in other words, it was a "half-hundred," according to the theory that these divisions originally consisted of about a hundred hides, a theory supported only by Dudestan and Wilaneston in Cheshire. It is said that in the Salford Hundred of Lancashire there are exactly 100 townships. If the parochial divisions are considered as shewing the ancient political boundaries, then perhaps "Chester Hundred" once fulfilled the meaning of its name, St. Oswald's parish, for instance, extending some miles north and south of the city; but in 1086 the bounds were practically those of the "county of the city," except that Newton has since been lost to it. Of the 50 hides we are told that three and a half were outside the city, i.e., one and a half beyond the bridge, and two in Newton and Redcliff and the Bishop's Burgh. The two latter are easily found; William Fitz Nigel, the Baron of Halton, had one hide in Newton, and the Bishop had two-thirds of a hide in Redcliffe (no doubt in his "burgh"), and Hugh de Mara one-third in the same district, which he shortly afterwards gave to St. Werburgh's. It will be noticed that Redcliff is placed on the city side of the Dee (by St. John's Cathedral Church); Mr. Beaumont seems to think it was on the opposite bank. The hide and a half beyond the

bridge cannot be settled so easily. William Fitz Nigel and Hugh de Mara each had a virgate in Lee (Overleigh and Netherleigh), and a carucate in Bruge (Handbridge), a third carucate in the latter place being held by Hugh Fitz-Osbern. These come to two virgates (half a hide) and three carucates, so that if nothing has been omitted there were here three carucates to the hide. In the manor of West Derby it is recorded that six carucates were reckoned to the hide. So far as Cheshire is concerned, this is the only place where "carucate" is used as a measure of assessment—geldabilis—though bovates are so used in Bochelan (Tabley and Peover) and Mildestuich (Sandbach), and a bovate is one-eighth of a carucate. In other cases the word is used in its proper sense—the amount of land that could be kept in cultivation by one plough with the full team of eight oxen. Canon Atkinson (in his fascinating book, "Forty years in a Moorland Parish") shews that this area might vary from 80 to 120 acres, according to the soil and situation. The hide, on the other hand, seems to have been a purely ideal standard for assessment purposes—the size of the model estate or township which should yield a sufficient yearly income for the landowner and his household. This model estate could pay a certain amount of tax to the king; an estate which could pay double was said to be of "two hides" and so on. It is obvious that in the case of Chester the 50 hides at which it was assessed had no reference at all to the number of its statute acres; what is meant is that in the case of a tax being levied the city must pay fifty times as much as a manor assessed at one hide.

4. *Dudestan*. This was the most valuable of the hundreds, being rated, after the necessary corrections, at 115 hides. Its east and west boundaries correspond fairly with those of the present hundred of Broxton; on the north-west it touched Atiscros, as already described, and on the north, at Boughton and Christleton it touched Chester and the boundary of Wilaneston, the old road from the east gate of the city towards Northwich, which must have been in constant use from the time of the Romans, affording a convenient division. In the south Dudestan included Bettisfield and Worthenbury, which are in a district later assigned to Flintshire, though quite separated from this county. Broxton, which now gives its name to the hundred, is central in position; is the position of Dudestan known? Besides Duddingstone near Edinburgh there is a Dudston near Birmingham, and a hundred in

Gloucestershire has a similar name. Robert Fitz Hugh was the chief landowner, being the first Baron of Malpas (Depenbech), his manors being assessed at 65 hides, but portions of them were claimed by the Bishop and by the Canons of St. Werburgh's; deducting these, however, he would still have more than half the hundred, including the greatest manors.

5. *Eesstan* or *Estan*. 'This is now part of Denbighshire, being the district bounded by the Dee and Offa's Dyke on three sides, and by Pulford Brook on the north. The whole was, like Atiscros, assessed at 20 hides, of which the single manor of Gresford had 13. Perhaps Aston may be the place which gave the hundred its name.

6. *Hamestan*. The boundaries agree generally with those of Macclesfield Hundred, with the exception, as already stated, of Northenden, which was in Bochelau. The assessment amounted to 27½ hides and 7 virgates, or about 30 hides in all; one manor assigned to it seems doubtful, viz., Alretune, which gives the odd two-thirds of a hide. Mr. Beaumont identifies it with Offerton, near Stockport. Earl Hugh retained for himself the dominating position in the hundred, perhaps because of its extensive woods and forests. He held 13 hides, including Macclesfield and Henbury. The latter seems originally to have been the chief manor, for its name—*Hameteberie*—has a close resemblance to that of the hundred of which it is about the centre, and at the time of the survey the outlying part of the county, the narrow strip containing Werneth and Tintwistle, which divides Lancashire and Derbyshire, and touches Yorkshire, was dependent on Henbury. We are told that "in King Edward's time this hundred was worth 40s.; now it is worth 10s."—

Mr. Earwaker (in "East Cheshire") says that no place called Hamestan is now known in the hundred. It may be noted that a hundred in Derbyshire formerly had a similar name.

(To be continued.)

[480] MARRIAGE REGISTERS OF ST. OSWALD'S,
CHESTER.

1674.

John Litherland of Liverpoole of Walton parish
and Elizabeth Lloyd June 6

William Whitehead of Malpas parish and Sarah
Towers of Barrow parish June 13

John Johnson Chanlor and Mary Mercer June 26

John Hopley of Hartell Pariah and Elizabeth
Meakin of Ashton Pariah Aug. 7

Richard Crane and Catherine Williams Oct. 28.

Thomas Harrison Cooper and Elizabeth Meschell
widd. and alsoe midwife Dec. 15

Thomas Poasnett Taylor and Margrat Cooper
Feb. 4

AUGUST 30, 1899.

NOTES.

[481] BARROW OF BARROW, AND THE HOSPITAL
OF ST. JOHN-THE-BAPTIST WITHOUT THE
NORTHEGATE.

The following abstract is of an indenture of lease in Latin, dated 6 May, 5 Henry VIII. [1513-14], and made between Sir Thomas Crue, clerk, "Master, or Warden," of the "Hospital" s'e'e Joh'is Bapt'e extra Portam" borisalem Civitat' Cestr' Confratres and Consorores ejusd'm hospital' of the one part, and "Rob'tum Barowe de Civitat' p'de'a Mercer" of the other part. It witnesses that the Master or Warden, Bretheren and Sisters, by their unanimous consent and assent, grant, assign (or rather transfer) and to farm let (or, literally, *demise*) to the same Robert Barowe, one messuage, with the garden adjacent, in Northegatestrete, viz., in breadth, between messuages (or a messuage?) of Richard Gode-man, esquire, on the southerly side; and land of William More (Moor) gentleman, on the northerly side; and in length extends to Northegatestrete aforesaid, on the easterly side; to lands of Ric. Godeman afd., on the westerly side, which William Donald now inhabits—[who was probably a Scottish prisoner, or refugee?—Flodden having been fought in 1513]. Habendum to Robert his heirs and assigns, from the Feast of the Nativity of St. John the Bap. to the end of the term of 99 years next ensuing, &c., Yielding yearly to the lessors and their successors 15s. of lawful money of England at the Feasts of S. Michael the Archangel (*Michaelmas Day*), the Nativity of Our Lord (*Christmas Day*), the Annunciation of the Blessed Mary the Virgin (*Lady Day*), and the Nativity of St. John the Bap. (*St. John's Day*) in equal portions, for all services and demands. Powers of distraint in default, and re-entry, &c. Warranty. Proviso that Robert, his heirs and assigns, shall sustain, repair, and maintain the premises during the term. In witness whereof one part of the said Indenture should remain in the

hands of the lessors; and the said Robert Barrowe affixed his seal thereto, the other part remaining in the possession of the said Robt. Barrow, being sealed by the Lessors with the Common seal of the said Hospital. [Signed] "p. me Robert Barrow" (an excellent autograph).

This deed treats the term as a freehold—as heritable!—while the term is for years and not for life or lives. For, as savouring of a freehold, perhaps the term would not even then be allowed to pass, as personal estate, to executors or administrators, though a *fee simple* might, at that date, be devisable by Will. *Sed quare*. Another peculiarity is an endorsement (on two separate occasions) in flowing, cultivated, dashing, off-hand sort of characters, evidently of the reigns of Hen. VIII. and early Queen Elizabeth, which point to assignments of the lease. It is as follows: "this is made to Robt. barrow—for the house wherr huntingeton in Norgat street — now dwelleth," to which is added, in a similar but larger handwriting, "but now deceased — and where Randell helsby of helsby, esqr. his son dwelleth." The son was also named Randle, and married (perhaps about this time) Joan Stanley, of Hooton, to whom Lord Mounteagle made a curious grant, 10 Eliz., which will appear in the *Sheaf* later on. The Hellesbies had property in Northgate-street as early as the 13th century, some of which was granted to the elder line of the Grosvenors, to hold of the manor of Hellesby. They had also property in Bridge street at this period.

T. H.

[482] SOME NOTES ON THE CHESHIRE
DOMESDAY.

(Continued from No. 479.)

Mr. Earwaker (in "East Cheshire") says that no place called Hamestan is now known in the hundred. It may be noted that a hundred in Derbyshire formerly had a similar name. There is a Mutlow in Marton; perhaps this was the "moot hill" for the hundred. If so, it was not so central as in other cases.

7. *Mildestuic*. This hundred, then like the others taking its name from a central point (Middlewich) suitable for public assemblies, is now called after Northwich, which, though in an extreme corner, has become its most important town. It contained the seats of two of Earl Hugh's barons—Richard Vernon of Shipbrook near Northwich and Gilbert Venables of Kinderton—and the assessments of its manors amount to 33½ hides, 18 virgates, 16 acres, and 4 bovates, about 40 hides in all. The manors of Sandbach, Clive, Wimboldsley, Oocleston, Sutton,

and Weaver, which are grouped together in the survey, afford an interesting exercise in the various measurements of land used; before the Conquest they had been held by a number of "free men," but afterwards the Earl divided them almost equally between himself and Bigot, thus—

	Hugh.	Bigot.
Sandbach.....	2½v.	— 1h.
Clive.....	1v.	—
Wimboldsley	1v.	— 1v.
Oocleston ...	1h.	—
Sutton	4b.	— 3v. 16ac
Weaver	1v.	— 1v.
	1h. 5½v. 4b.	1h. 5v. 16ac.

The Earl, therefore, had a slight preponderance, unless we suppose that Bigot had a virgate in Clive which has been accidentally omitted; for the Earl's half virgate and four bovates, amounting to about 70 acres, compare at present with the other's 16 acres; the whole 2 hides, 10½ virgates, 4 bovates, and 16 acres amount to about 5 hides. Weaver is now in Eddisbury Hundred. The hundred was valued at 40s.

8. *Riseton* or *Risedon*. This division corresponds with the southern half of the present Eddisbury Hundred, and perhaps takes its name from some rising ground near the centre; Rushton may be the place, but it is spelt Rusitone in Domesday. The boundaries on three sides are formed by Dudestan, Warmundestrou, and Mildestuic, the latter including, as we have just seen, the manor of Weaver. The northern boundary, coinciding with the southern of Roelau, is not easily determined, several of the manors in the hundred being but doubtfully identified—e. g., Cocle, Caluintone, Ulure, and others—but it began at the Gowy, including Barrow and Kelsall, passed to the south of Eddisbury and to the north of Little Budworth and Over, so reaching the river Weaver. The various holdings were assessed at 44½ hides, nine of which were in the bishop's manors of Tarvin, and Burton.

9. *Roelau*. This hundred is to the north of the last-named, completing the present Eddisbury. The Earl retained almost the whole of it for himself, his manors being rated at 35½ out of the 42 hides in the hundred. Weaverham was the principal one (13 hides), and near it was the Roe Hill (now Ruloe in Crowton), from which the hundred is named. The Earl, finding a number of the townships lying waste, resolved to make a forest here, later known as Delamere Forest, and we are told that it included the manors of Kenardealie, Aldredalie, and Done, with part of Weaverham, nine hides in all.

10. *Tunendune*. This hundred, the western portion of the present Bucklow Hundred, lies between the Mersey and the Weaver. The Baron of Halton, who, at the date of Domesday, was William, son of Nigel the first Baron held about three-fourths of the lands, which were in all assessed at 26 hides and 6½ virgates; hence in later times the district was called the Hundred of Halton, or Haltonshire, as in the Cartulary of St. Werburgh's described in Dugdale. Perhaps it would be more correct to give 21 hides as the assessment, for of Halton it is recorded that there were "10 hides, five geldable and five non-geldable." We are further told that "a servant of the Earl's" held a piece of land in this hundred which had never been "hided." In West Derby Hundred (in Halsall and neighbourhood) there were three hides not liable to the geld. Can any reason be assigned for such exemptions? In 1066 Halton was held by Orme, who is sometimes said to be the founder of Ormekirk in the reign of William Rufus, and ancestor of the Lathom family. At any rate, we find that he had for neighbour at Norton a certain Uctred, who was probably the great landowner of the West Derby Hundred, Lathom being among his manors. The townships of Norton, Aston (i.e., East-ton), Sutton, and Weston form an unusually complete arrangement; but it may be noticed that they are arranged about Stockham rather than Halton, so that the former may be the original settlement, and Halton an afterthought. Is the position of Tunendune known? In this hundred, as in its neighbour Bochelau, the Earls of Mercia seem to have had no holdings, though we read that in former times they had fortified Runcorn and other stations on the Mersey.

11. *Warmundestrou*. This is now the Hundred of Nantwich, the central town, near which probably grew the original Warmund's Tree, round which the men of the hundred assembled. The tree may have been the "monumental oak," which gave its name to Acton, the chief manor. Warmund does not seem to have been a common name; it occurs in the pedigree of the Kings of Mercia, Wærmund being entered there as a grandson of Woden. Later, a Wermund was Bishop of Rochester (788-802), and at the time of the Domesday survey "Warmund the Hunter" held some land in Flintshire, and another in Somerset and Dorset. Elsewhere we meet with Warmund, Bishop of Ives (c. 1000), and with a namesake who was Patriarch of Jerusalem (d. 1128). It appears the

manors of the hundred had an aggregate assessment of 34 hides and 21 virgates, i.e., about 40 hides; three-fourths were in the hands of William Malbedeng or Malbank, Baron of Nantwich, a town long known by his name (Wich-Malbank). The other holders of land were the Bishop and the Barons of Shipbrook and Kinderton in the neighbouring hundred. The hundred was valued at 40s., of which 30s. was charged on William's lands and 10s. on those of the other three lords.

(To be continued.)

ORIGINAL DOCUMENTS.

[483] THE PARLIAMENTARY ELECTION, 1727.

(Continued from No. 476.)

BROXTON HUNDRED.

		Cotton.	Cholmondeley.	Creve.
AGDEN.				
Alldersey Dicken, gent.	...	1	1	
Richard Woods	...	1	1	
ALLDERSEY.				
Thomas Palin	...	1		
Wm. Carter	...	1	1	
Jno. Carter	...	1	1	
James Motterahaw	...	1	1	
Caldicott Alldersey, Esqre.	Chester...	1	1	
John Cumberbatch	Salop...	1	1	
Wm. Palin	...	1	1	
ALDFORD.				
Owen Jones	...	1		
Thomas Churton	...	1		
Henry Meacock	...	1		
Wm. Powell	...	1		
Harbert Lawrence, Esqre.	...	1		
Peter Lee, Clerk	...	1	1	
John Humstone	...	1		
Ralph Churton	...	1		
William Lowe	...	1		
John Lowe	...	1	1	
Gabriel Jones	...	1		
Wm. Brooks	Broughall, Salop...	1		
John Moses	...	1		
Francis Watson	...	1	1	
Thomas Palin	...	1	1	
Job Harrison	Coddington...	1	1	
Samuel Birch	...	1		
John Maycock	...	1		
Robert Bostock	...	1		
ABBY COURT.				
Thomas Cotton	Westminster...	1	1	
BARTON.				
Peter Fulford	...	1	1	
John Wood	...	1		

John Lewis	...	1	
John Edge	Handley...	1	1
Wm. Pailborn (or Goulborn)	...	1	1

BELLGRAVE.

Ralph Ward	Ecclestone...	1	1
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BICKERTON.

Robert Nevill	...	1
Thomas Jones	...	1 1
James Simcock	...	1
Philip Millington	...	1
Jno. Oulerhead	...	1 1
Richard Jackson	...	1 1
Joseph Pointon	Kiddington...	1 1
John Minshall	Namptwich...	1 1
Nathaniel Ankers	...	1 1

BICKLEY.

Hugh Green	...	1
John Storey	...	1
Wm. Stawson	...	1
John Bebbington	...	1
Ambrose Johnson	...	1
Thomas Caldicoott	...	1
Samuel Peers	Haughton...	1
Wm. Wright	...	1
William Sutton	...	1
Robert Peacock	...	1
John Howell	...	1
William Leech	...	1
John Capper	...	1
John Stokes	...	1
Richard Britain	Whitechurch...	1
Wm. Highway	Biddlestock...	1
Wm. Croxon	...	1
Wm. Nixon	...	1
Saml. Blackthorn	...	1
Joseph Sudlow	Maudley...	1
Ralph Moulson	...	1
Ralph Hall	...	1
Ralph Nixon	...	1
John Eaton	...	1
Richard Egerton	...	1
Thomas Egerton	...	1
Thos. Eachus	...	1
Jacob Philips	...	1
John Wright	...	1

BOUGHTON.

Thos. Davies	Christleton...	1
Edward Hicks	Chester...	1
Aaron Pointon	Chester...	1
Peter Leadbeater	Chester...	1
Richard Robinson	Hampton...	1 1
Robert Lea, Clerk	Chester...	1 1
John Spark	...	1 1
Thos. Hunt, Esqre.	Chester...	1
John Williams, Esqre.	Chester...	1
Thos. Madder, Esqre.	Chester...	1 1
Nathanl. Lancaster, Clerk	...	1 1
Wm. Fleck	...	1
Samuel Minshull, Esqre.	Chester...	1
Moses Pointon	Chester...	1
Wm. Fisher	Waverham...	1 1

Oliver Patriek	...	1	
Thomas Jones	...	1	1
George (or Jno) Morris	...	1	1
John Lamb	...	1	1
Thom's Filkin	Hatton	1	
Daniel Bromfield	...	1	
Joseph Golden	...	1	
George Dod	Handley	1	1
Thom's Tapley	...	1	1

BRADLEY.

Wm. Wickstead	Whitchurch...	1	
Jno. Haughton	...	1	1
James Mottershead	Malpas...	1	1

BROXTON.

Wm. Youdes	Gwersilt Denbi ...	1	1
Joseph Davies	...	1	1
John Sheen	...	1	
Edward Dutton Clerk	Crannage...	1	1
Jno. Joinson	...	1	1
Jno. Hampton	...	1	1
Thom's Dod	Namptwich...	1	
Thom's Dean	Tattenhall...	1	
William Glegg, gent.	...	1	1
Jno. Sheen	...	1	1
Thomas Harrison	...	1	
George Simpson	...	1	1
Joseph Banbury (Sheriffs Book Jno. Banbury).	...	1	1
Jno. Carr	...	1	1
Wm. Edwards	...	1	1
Charles Swain	Henbery...	1	1
James Whishaw	...	1	1
Jno. Shaw	...	1	1
Edward Dodd	Harthill...	1	1
Thos. Matthews	...	1	1
Wm. Jackson	...	1	1
Robert Peers	Huntington...	1	1
Queere the Voters Name ?	...	1	1

(To be continued.)

[484] MARRIAGE REGISTERS OF ST. OSWALD'S,
CHESTER.

1675.

John Pencott and Margreat Owens	June 1
John Nathaniell of Stoke parish and Mary Bath of Eastham parish	June 24
John Tilstone and Jane Dumbell	April 12
John Calcott wheelwright of St. Bridget's parish and Margreat Crosse	July 15
Raph Tilstone and Jane Sumner	July 20
Richard Lewis showmaker and Anne Parton of Trinity parish	Sept. 13
Randle Lotton of St. John's parish and Hannah Hoole of Wervin	Oct. 30
Danniell Crosse Joyner of St. Peter's parish and Mary Williams	Dec. 7
Thomas Hall and Ales Crabball	Dec. 9
Thomas Janion Currier of St. Peter's parish and Mary Moores	Dec. 30

Thomas Morris and Mary Hankinson	Jan. 19
Mr. John Wflmes and Mrs. Sarah Farrington	Feb. 2
William Rider Taylor and Ellin Croughton	Feb. 7

SEPTEMBER 6, 1899.

NOTES.

[485] PEDIGREE OF THE BARROWS OF BARROW, ETC., AS SHERIFFS OF CHESTER, AND CAMBRIDGE.

(See No. 481.)

This pedigree is illustrated, in part, by the preceding indenture of demise to Robert Barrow, of Chester, who carried on the business of a mercer about the time all the trade guilds became flooded with the "commonalty," through the abolition of those ancient safeguards—a certain number of descents, upon the proof of which the guilds insisted, as much later (early in the next century but one—the 17th) was also the case—like the old knighthoods—with the purchasable title of baronet, the official title of counsellor-at-law, etc., etc.

These long lines of the little known and interesting family of Barrow, were settled at Chester. Its early ancestry would appear to have held the mesne manor of Great or Little Barrow—perhaps both—the usufruct of which must have been large; but there is no existing evidence, so far as we are aware, of the fact that the Barrows held the whole of either manor. They may only have held part (like the Lawtons of Lawton, and others, who in early times held moieties only of their respective Lordships), or have been merely lessees of these manors, or of some portions thereof. However, from a pedigree in my possession, coming from I don't know where, but perhaps originally from the now-called Harl: MSS., touching Chester (2119) and Northampton (1094 and 1553), and prepared perhaps for legal purposes, such as the establishment of a right to property, it appears that this descent was either that of the main stock, or of one of its younger branches—the latter, probably. Its commencement is in the early part of the 14th century, and begins with WILLIAM DE BARROW—who had 3 sons, viz. two WILLIAMS de Barrow, of Churton, and a HUGH de Barrow who had a son, William. The 2nd William de Barrow had Robert, 38 Edw. 3 (in clerical orders) and HUGH de Barrow, 49 Edw. 3, who by Mary his wife had RICHARD de Barrow, of Churton, 17 Ric. 2

and died 4 Hen. 5, and HUGH, junior, 50 Edw. 3, and 20 Ric. 2, who had (1) William, 17 and 20 Ric. 2, RICHARD. 20 Ric. 2, 9 Hen. 4, Thomas, 20 Ric. 2, John, 20 Ric. 2, and Jane Barrow.

RICHARD DE BARROW, the elder brother of Hugh, junior, was (by his wife Ellen) ancestor of long lines. He had 3 sons—HUGH, 8 Hen. 6 (who was probably eldest, and died early), JOHN Barrow of Churton and Chester, and RICHARD B. of Chester, *sheriff*, 24 Hen. 6, living 3 Hen. 5, and 1443 (of whom hereafter).

I, JOHN BARROW, of Churton's son, ROBERT of Chester, who died 12 Hen. 6 (?), had RICHARD BARROW of Chester, whose 2d (?) wife, "Kathrine, ob. s. p.," but by Margaret, his 1st (?) wife, he had issue ROBERT BARROW (who may possibly have been identical with the Robert of the Indenture of Lease 5 Hen. VIII.) By Anne his wife, daughter of Wm. Yardley (see *Caldecot* and *Yardsley* townships, Hist: Cheshire) who was widow or wife, to John — of Colcote (*Caldecot*?) this Robert had a second son, RICHARD, and a third son, who married Jane Lowe, of London, but left no issue; also a daughter, *Bridget*, who was wife to — Yardley, Esq., of Colcote. Robert's eldest son was WILLIAM BARROW, who in 23 Eliz. marrd. Katherine, dau. of Samuel Colley, of Cudington, gentn., and had 4 daurs., viz., Jane wife of Thos. Stocker, 2nd Mary; *Elizabeth*, of London; and Jane (Joan?) who marrd. in London, Hugh Probe (?) of Chorlton. Their 2nd brother, LAUNCELOT Barrow, of Chester, had a pedigree drawn in 1626; his brother, RICHARD B., of London, was William's 3rd son—his eldest son being WILLIAM BARROW, of Churton, who, by his wife, Ellen, dau. of Thomas Pulford, of London, had issue WILLIAM BARROW, "a child in 1626," and a daur. *Dorothy*, who "died an infant."

II. RICHARD BARROW, *Sheriff of Chester* 24 Hen. VI. aforesaid, living marr'd 3 Hen. V., and occurring in 1443, was eldest, or younger, brother of the said John, of Churton, son of Richard and Ellen. This Richard the Sheriff was patriarch of a 2nd and longer and more numerous line, descendants of his son, JOHN BARROW, who was also *Sheriff of Chester*, 33 Hen. VI. (sic.), and occurs 8 Hen. VI. This John's eldest son (a) JOHN BARROW, was likewise a *Sheriff of Chester*, 13 Edw. IV., and was marrd. 6 Hen. VII. His sister, *Agnes*, was wife of Richard Wyrall (Worrall) an *Alderman of Chester*; and he had a brother (b) *Thomas*. This last Sheriff John had issue ROBERT BARROW, living 1489. He

had issue THOMAS, and a son ROBERT BARROW, of Chester, 19 Hen. VIII., living 1544, father of Anne, wife of Rope Goulburn (?) perhaps Rope, of Golborne-David? b. THOMAS BARROW (brother of one Sheriff, son of another, and grandson of another) was a *Sheriff of Chester*, himself, 2 Hen. VII., and (22 Hen. VII.) marrd. Anne, dau. of Humphrey ap David Lloyd, of Bryn. This sheriff who died 15 Hen. VIII. is called *Mayor of Chester* in 1445, 1505, and 1510; but the figures in this pedigree, are all mad. (See if they agree with the list of mayors, &c. in Hist. of Cheshire). This mayor and sheriff, by Anne Lloyd had issue 3 or 4 sons? viz., EDWARD (2nd?), who "ob. ante patrem," and ROGER BARROW and (c) ROBERT BARROW 3d son, and another child, unnamed.—Roger Barrow, presumably eldest son, migrated to Cambridge, of which borough he was *Sheriff* 15 Hen. VIII. By Katherine his wife, dau. of—Singleton, esq., of Scaleasing, co. Lincoln, he had 2 sons, Tho. and John. JOHN Barrow (whose 1st wife was Anne, dau. of Wm. Amos (?) of—co. Oxon, and who ob. s. p.), marrd. 2dly, "Mary, dau. of Wm. Standish in the city of Oxford," by whom he had EDWARD, whose wife was Elizth., dau. of Sir Thomas Cheney of Sandon co., Bedford, knt.—THOMAS BARROW (eldest son of the aforesaid Roger and Katherine), was also *Sheriff of Cambridge* 24 Hen. VIII. His issue were 4 or 5 sons and 2 or 3 daurs., viz., Ellen B. of Sheffield, Alice (who married); THOMAS BARROW (2nd son), RICHARD BARROW, a soldier; HUGH, of London, — Barrow, of London, and ROBERT Barrow, who wed Anne Lloyd, who was "buried in St. Mary's Church" (Camb.)—and left issue Elizth. who was widow of—Victor 1635, aged 60; Jane, Anne, and THOMAS. THOMAS BARROW (the 2nd son of Thomas son of Roger) had issue ROGER BARROW, of Cambridge, burd. in St. Mary's Ch. circ. 1633; which Roger had issue ROBERT, Sarah and Elizth.

(c) ROBERT BARROW (brother of Sheriff Roger aforesaid) 2 Hen. VIII. was "*Sheriff to his father*," 22 Hen. VII. (as Mayor of Chester). He had issue 4 daurs., viz. Margt. wife of Hamlet Ditchfield, of Ditton, or Dilton, co. Cambridge; Jane, wife of Sir Wm. Mead (maj: ?) of Broadwall, co. Chester, which latter ob. s. 107 (*sic.*) which figures, perhaps, refer to another folio of the MS. If this means not Venables, but Mead, of Bradwall, he must have been some temporary resident, as the name, at that early date, seems quite foreign to Cheshire. "Maj." may be major

or mayor. Perhaps he was a "reformed" priest?—The next daughter of Robert, was Anne, who married Henry Park, of Chester, and secondly, R. Goulburn—probably of the house of Golbourne-David. Her issue was Sir John Park, most probably another converted priest. The last daughter of Robert Barrow was Elisabeth, whose husband, Robert—died issueless, if "Ob. s. 107" means anything at all? This last pedigree ends early in the reign of Elizabeth. Robert, the father of these daughters, was most probably the lessee of the house and gardens in the North-Gate Street—the lease of which was most likely transferred, on his decease, by his daughters, to the next holder named in the endorsement. It is very seldom, however, that any one family, and its male branches, are found to have produced so great a number of sheriffs of any town—to say nothing of other municipal offices. In Chester, temp. Eliz. they made a great cry of admiration of Sir John Savage, half a dozen times mayor; but the Barrows beat, or (to make a quaint pun), *wheel*, all the Savages out of the field. And, by-the-bye, the 15th cent. Savages were owners of both the Big and Little Barrows. T. H.

ORIGINAL DOCUMENTS.

[486] THE PARLIAMENTARY ELECTION, 1727.

(Continued from No. 483.)

		Cotton	Chol-	mondeley	Crawe
BUCKLEY.					
Hugh Webster	...	1			
John Poveall	...	1			
Randle Harding	...	1			
Robert Buckley	...	1			
James Williamson	Baddiley...	1			
Wm. Dod	Baguley...	1			
Wm. Swindall	...	1			
Richard Banks	Tarporley...	1			
Wm. Banks	Newhall...	1			
Richard Green	...	1			
Jno. Peirson	...	1			
Thos. Broom	Egerton...	1			
Thos. Bressay	Buerton...		1	1	
BURWARDSLEY.					
Ralph Kettle	...	1			
George Dod	...	1			
John Dod	...	1			
George Bebbington	...		1	1	
Charles Ashley	...		1	1	
Thomas Barnett	Ellison...	1			
Samuel Bennett	Broxtton...		1	1	

Moses Green	Brinnington...	1	1
Jno. Stephenson	Bickerton...	1	1
Richard Bostock	...	1	
John Done (or Dun)	...	1	1
Thomas Bebbington	Harthill...	1	

CALLCOTT.

John Pate	Alliner [?] Denbigh...	1	
Charles Fletcher junr.	Whitchurch...	1	
Thomas Pate	...	1	1

CARDEN.

Wm. Rowe	...	1	1
Wm. Hopley	...	1	
James Crump	Malpas...	1	1
John Dean	...	1	
Charles Jones	...	1	1
John Craven	Middlewich...	1	

CHOLMONDELEY.

John Nevitt	...	1	
Richard Bossill	...	1	
Charles Griffith	Buckley...	1	
Timothy Outerhead	...	1	
John Duncalf	...	1	
Wm. Candland	Chorley...	1	
Thos. Tomlinson	...	1	
Wm. Pulford	...	1	
Stephen Falconer	...	1	
Robert Blewer	...	1	
Joseph Steel	Blakenhall...	1	
Robert Heath Esq.	Marbury...	1	
William Davies	...	1	
Samuel Burrows	...	1	
Thomas Lloyd	...	1	
Thomas Jones	...	1	
John Tomlinson	...	1	
Wm. Steel	...	1	
Richard Tomlinson	...	1	
Wm. Banks	...	1	
Thos. Darlington	Atherton...	1	

CHALTON.

Richard Downiard	...	1	
Thomas Timmis	...	1	
Thomas Moss	...	1	
Thomas Minshall	...	1	1
John Green	Chester...	1	
Benjamin Dooley	...	1	

(To be continued).

[487] MARRIAGE REGISTERS OF ST. OSWALD'S,
CHESTER.

1676.

John Low and Margreat Carmon	April 3
John Tilstone, smith, and Jane Dumbell	April 12
James Bagguley, wheelwright and Elizabeth Williams	May 14
Mr. William Ince, junior, and Mrs. Mary Richardson, widd	May 24
Henry Davies and Margreat Beckett	May 28
Foulke Panton, tanner, of St. John's parish and Ellenor Lewis, at St. John's	June 7
John Mossen, joyner and Hannah Jannion, widd	June 27

Thomas Alcott, smith, and Hannah Caddocks	July 11
Richard Grundye and Mary Pever of St. Peter's parish	July 13
Hugh Bennikers, taylor, and Sarah Strange	Sept. 7
Joseph Lunte and Lettice Woods, of St. Martin's parish	Sept. 7
William Newporte of Barrow parish and Mary Manley, of Fradsome parish	Sept. 29
Thomas Sanders, joyner, and Sarah Knowles	Oct. 5
Robt. Tasker and Jane Browne both of Tarperly parish	Oct. 19
Richard Hignett of Tarvin and Mary Hill of Christleton parish	Oct. 19
George Trevis of Timperley and Anne Heald widd. both of Bowden parish	Oct. 23
Richard Rutter, cloth-worker and Ellen Glover of Brumbara parish	Nov. 8
Charles Wright and Chatharine Sadler both of Tarvin parish	Nov. 11
William Croughton showmaker and Mary Hinkes	Nov. 16
Henry Neild of Backford parish and Anne Johnson, widd. of Thorneton parish	Dec. 9
Thomas Joanes, malster, and Elizabeth Woolley	Dec. 10
Danniell Smith and Martha Ball, both of Burton in Tarvin parish	Dec. 26
Garrard Leigh, of the parish of Lyme, and alsoe Ellin Rattolife, of Great Budworth parish	Dec. 27
John Evans and Mary Clubbe	Jan. 3
Joseph Clubbe and Elizabeth Hughes	Jan. 10
John Ridley and Elizabeth Joanes, both of Barrow parish	Jan. 26
Thomas Henson and Jane Allin, of Trinnity	Feb. 3
Danniell Taylor and Elizabeth Gill, widd	Feb. 22
John Comberbatch, of Plimstone parish, and Margreat Caveley, of St. John's	Feb. 27
Thomas Parry and Rebecca Fletcher	Feb. 27
Thomas Whitelow, of Gilded Sutton, and Shusannah Ince	Feb. 27

SEPTEMBER 13, 1899.

NOTES.

[488] SOME NOTES ON THE CHESHIRE
DOMESDAY.

(Continued from No. 482.)

12. *Wilauleston*. This hundred was somewhat larger than the modern Wirral, extending as far east as the Gowy and including Guilden Sutton (the Sudtone held by the Bishop), where

it met the bounds of Dudestan Hundred. The name is derived from the township of Willaston, centrally situated as usual, and the meetings of the freemen were no doubt held on the adjacent Hadlow, which gave its name to the manor (Edelane). This manor as well as the great manors of Eastham and Upton (by Chester), was held by Earl Hugh as by the Earls of Mercia before him, so that he retained about a quarter of the whole area, on the Mersey side. Robert of Rhuddlan held most of the lands on the Dee side right round to Wallasey; and many other of the Barons of the County Palatine had manors here, as well as smaller men. It seems as if the Earl had wished to have as many of his knights around him as possible; the exposed position of the hundred may be the key to this desire. The assessment of the manors amounts to 97 and one-sixth hides and 4 bovates (the latter in Poole by Hooton). The manors of West Kirby and Burton have been omitted, or else no doubt the other $2\frac{1}{2}$ hides necessary to make the exact "hundred" would have appeared. West Kirby had, just before the survey, been given to the Abbey of St. Evroul in Ouche (about midway between Caen and Chartres), and that may explain its omission. Burton belonged to the Bishop, and may have been overlooked by the scribe, or confused with the other Burton (near Tarvin), which is duly recorded among the Bishop's lands. The area of this hundred amounts in round figures to 68,000 statute acres, giving an average assessment of one hide to every 680 acres. The carucates (land under cultivation or fit for it) add up to 174, or $1\frac{1}{2}$ to each hide, varying from one to five carucates to the hide. This hundred was all more or less under cultivation, and there was comparatively little wooded land; Atiscros, on the other side of the Dee, with its hills and woods, shews an average of a little over one carucate to the hide; while Warmundestrou, an inland district, gives 107 carucates to its 40 hides, or more than $2\frac{1}{2}$ to each.

There are many curious points which call for discussion in the record, but perhaps one of the most puzzling is the manor of Eastham, in Wirral. This manor was assessed at 22 hides, and the land for cultivation amounted to 22 carucates. The Earl did not retain it all in his own hands, but only two carucates were in his demesne; and 28 men of servile or bond estate had six carucates, and apparently the two "radmans" and the priest had also a carucate among them. Besides this, seven of the Earl's knights had 14 hides among them, with 13

carucates of land for cultivation. The Earl's part was worth 80s.; his knights' 112s. With this may be compared the manor of Upton (Chester); of its $4\frac{1}{2}$ hides the Earl assigned 2 $\frac{1}{6}$ th to three of his knights; his share being worth 45s. and theirs 40s. When the average value of a hide in acres, as already given for Wirral, is borne in mind, it becomes a great puzzle to know how 22 hides—15,000 acres—are to be placed in Eastham-with-Bromborough, which together contain less than 3,000 acres. After allowing for the consideration that some of the hides do not refer to land surface at all, but to fishery rights, tolls on merchandise, and so forth, as in the case of Chester already noticed, the difficulty appeared to be insuperable in that way, and, therefore, the following solution is offered, as that which best agrees with the facts of the case. It should be borne in mind that it does not profess to be a strictly historical statement, but a "working hypothesis," to be modified and corrected from time to time.

Eastham (22 hides, 22 carucates.)

The Earl's Portion (8h.)—In demesne (2 car.), Eastham—1205 acres. Farmed out (6 car.), priest, &c. (1 car.), Bromborough, 1525; Stoke, 706; Little Stanney, 797—3,028 acres. Total, 4,233 acres.

His Knights' Portion (14h.).

Mundret (2h.)—Higher Bebington, 893; Tranmere, 1,043—1,936 acres.

Hugh [de Mara] (2h.)—Oxton, 802; Brimstage, 1,012—1,814 acres.

William [Malbedeng] (1h.)—Whitby, 1,230 acres.

Hamo [de Masci] (7h.)—Bidston, 1,689; Birkenhead, 543; Cloughton, 436; Moreton, 1,193; Saughall Massie, 930—4,791 acres.

Robert [Fitz Hugh] (1h.)—Childer Thornton, 723 acres.

Robert [?] (½h.), Walter [?] Vernon] (½h.)—Parts of Whitby or other of above. Total, 10,494 acres.

Grand total, 14,727 acres.

Dividing this total by 22, we get an average of nearly 670 acres to the hide, practically the Wirral average.

This agrees fairly with the known facts—the connection of the Massey family with Bidston and its adjacent townships, the gift of Whitby to St. Werburgh's by William Malbank, and the tenure of Brimstage and Oxton by the Domvilles (temp. Edward I.) from the Montalts, the then representatives of Hugh de Mara. Childer Thornton is assigned to Robert Fitz Hugh, because it somehow came into the hands of the monks of St. Werburgh's, possibly along with the adjacent Sutton which he gave them.

Something of the same kind may be suggested for Upton-by-Chester, thus:—

Optone ($4\frac{1}{2}$ hides, 12 carucates).

The Earl's Portion ($2\frac{3}{4}$ h.)—Upton, 1,106; Caughall, 328, Moston. 273—1,707 acres.

Hamo [de Masci] ($\frac{3}{4}$ h.), Herbert ($\frac{1}{4}$ h.), Mundret (1h.)—Backford, 749; Chorlton, 527; Bache, 94—1,370 acres. Total, 3,077 acres.

The Masseys were early in possession of Backford, but that seems to be all there is to go upon. A certain Herbert—perhaps this same man—held Heswall under Robert of Rhuddlan; and Herbert Waimbasarius, in or before 1119, gave some land in Hoole to St. Werburgh's, and it is possible that part at least of this township was then in the manor of Upton. Mundret, who seems to have been much trusted by the Earl, having been at one time "tenant" of the city, held half of Bartington from the Earl, as well as a manor (Chowley) from Robert Fitz Hugh; but he probably died without heirs, as no trace of them has been noticed by the writer.

It may be objected that very forcible arguments have been adduced by Mr. W. F. Irvine (in "Notes on Bidston Parish") in favour of Bidston, &c., being the manor denoted by "Salhale" in the survey; its size and its proximity to Landican, Upton, Thingwall, and Noctorum, other manors held by the same William Malbank, are strong points. On the other hand nothing is known to connect the Barons of Nantwich with Saughall Massey, while there is a slight trace of such a connection in the case of Saughall near Chester, or rather an adjacent township. In Ormerod (Helsby's edition, ii, 568) we are told that the Barons of Wich Malbanc were lords paramount of Rowe-shotewyk (Rough Shotwick, or Woodbank), and as late as 1583 the vill of Rowe Shotwick with the manors of Woodchurch and Knocktorum were conveyed from Lawrence Bostock to Francis Hiccock. This latter may be a mere coincidence, but the conjunction of Rough Shotwick with the Barons of Nantwich and with the manors of Woodchurch (Landecheene) and Noctorum, held together by the first Baron, cannot easily be passed by. Perhaps we should neglect later sub-divisions of the old manor of Saughall, and put together—

	Acres.
Great Saughall.....	1,200
Little Saughall.....	456
Shotwick Park	710
Rough Shotwick	175
	<hr/>
	2,541

This, however, would give less than four hides to the whole, on the Wirral average, whereas seven hides are required by Domesday, for St. Werburgh's held one, and William Malbank six. Even allowing an extra hide for the fishery and other tolls, it is obvious that some explanation is wanting. It may be remarked that the same Malbank's manor of Landican presents a like difficulty; grouping it with Woodchurch, Arrowe, Irby, and Pensby we get less than 2,800 acres, though it was rated at seven hides. Upton, with 900 acres, was rated at three hides, and Thingwall, with 370, at one. It can only be surmised that the lands in Wirral granted to William Malbank were unusually fertile, or at least had been so at the time when the assessment was made.

Another point of interest arises in connection with St. Werburgh's lands. At the time of the survey they were spread over 21 manors, outside the city, and rated at a little over 27 hides. In an early charter printed in Dugdale is a list of six places where this church had possessions amounting to 17 "manentia," clearly marked off. This charter professes to be made by Edgar, "King of the Mercians and other nations," and is dated from Penkridge in 958, "indictione v^o anno regni mei." Edgar became King of the Mercians (under his elder brother, Edwy) in November, 955, on the death of his father; in 957 he asserted independent kingship and received the submission of the Northumbrians, while in 959 he became King of England. His title, therefore, is accurate for the year 958, but the other notes of time do not agree with it and are imperfect. This year seems to have been the "first indiction" and in the 3rd and 4th years of the king's reign; perhaps, therefore, we should read "indictione i, iiii. anno regni." The manors given in this charter are here given, with what seem to be the corresponding ones in Domesday, but, of course, an alteration in the assessment in the intervening century may account for the 17 "manentia" originally given being now valued at a greater number of "hides."

1. Hodeshlid.....	Odeslei (Hoseley, near Gresford)	$\frac{1}{2}$ hide
2. Ceofanlea.....	{ Cavelea (Cheveley in Huntington)	3 "
	{ Saltone (Saughton)	2 "
3. Huntingdon..	{ Hunditone (Huntington)	3 "
	{ Boostone (Boughton)	3 "
4. Hupton.....	{ Wisdelea (Lea by Back- ford)	1 "
	{ Wineurene (Wervin)	1 $\frac{1}{2}$ "
	{ Crostone (Croughton) ..	1 "

5. Easton { Midestune (Middleton by Aston) 1 "
 { Clistune (Clifton by Weston Point)..... 1 "
 6. Barue Etingehalle (Iddinshall) 1 "
 (But perhaps the latter should be Trosford, now Trafford).

[489] THE FAMILIES OF MINSHULL OF
 PENKETH AND TORBOCK AND CALDWELL
 OF SUTTON.

I am engaged in tracing for an American friend the ancestry of one John Minshull, who emigrated to Pennsylvania in 1715, the son of Thomas and Martha of Penketh (in 1696), from whom he inherited (and transmitted to his dau.) real estate in Appleton. They were members of Hartshaw monthly meetings of "Friends". Young John's g'dfather and gt.-g'dfather, both named John, of Appleton, seem to have been collaterals of two successive Johns of Lachford, the first of whom, commemorated in (Besse's?) Sufferings of the Quakers, had a son Thomas who went from STOAK to Pennsylvania in 1682. In 1666 a John Minshull, was a Charterer in Appleton and Hull, and in 1639 the will was proved of a John Minshull of Appleton, junior, whose wife was named Katherine. This is as far back as I can get.

To take up the distaff-side, Martha Minshull was, as the Quaker registers (kept at 12, Bishopsgate Without) have proved, the dau. of Richard Tarbock of Sutton and Christian Caldwell (m. 1666). In the will (pr. 1701) of Richd. Tarbock, of Penketh, he leaves lands, including some at Cuerdly, to his son Richard (among other children named), and to "his dau. Christian" a messuage lately bought of John Appleton, adjoining the meeting-house or school house. A Thomas Tarbock, as stated in the sufferings, was taken prisoner from his own house at Knowsley, in 1660, and a Robert of Knowsley left a will pr. 1629. There was a Richard, of Hardshaw (will 1648), and a Henry, of Ormskirk (will 1670). These were all, probably, closely connected. I find, too, a series of Thomases, of Sutton, up to one who d. 1624. Tarbocks must have been settled at Sutton for some time before the fine old family lost the manor of Torbock, and became "Torbocks of Sutton" (temp. Car. I.), for we find a will of a John T., of S., 1603, and baptisms of An, dau. of Thos. T., of S., 1602, and John, son of Rich., of S., 1606.

As to who was Christian's father surmise points to William Caldwell of Warrington (inv. 1660) or to Richard of Appleton (will 1695). Could any one tell me whether he was identical

with one Richard of Boppe (or Bough), who in 1671 married Rebecca Sharples? A Richard figures in the "Sufferings." The family at Appleton I trace to one Thomas, whose will was pr. 1594. There were others at Crowley in Great Budworth, and at Thelwall. Could John Caldwell, rector of Grappenhall and Winwick, have been their common ancestor? I should feel greatly indebted for any information that would enable me to connect these obscurer branches of Minshall, Tarbock and Caldwell, with the pedigrees given in the Visitations, in Ormerod's "Cheshire" and "Hall's Nantwich," etc. In the last named work there is allusion to a privately printed pedigree by John Bellamy Minshall, Esq., which I am disappointed not to find at the British Museum. I may add that I have extracts from some, but not all of the wills I have referred to.

ETHEL LEGA-WEEKES.

[490] MARRIAGE REGISTERS OF ST. OSWALD'S,
 CHESTER.

1677.

- John Hankey showmaker and Dorrathy Sharpe April 16
 Jesse Okell and Abbygall Moore, both of Warton April 21
 Josua Taylor showmaker and Mary Fisher April 23
 Charles Strittle and Jane Varnon April 28
 Thomas Hodgson of Cholmston green in the diocese of Chester and Margreat Philcock of the same April 30
 John Percivall, feltmaker of Plimstone and Anne Goulson of St. Michael's May 7
 William Wright of Elton in the parish of Thornton and Margreat Wright of the same June 13
 Thomas Wintley and Anne Deane June 14
 John Huse of Tarvin parish and Margreat Smith June 18
 Samuel Pemberton and Elizabeth Meacooke both of Stoke June 23
 Robert Birchwood of Barrow and Mary Bolton of Backeford June 26
 Richard Hamnett and Jane Strittle July 9
 John Queene and Anne Platt Sept. 4
 Thomas Sands and Frances Griefith both of Malpas Sept. 30
 Peter Greene, of Rabye, and Mary Bedson, of Little Nesson Oct. 24
 John Davies and Jane Rowlin Nov. 5
 John Ambrose and Shusannah Hall Nov. 29
 Mr. John Whitty and Mrs. Ales Kelsall, both of Plumstone p'ish Dec. 6

William Wright, labourer, and Margreat Locker	Dec. 10
Robert Crane and Hannah Edwards, both of Cotton, in Christleton parish	Dec. 14
David Joanes and Anne Woodarte	Dec. 25
John Edwards and Mary Whittle	Dec. 31
Mr. Joseph Dyson and Mrs. Jane Buttler my Lord Bushops made	Jan. 3
Samuell Farrington and Elizabeth; Hickeocke	Jan. 7
Thomas Jackson of Brinnigton in the Countye of Chester and Mary Sworton of Whitten Streete	Jan. 30
John Kinge and Margreat Bingley of St. Michael's parish	Feb. 6
John Fryer and Martha Higginson	Feb. 7
Thomas Whitfield of Woodchurch and Jane Maddocke of Thornton	Feb. 13

SEPTEMBER 20, 1899.

NOTES.

[491] FURTHER NOTES ON THE CHESHIRE DOMESDAY.

1. *Errors and Omissions.* In the description of Atiscros ("Sheaf," No. 479), "south-east" boundary should have been written for "south-west," in line 12. In Rochelau the assessment adds up to 18 hides, 5½ virgates, and 7 bovates. There is no "blank page" in the original manuscript between Atiscros and the lands "between Ribble and Mersey;" the record of these latter begins at the top of a left hand page, the entry about Robert of Rhuddlan and North Wales having been crowded into the bottom corner of the preceding page (over leaf, of course). The writer was misled on this point by the facsimile. It should have been stated that the description of the city of Chester occupies the first page of the Cheshire record, immediately before the Bishop's lands. One or two printer's errors "the benevolent reader" will easily correct for himself.

2. *Scattered Manors, i.e., manors whose constituents are not in a "ring fence,"* sometimes occur. Two have been noticed, viz., Henbury, in Hamestan, and Sandbach, in Mildestuic; a third occurs in Weaverham, where it is expressly stated that "one virgate" of land in Antrobus, "in another hundred," belonged to this manor; but it does not seem clear whether the "one virgate and a half" afterwards ascribed to Antrobus (in Tunendune) is a more correct assessment or an addition.

3. *Landecheene.* The following seems to be a more accurate statement of the case than was given before. The possible townships for contributing the 7 hides of this manor of William Malbank's are—Landican (605 acres), Woodchurch (331) Oxton (802), Arrowse (752), Frankby (558), Irby (574), and Pensby (335); seven in all, or one for each hide assessed. The only certain ones, however, are Landican and Woodchurch. Oxton, as recorded before, seems to have been part of the great manor of Eastham; possibly the present township may be much greater than the Oxton of 1086, when only the village and higher land may have been in Eastham, leaving the lower ground (Holme?) for Landican. Arrowse is more doubtful; part of it, at least (according to Ormerod), was held by the Montalts, who were the heirs of the Hugh de Mara of Domesday Book, and this part is no doubt the "Calders" there assigned to him; but half was vested in a family named Lymme, who seem to have held lands also in Thingwall and Barnston. Thingwall was a Malbank manor, and this gives some plausibility to the theory that half of Arrowse may also have been Malbank's, and therefore part of Landecheene. Frankby first appears as held by Philip de Praers in the time of King John. Members of the same family seem early to have acquired an interest in the Malbank manors—Noctorum, Upton, and Landican itself being at various periods found in their hands—so that Frankby may have been a Malbank manor too, and part (though detached) of Landecheene. Irby, however, was probably part of Robert of Rhuddlan's manor of Caldere. Robert died, without heirs, soon after the compilation of Domesday, and his manors were of course resumed by Earl Hugh, who gave Irby in 1093 to St. Werburgh's. The Domesday "Caldere" thus seems to have comprised Caldry, Irby, and part of Arrowse, 3 hides being held by the aforesaid Robert and one by Hugh de Mara. At present a portion of Thurstaston cuts Irby off from Caldry, but that may not have been the case in 1086. Pensby's history is not very clear; it seems to have been held by a branch of the Domvill family who took the name of Pensby; they also held part and finally the whole of Thingwall, so that, granting Pensby to be a Malbank manor, it appears to belong to Thingwall rather than to Landican. Assuming the very utmost, however, we see that the Domesday Landecheene might have embraced Landican, Woodchurch, half of Arrowse, Frankby, Pensby, and a fraction of the present Oxton—say 2,500 acres in all. With its 7

hides this gives but 350 acres for an assessment of one hide, little more than half the Wirral average; less than half, indeed, if Pensby be excluded. What is there to account for this high ratable value?

It was pointed out before that the adjacent manors of Upton and Thingwall present the same difficulty. The most obvious answer is that at the time the assessment was made—perhaps a century before—this portion of Wirral was very highly cultivated, and therefore, of course, able to pay more taxes. What we gather from Domesday is, that the land fit for cultivation amounted to 8 carucates, a trifle under the average for Wirral; of these, one was in the Domesne [Landican?], and the priest [at Woodchurch?], 9 villeins, 7 bordars, and 4 Frenchmen [at Frankby?] had five carucates among them; the other two were perhaps not actually under cultivation. It was worth 50s. in 1066; afterwards it became waste; but in 1086 was worth 40s. The population and value are both under the local average—4 men and 10s. to the hide. As there seems nothing in the later history to account for it, this high valuation must be reckoned among the difficulties of the Wirral record, made by King William's commissioners in 1086. J. B.

[492] THE PARLIAMENTARY ELECTION, 1877.

((Continued from No. 486.))

		Cotton	Chol-	mondeley	Crewe
	CHOWLEY.				
Thoms Thomason	Middlewich...	1	1		
Daniel Sheen		1			
	CHRISTLETON.				
Wm. Speed	Chester...	1			
Daniel Sellar	Barrow...	1	1		
Thomas Tilstone Esq.	Chester...	1	1		
Jno. Page	Chester...	1			
Thos. Partington gent.	Everald...	1	1		
Thos. Griffith		1			
Nath. Norbury	Chester...	1			
Jno. Gough			1	1	
Saml. Hodson			1	1	
Joseph Preece			1	1	
Wm. Ramsdale			1	1	
Jno. Dittar		1			1
	CHURTON.				
Hugh Harrison	Hatton...	1			
Jno. Watson		1			
Rogr Barnston Esqr	Chester...	1			
Wm. Rogerson		1	1		
Richard Barrow		1	1		
Thomas Jones Esqr	Chester...	1	1		
Thos. Hughs		1			
Wm. Colley	Churton Heath...	1			

Thomas Moss	Odd Rode...	1	1
Wm. Fletcher	...	1	
Robert Gregory	...	1	
John Davies	...	1	
Thos. Wynne Esqr	Flintshire...	1	

CHIDLOW.

John Dicken	Titley, Salop...	1	
Wm. Heans [P] Senior	Brexton...	1	1
Wm. Hales	...	1	1
Jno. Sadler	...	1	

CLAVEYTON.

Moses Dobby	Handbridge...	1	1
Edwd. Foulkes, Esq.	Plass Issa, Flint...	1	1
Edward Bridge	Chester...	1	
Wm. Hughs, Aldermn.	Chester...	1	1
Thos. Leighton	Chester...	1	
William Cowper, Esqre.	Colne, Lancaster	1	1

CLUTTON.

Philip Cappar	...	1	1
Edward Dutton	Broxton...	1	
Robert Clerk	...	1	1
Thos. Wynne	...	1	1
Jno. Harrison	...	1	1

CODDINGTON.

John Minshull	...	1	1
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COTTON.

Jno. James	Bangor, Denb....	1	
Wm. Ledsom	Kinnerton ..	1	
Thos. Middlehurst	Christleton...	1	1

CREWE.

John Billington, gent.	Newton...	1	1
Samuel Baker	...	1	1
Ambrose Johnson	Malpas...	1	1

CASTLE TOWN.

Randle Meredith	Whichough...	1	1
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CUDDINGTON.

Randle Thernall	...	1	
Edward Buckley	...	1	1

CHORLEY.

Ralph Hare	...	1	
Ralph Bowers	...	1	1
Saml. Lingott	...	1	

CROUGHTON.

Thomas Davies	...	1	1
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CHORNTON.

Thomas Clutton, Esq.	...	1	1
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ESCOYD.

Thomas Dutton	...	1	1
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EATON.

Sir Richd. Grosvenor Bart.	...	1	1
Thomas Grosvenor Esq.	...	1	1
Robert Grosvenor Esq.	...	1	1
Wm. Henbury	Namptwich...	1	1

ECCLESTON.

Roger Alms	...	1	1
Roger Alms Senr.	...	1	1
Thomas Awbury clerk	Chester...	1	1

EDGE.			
Jno. Strotton	...	1	1
Jno. Hopley clerk	Overton...	1	1
Richard Morris	Norbury...	1	
George Brown	...	1	
Thomas Heatley	Chester...	1	1
Jno. Johnson	...	1	1
Robert Humston	Malpas	1	1
Richd. Tomkins	Dodicot-in-Wilksley...	1	
Wm. Dod Esq.	...	1	1
Wm. Bayley	Besford, Salop...	1	
Thomas Palin	Egerton...	1	1
Richard Smith	...	1	
Richard Conghin	...	1	1
Francis Stringer	...	1	1
Joseph Banks	...	1	1
Thomas Morris	...	1	1
Thomas Green	Escoyd, Flint...	1	1
EDGERTON.			
Philip Egerton, Esq.	Acton, Denbigh...	1	1
Ralph Dod	Chester...	1	
Jno. Stringer	Bickerton...	1	1
Robt. Harcourt	Buckley...	1	1
Hugh Stringer	...	1	1
Joseph Griffith	...	1	1
Jno. Bickerton	Hutsom, Salop...	1	
Ralph Dod	...	1	1

(To be continued.)

QUERIES.

[493] THE PLAGUE IN CHESHIRE.

I shall be much obliged if any of the readers of the "Sheaf" would send me copies of original documents relating to the several visitations of the plague in Cheshire. They will be duly acknowledged in my "History of Chester in the Stuart Period," which I have in hand as a sequel to my "History of Chester in the Plantagenet and Tudor Period.

RUPERT H. MORRIS.

4, Warwick-square, London, S.W.

[494] SIR THOMAS BROWNE, AUTHOR OF "RELIGIO MEDICI."

Sir Thomas Browne, the learned author of "Religio Medici," lived and died in Norwich. He was born in London, his father, Thomas, a mercer, having migrated thither from "Upton, in Cheshire." His grandfather was a Richard Browne, who lived at Upton. As there appear to be three Uptons in the county, I should like to know with which of them this distinguished man is connected. I should also be thankful for any particulars as to his family.

F. R. C. S.

[495] MARRIAGE REGISTERS OF ST. OSWALD'S, CHESTER.

1678.

Richard Wright and Chatharine Joanes	March 31
Edward Wamsley of St. John's p'ish and Anne Rider of St. Bridget's parish	May 30
John Whitehead and Anne Sandland	June 10
William Paughton of Fradsome and Ellinor Yearsley of Weverham	June 29
John Mason and Margaret Peeres	July 4
John Clarke and Elisabeth Gandy both of Netherton in Fradsome parish	July 6
Thomas Walker and Anne Sharburne	July 14
George Platt and Susannah Hope	July 29
John Price of Stocke and Sarah Shaw	Aug. 15
Thomas Pemberton Cobler and Anne Woodworth	Oct. 15
Martine Ball and Margreat Joanes both of St. Ollives parrish	Oct. 29
Henry Davis and Jane Beckett	Nov. 10
Richard Woods and Elizabeth Howel	Nov. 3
Edward Coddington of St. John's parish and Mrs. Mary Hulton wid.	Nov. 23
Mr. Raph Wilbraham, Gentellman, of Acton parish, and Mrs. Frances Ravencraft, Daughter unto Mr. Thomas Ravencraft, of Bretton, Esqre., livinge in the Parish of Holy Trennity	Nov. 28
George Tommason and Margaret Robarts	Jan. 14
Hugh Hughes, Cuttler, and Hannah Rocke, of St. Michael's parish	March 3

SEPTEMBER 27, 1899.

NOTES.

[496] HELLESBY LETTER.

(See Nos. 455 and 464.)

The word "yeden," with the suggestion of "ridden" (?) as a translation, with the further and very kind suggestion of Miss Lega-Weekes, has just arrested my attention. No doubt the word comes from the Ang-Sax—"yode, yede, or yewed," for hied or wended—general terms—"ridden" in the case referred to, being understood. The age was not a "driving" one in any sense, except in going to mass or war, and paying subsidies and forfeitures on every conceivable excuse, which led to many "friendly turns" to escape the King's Escheator, and practically to the erection of the old maxim "One good turn deserves another." The serious illness of old

Madame Vernon seems to have brought to the house as many visitors as "walkers" at a Welsh funeral. All the ladies in creation came to condole with Madame Vernon; and as the Baroness of Warrington was some 16 or 17 miles from home, and eight from Chester (if that city was her destination), and Mistress (Mastress) or Madame (?) Rutter was six miles from Kingsley Hall, they would certainly ride, as would the lady Venables, who was probably from Agden, near Lymme and Warrington, but if so, and not wife of the Baron of Kinderton, wherefore 'lady'?—unless as daughter of an earl?—though none of these peerage titles were fixed at so early a period. The great-grandson of the writer of the letter married a daughter of the house of Agden. But the other ladies, who "hied away," probably lived in the immediate neighbourhood—such as the Manleys, the Frodsbams, the Troutbecks, etc. Therefore at least one half the visitors would come and go in the saddle.

I suspect the Chester "leches" were monks of St. Werburgh's, and Frere Peter was a local celebrity of the Abbey of Norton (which 100 years before was a Priory only). It just occurs to me that some few years after this date an intended action at law, or more probably a suit in Chancery, led to the engrossment of a curiously beautiful, illuminated pedigree, in Norman-French, by one of the Friars of Norton. Probably the suit was over boundary, or foreshore, rights, or rights of turbary, as in some later preparations for an action, in Jac. I. time. A very interesting opinion was given on the latter by the Lord Chief Baron, Sir Humphrey Davenport, of Bramhall, then a counsellor-at-law. There were so many attacks upon property in those religiously litigious times. However, medicine was practised by the monastic orders apparently up to a very late date. It was often more profitable than any of the other professions they studied—architecture the least of all perhaps. Besides, it ran well with advocacy, and with special pleading, and equity practice in Courts of Conscience—which was all their own for a long time after the earliest Inn of Court (with its adjuncts, the attorneys' Inns of Chancery) was established, by the grant of Lacy, last Count of Lincoln, Baron of Halton, Cheshire, and of Pomfret (Pontefract) Yorks. at the end of the 13th century. This was his town house, with considerable gardens, still known as "Lincoln's Inn." The Temple (major and minor), and Bishop Gray's Inn, and their respective Inns of Chancery, duly followed

a few years after. But, as some of the Inns of Court possess Registers of membership, or of calls to the Bar no earlier than the middle of the reign of Henry VI., most probably the Church retained its hold on the profession till then, when a regular and distinct order of professors of the law grew out of it, whose organisation uninterruptedly lasted far into the 18th century. Whether, however, those ancient sages of the law, Glanville, Bracton, and Fleta (the last an anonymous author and debtor, who wrote a legal treatise in the Fleet prison, *circa* 1350?) were monks or friars, I never discovered. But that both seculars and regulars held hard and fast to the practice of the law, notwithstanding the constantly decreasing influence of the Church throughout the 13th, 14th, and 15th centuries (except in the rough Filde country and other odd corners of wild Lancashire) is hardly clear up to the middle of the latter century; but the "coif" of the lately extinguished degree of serjeant-at-law, gives some colour to the belief, from the circular piece cut out of its crown—the old, velvet scull-cap of the law, and afterwards the wig, being thus made to resemble the shaven head of a monk. Medicine, however, was a too lucrative, easy, irresponsible agent to be readily surrendered long before monasticism received its *quietus*. And it always admirably sorted with *will-making*, and *will-making* with "'extreme' unction;" for "the last" was commonly "first;" and whenever it had been administered, few patients and testators were known to recover. The practical law of Holy Mother Church was that they should *not*! And the same practices are not unknown at the present day.

In the original, and rather hurried, comments upon this letter, there is an inaccuracy, as I conceive, through following the beaten track of the last three centuries, touching the diminutives of the names, Ranulph and Randolph. It will be observed that in referring to the several Ranulphs, or Ranulfs, Palatine Counts, or Earls, of Chester, the heralds and old collectors set the fashion of invariably naming them "Randle," or "Randell," when they used the contraction. But, the true diminutive appears to be Rafe, Ralph, Raulf, or Rauph—from the elision, in pronunciation, of *n*, *u*, or *n* only, or (earlier) the *n* and the *l*. But in the rarer name of Radulph, or Randulfe (Randolph), Randle, Randul, or Randol clearly appears to be the true diminutive. So that, after all, the signature is right, and also proves our own

blunders, and the venerable errors of the whole College of Arms.

In the first of the series of 17th century love-letters, long promised in some future *Sheaf*, I find "Rafe" is used as a contraction for Randolph. In that case, however, it seems to be out of preference, or by the purest caprice, or whim, of the lady; but I have found, in several other cases, very practical legal documents using the contraction "Raufe" or "Rafe" for Randolph, instead of Randle; either through the ignorance of the not too clerkly authorities, or from a common local user, or by reason of the scribe's personal indifference to right and wrong, or as following in this, as people often did with all ordinary words, a despotic way of spelling, varied very much to avoid the monotony of respectable orthography!

In a passing remark it was inadvertently stated that there were few or no other letters of this age extant. So far from this being the case, there is a collection numbering some scores of still earlier date (though by a few years only) known as the Paston (of Paston) letters, co. Norfolk—written when the Howards (afterwards earls and dukes of Norfolk) were scarcely known in that county or any other. These very ancient memorials after lying in obscurity for three or four centuries, were at last edited and printed some 50 or 60 years ago.

There was also a Torbock of Torbock, co. Lanc., letter of Hen. VI. date, I once possessed, with several of their oldest charters, which I missed many years ago. There also still exists, at Arley, a very interesting note of Ric. III.'s time, which the late Mr. Beaumont transcribed and, I think, published a good score of years since. This extremely interesting relic is to "wise Piers" Warburton, of Warburton and Arley, from the Lord Baron Stanley, of Knowsley, who refers in it to "ould Dick"—evidently the king, by the context, and a peculiarly appropriate designation. Perhaps there is a copy of it in a note, under Arley? in the 1882 issue of *The Hist. of Cheshire*. T. H.

[497] EXTRACTS FROM MINUTE BOOK OF
S.P.C.K. RELATING TO CHESHIRE.

The following extracts from the minute book of the Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge are interesting, as shewing the moral and religious condition of Cheshire at the commencement of the 18th century.

R. H. MORRIS.

CHESHIRE.

Mr. Bradshaw, of Namptwich, writes, Feb. 26, 1699—1700:—

That they have attempted to erect Schools for the Poor without success.

Mr. Bradshaw writes again, Nov. 9, 1700:—

That my Ld. of Chester with the Aldermen have lately framed themselves into a Society for punishing of Immorality, &c. That he knows not whom to recommend for a Lay Correspondent, complains of difficulties in suppressing vice, because the Magistrates will not take private informations; and urge that till ye Ecclesiastical Laws are in force, all the effect of their Punishment wd. be to drive people to the Dissenters, who he says are grown very insolent, especially the Anabaptists. That he cannot yet obtain a Charity School, but out of his own slender and precarious income pays for ye instruction of half a dozen. That vice is very rife and publick, and the Lord's Day sadly neglected.

Archdeacon Entwistle writes from Christleton, November 15, 1700—That the Books are come safe to his hands. That the Call to ye Quakers will be very seasonable, that Sect haveing much encreased of late in those parts. That the Bp. had dispers'd great numb'rs of Bugg's* small peices. He answers not ye enquiries about St. Winifred's Well, the season of frequenting the water being over. That in ye Inn called the Star, there is a Popish Chappel well adorned, &c. That when the next season for the water comes, he will desire ye advice of the Society in that affair, &c. That they have few country Parishes wch. have not a Free School, tho' there is a deplorable defect in ye Managem't thereof: the Poor cannot spare their Children from Work, and many forget what they have learnt. However yt. all ranks of p'sons seem disposed to give their children better Education than formerly. That ye Bishop is creating a Charity School† in Chester. Another is lately founded in ye Country by Tho. Leigh, of Darnel, Esq. A Lending Library is erected at Namptwich, wch. is likely to meet wth. tolerable success; and that such a design would be of unspeakable advantage in the A[rch]Deaconry of Richmond.

[498] BISHOP HENRY BRIDGEMAN, DEAN OF
CHESTER, 1660-1682.

The following interesting entries relating to the baptism of two children of Dean Bridgeman are extracted from the registers of St. Oswald's Parish:—

December, 1680.

Hennrietta, daughter unto Dr. Henry Bridgeman, Deane of Chester, Bushope of Man, was borne upon Christmas even, beeing Thursday, the 24th day of December, 1680, and Baptized upon New

* A well-known writer against the Quakers.

† The Blue-Coat School at the Northgate.

Years Day following by Mr. William Finmore, Archdeacon of Chester, in the dining room of the Deanery House there.

William Hulton, of Hulton, Godfather, and my Lady Grosvenor and my Lady Warburton, Godmothers.

William, Sonne to Dr. Henry Bridgeman, Dean of Chester and Bp. of Mann, was borne the sixth day of February, 1681, being Monday, about halfe an hour past three in the afternoon, And Baptized upon Friday, the 21st of February following, by Dr. Lawrence Fogg, in the Cathedrall Church of Chester, William, Earle of Derby, and Dr. John Pierson, Lord B'op. of Chester, Godfathers, and my Lady Dorothy Bridgeman, Godmother.

RICHARD LEY, CLERKE.

QUERIES.

[499] WHERE IS UPTON NEAR RUSHTON?

In the Domesday Survey for Cheshire (*Familie* III. b) there occurs the following entry under Dudestan Hundred immediately after one referring to Rushton and preceding one relating to Little Budworth:—"The Earl himself holds Opetone. Erni a free man held it. There is one hide rateable to the gelt. The land is two carucates. It is waste. There is a wood a league long and 2 acres broad."

Mr. Beaumont identifies this as Upton by Chester, but as Mr. Helsby points out in his edition of Ormerod (Vol. II., p. 819), Upton is already accounted for among the Earl's manors. In a recent note to the "Sheaf" [234], I suggested that this account refers to Hoole, but there are many reasons against this explanation. Sir Peter Leycester (*Antiquities*, p. 107), enumerates among the manors held in demeane by Earl Hugh, that of "Upton-juxta-Rushton." Can it be that there is some small hamlet still existing near Rushton which bears the name Upton? If so, it is not to be found in any present day maps of the county.—Yours, &c., WM. FERGUSON-IRVINE.

Birkenhead.

[500] AN ENTRY IN THE NESTON PARISH REGISTER.

In the Register of the Parish of Great Neston is the following entry under Burials, 1669:—

September 13. The Lady Bridgett Somerset buried.

Can any of your readers throw any light on this entry? Who was the Lady Bridgett Somerset, and how did she come to die at Great Neston?—Yours, M. H. S.

[501] MARRIAGE REGISTERS OF ST. OSWALD'S, CHESTER.

1679.

Roger Wettall and Margreat Nickalds, of St. Peter's	May 17
John Reece and Frances Moor	June 5
Ralph Comberbatch, of Plimstone, and Elizabeth Lorrison, of Thornton	June 5
Thomas Walton and Hannah Kirkes	June 12
Johnnathan Davies and Mary Shone	June 24
John Dickerson and Rebecka Williams	June 25
Thomas Widdens of Fradsame and Elizabeth Barker of Weaverham	June 26
Anthony Kelsall and Anne Joans both of St. Michael's parish	June 29
John Williams and Anne Crosse	July 27
John Smith tayler and Elizabeth Hinkes	Aug. 19
Christopher Peck tayler and Elizabeth Fish	Sept. 2
William Welshman, baker and Ellin Bore	Sept. 17
Richard Spencer, Smith and Anne Wornbye	Oct. 3
William Jackson of Runkhorne and Dorrity Lowe	Oct. 5
Hugh Joanes and Elizabeth Gellion	Oct. 5
Mr. Edward Mannering of Wrixham and Madam Mary Flower	Oct. 19
Mr. John Boswell of the Cittye of Dublin in the Kingdom of Ireland; marchant, and Mrs. Ester Sale of Plimstone parish of Michael Trafford	Nov. 12
John Cowburn and Anne Dalton	Nov. 18
Mr. Cornelius Needham of Manchester in the county of Lancister and Mrs. Elizabeth Needham of the Cittye of Chester	Nov. 27
Thomas Bennett and Mary Wilson	Dec. 1
Christopher Bennett of Wirvin and Margreat Davies	Dec. 24
Ezariah Sharpe and Hannah Heywood	Dec. 26
William Prescott and Margreat Price	Dec. 27
Francis Worthington of Wiggim and Ales Briscoe of St. Peter's parish	Dec. 30
Paule Maddoeke and Sarah Cawdee	Jan. 20
William Jackson and Joane Sason	Jan. 23
John Smith and Mary Vernon both of Clotton of Tarvin parish	Feb. 21
Samuell Sellers of Littleton of Christleton parish and Mary Bennett of Wervin of St. Oswald's parish	Feb. 24
Edward Wright of Stretton Esqr. and Mrs. Chatherine Alport the daughter of Richard Alport of Overton Esqr.	Sept. 11

OCTOBER 4, 1899.

NOTES.

[502] THE PERSONAL CHARACTER OF MARY
TUDOR.

The following extract from an article under the above title, which appears in "The Month" for August last, may interest some of your readers, as it refers to a Cheshire man.—Yours,
J. B.

One of the earliest of these appeals [on behalf of old servants of her own or her mother's] was made about the year 1530, when Mary was fourteen years old. Henry VIII. had devised a scheme for replenishing his impoverished coffers, which would at the same time, he thought, be popular. Every small landowner possessing property to the amount of £40 a year was commanded to present himself before the king for the purpose of being honoured with knighthood. The fees which were inseparable from the promotion would raise the sum which he needed. The enforced honour fell heavily on some whose liabilities were greater than their fortunes, and on others who lived at a great distance from the court, and who for various reasons found it difficult to attend. Mary's petition related to the latter case, and she wrote to the Chief Secretary accordingly:

Mary Princess.

Master Cromwell,—In my hearty manner I commend me to you. And where I am advertised on the behalf of my servant, Richard Wilbram this bearer, that all such as may dispend in lands forty pounds a year have in commandment to appear before my most dread lord and father the King, and to receive of his Highness the order of Knighthood, among whom my said servant's father is one, being as I am informed near four score years of age, the certainty of whose lands my said servant I doubt not will truly declare unto you. And forasmuch as I am advertised that all such men shall first resort unto you to know the King's my father's pleasure further therein, I therefore desire and heartily pray you in consideration of the great age of my said servant's father, and also the far distance of his dwelling place, as in Cheshire, to show your loving favour unto him, as well in excuse for his non-appearance as also in all other causes concerning the King my father's pleasure to him for the same. And you, thus doing at this my desire, in showing your toward favour and goodness unto my servant's said father, shall

deserve my right hearty thanks, which shall not be put in oblivion but remembered hereafter accordingly.

From Otford, the 28th day of May.

(Cotton MS. Vesp. Fxiii 225, fo. 209. Printed in "Letters of Royal and Illustrious Ladies," vol. ii., p. 65.)

[503] THE PARLIAMENTARY POLL-BOOK OF 1727.

I possess a duplicate copy of the voters at the Parliamentary Election of 1727, which you print as 1777* which contains a note in modern handwriting of the particulars of the contest.

This is confirmed by an old portrait of Charles Cholmondeley, Esq., who represented the county in Parliament for upwards of 50 years, with the lines beneath:—

In this plain guise a senator is shewn,
Who never bought a vote or sold his own.

I have referred to Ormerod, Vol. I., and think that the annotator of my copy is correct. Election 1., Geo. II., 1727; Charles Cholmondeley and Sir Robt. Salusbury Cotton, Bart., elected. There appears to be no election in 1777 for Cheshire.—Yours truly,

JNO. WESTON.

[The date should, of course be 1727, 1777 being a printer's error.—EDITORS.]

[504] THE HERALDIC DEVICES ON BIDSTON
CHURCH TOWER.

In my *Notes on the Parish of Bidston*, published some years ago, mention is made of the five coats of arms which are cut in stone over the west door of Bidston Church Tower. The three in the centre are easily accounted for—the eagle's claw of Lathom—the legs of man used by the Earls of Derby—and the maunche of the Hastings, used by Dame Anne, wife of the second Earl of Derby. The two that were difficult of identification are No. 1 an animal (probably a lion) passant and No. 5, quarterly in the first quarter a fleur de lys. I suggested that No. 1 was meant for Strange of Knockin, who usually bore two lions passant, and the extract which a correspondent sends me from "Lancashire Chantryes" (Chetham Society), p. 104, seems to support this view.

"In one of the windows at Werden Hall (formerly at Farrington) there is a singular heraldic badge borne by Sir George Stanley, Lord Strange. On very thick glass (the glazing being of the time of Henry VII.) is the *Eagle's gant* or, charged with a *Lion passant argent*. . . . The Eagle's claw of the

* This error has been corrected in this reprint.

Torbucks was long recognised as a Stanley badge. . . . The single Lion passant argent, are obviously an addition for Strange."

WM. FERGUSSON IRVINE.

ORIGINAL DOCUMENTS.

[505] THE PARLIAMENTARY ELECTION, 1727.

(Continued from No. 499.)

		Cotton	Chol.	mondeley	Crewe
FLOCKERS BROOK.					
Thomas Jarratt	Chester...	1			
FARNDON.					
Jno. Huxley	...	1	1		
Thos. Evanson	Eyton, Denbigh...	1			
Robert Evanson	Bemjr., Denbigh...	1			
Richard Fletcher	...	1	1		
Thomas Whiteoffe	...	1	1		
Richard Harrison	Aldford...	1			
Urian Johnson	...	1	1		
Francois Linnall	...	1	1		
Robert Griffith	...	1			
Thomas Linard	Chester...	1	1		
John Lewis	...	1	1		
Jno. Harrison	Churton...	1	1		
Jno. Fowler, clerk	...	1	1		
Robert Dutton	...	1	1		
William Davies	...	1	1		
George Cary	...	1			
Jno. Rowe	Egerley...	1	1		
Jno. Palin	Crewe...	1			
Thos. Hodgkins	...	1	1		
Jno. Fletcher	...	1	1		
Wm. Brereton	...	1	1		
Thos. Clough	...	1			
Jno. Peyling	...	1			
Wm. Smith	King's Marsh...	1	1		
Edward Ince	...	1			
Jno. Rowland	...	1	1		
Uriah Weaver	Escoyd., Flint...	1			
FOULK-STAPLEFORD.					
Peter Linford	...	1	1		
Robert Barker	Northwich...	1	1		
Thomas Parsons	Calveley...	1			
Robert Cotgreave	...	1			
Wm. Oulerhead	...	1			
John Wain	...	1			
Wm. Robinson	...	1	1		
John Middleton, Esq.	Ceveny, Wem...	1			
GOLBORN-BELLOW.					
Richard Kellsall	...	1	1		
GOLBORN-DAVID.					
John Ireland	Handley...	1	1		
Wm. Tatton, Esqre.	Withinahaw...	1	1		
Edwd. Lloyd Gwillim, Esqre.	...	1			

GILDEN SUTTON.					
Richard Smith	...	1	1		
Sam. Woodcock	...	1	1		
James Croxon	Chester...	1			
Thomas Bursley	...	1	1		
Jno. Denson, Sen.	...	1	1		
Thos. Woodcock	...	1	1		
HAMPTON.					
Jno. Sparrow	...	1	1		
Jno. Fisher	...	1			
Richard Tomkins	...	1	1		
Jno. Minshull, Alderman	Chester...	1	1		
Wm. Tomkin	...	1	1		
Thos. Guest	...	1	1		
Daniel Ratoliff	...	1	1		
Daniel Wickstead	London...	1			
Thos. Taylor	...	1			
David Mather	Hammer, Flint...	1			
HANDLEY.					
John Dockrell, Clerk	Chester...	1	1		
Richard Richardson	...	1	1		
Thos. Filkin	...	1			
Ralph Tomkin	Aldford...	1			
HARGRAVE.					
Edward Thompson	...	1	1		
HARTHILL.					
Thoms Porter, Clerk	...	1	1		
Daniel Smith	...	1			
Wm. Hatton	...	1	1		
Arthur Hebbington	...	1			
Thos. Gostage	...	1			
Thos. Barrows	...	1			
HATTON.					
Thomas Hatton	Golborn Bellow...	1			
HOOLE.					
Wm. Coddington	...	1			
Rogr. Cumberbache, Esq.	Chester...	1			
Richard Harley	Salop...	1			
Joseph Shone	...	1	1		
Ralph Jiles	...	1	1		
Thos. Rathbone	Frankby...	1			
Thos. Croughton	Chester...	1	1		
HORTON.					
John Baker	Altrey, Flint...	1			
Jno. Maddocks	...	1	1		
Henry Jones	...	1	1		
Thomas Jones	...	1	1		
Joseph Dutton	Edge...	1	1		
HUNTINGTON.					
John Spencer, Esqr.	...	1	1		
Joseph Clubb	...	1			
John Kirford	...	1			
Peter Spencer	Lea Hewbald...	1			
Wm. Bromfield	Church Heath...	1			
HUXLEY.					
John Bennion	...	1	1		
Abram Gregory	Clutton...	1			
Robert Done	Wettenhall...	1	1		
Richard Bruen	Tiverton...	1			

KIDDINGTON.			
Thos. Shore	...	1	
Thos. Sandland	Wem, Salop...	1	
Wm. Shone	...	1	1
KINNERTON.			
Timothy Dean	Chester...	1	
KINNERTON LOWE.			
Barns Denis Clerk	...	1	1
Robert Broase	...	1	
LITTLE KETTLE BAR.			
Humphrey Brereton Esqr	Boras in Denbighshire...	1	
LITTLETON.			
Joseph Harrison	Knutsford...	1	
LARTON.			
Robert Thomasson	...	1	1
John Downs	...	1	
LACH.			
Thomas Hampeon	...	1	1
MASEFEN.			
John Bostock	...	1	1
George Cotton	Withingford Salop...	1	

[506] MARRIAGE REGISTERS OF ST. OSWALD'S,
CHESTER.
1680.

Mr. Austin Contacino and Mrs. Mary Challenor, both Trennity parish	April 23
Samuell Probye Showmaker and Mrs. Margreath Clarke, widd.	May 2
Samuell Royle and Margreat Carterrick	May 1
Edward Lloyd and Margreat Clarke	May 5
Raph Hill and Anne Dawson	May 17
John Hand and Ester Denson	May 31
Thomas Phillips of Pooton of Pulford parish and Mary Philkin	May 26
John Sere of Carden and Margreat Nicholes of Farne parish	June 25
Charles Jordon of Eccleshall and Hannah Goodier of Chester	July 24
Thomas Hewett and Mary Quintree	Aug. 1
Edward Potter and Ellin Harpur, both of Dunnam of Thornton	Aug. 21
Danniell Neild and Ellin Harpur	Aug. 16
William Adshed and Mary Strette	Aug. 24
Mr. Randall Minshull and Mrs. Phebe Bolton, of St. Peter's	Sept. 1
Peter Hues and Ellin Williams	Sept. 29
Samuell Dobb, Taylor, and Liddia Kirkes	Oct. 26
Randle Cowdooke and Ellinor Williamson	Oct. 26
John Jaxson, of Plimstone, and Liddia Tapley, of Thorneton	Oct. 30
Peter Blackburn, of Lim, and Elizabeth Barker, of Fradsome	Nov. 25
John Johnson Slatter and Mary Davies	Jan. 3
John Axson and Mary Atherton	Jan. 6
John Kirfoote and Ellin Harrison	Jan. 29
John Filkin and Amee Wilkinson	Jan. 29
Peter Williams and Martha Lloyd	Feb. 5

OCTOBER 11, 1899.

NOTES.

[507] A DRIVING TOUR IN NORTH WALES
IN 1838.

The following short diary of a tour in North Wales, in the first year of her Majesty's reign, is not devoid of interest. The references to the Inns in the various places, and to the names of the "Quakers" make it of some value.

1838. 5 mo., 4th. Left Liverpool with mare and open pheton per steam packet to Eastham, and so on to Chester, dined at White Lion, then forward to Mold. Lodged at Lion Inn.

5th day. Morning to Ruthin, had a fine view of the Vale of Clwyd from Moel Fama. Called upon Maria Hope Jones half-a-mile before Ruthin. Dined at the White Lion Inn or Cross Foxes. Took tea at Maria Jones', a beautiful situation; lodged at said inn.

5th mo., 6th. 1st day. Attended morning and afternoon meetings at Ruthin, where we met John and Mary Jones and family, Joseph Hughes and Edward Parry from Llangollen, John Tregelgas and wife from near Mold, and Wm. Williams from near Denbigh. J. Jones's mother and aunt also there. Went on that evening, accompanied by W. Williams, to Denbigh. W. W. walked with me in the morning to the top of a neighbouring hill, where we had a fine prospect. Lodged at the Crown Inn.

5th mo., 7th. After breakfast, went on through St. Asaph to Abergele, dined at the Bee Hotel, a very good inn, on to Conway to the Castle Hotel, lodged there, was much pleased with viewing the Castle and bridge; also the walls round the town.

5th mo., 8th. Drove forward to Bangor, Albion Hotel, got a second breakfast there, took a ride to view the beautiful Menai Bridge, then on to Carnarvon, dined at the Sportsman Inn, viewed the grand Castle, &c., and proceeded on to Llanberis, Royal Victoria Hotel, alongside of the Lake, examined Dolbadarn Castle, lodged at said Inn.

5th mo., 9th. After an early breakfast, drove through the pass to Capel Curig by the foot of Snowdon, a grand ride, dined there and proceeded by Bettws to Llanrwst, lodged at the Eagles Inn.

5th mo., 10th. Set out about 8 o'clock by Bettws near Waterloo Bridge, then over the Moors with a cold east wind in our faces to Cernioge Inn, where we dined, and rode on to

Corwen. Lodged at the Owen Glendowr Inn. After tea, took a walk to the top of a hill, behind the Church, accompanied by three little boys as guides, and had a fine prospect.

5th mo., 11th. Set out at half-past 8, and after a beautiful ride arrived at Llangollen, soon after 10. Called to see Jos. Hughes and wife, and I walked to the top of Pen-y-Coed, where I had a charming view of the whole valley. Took up our quarters at the King's Head Inn. After dinner, we went through the grounds of Plas Newydd, and after tea at Joseph Hughes', he and I walked to the top of Castle Dinas Bran, where we had a grand prospect of all the country round.

5th mo., 12th. Had a most beautiful ride, about 5 miles on the Oswestry-road. Then by Pont Cysylltan Aqueduct through Ruabon to Wrexham, Wynnstay Arms Inn. Dined and went on in the afternoon to Chester. Lodged at Blossoms Inn, East Gate. Attended the meetings there on first day the 13th, 5th mo.

5th mo., 14th. Returned home by way of Monks Ferry.

[508] VARIA.

From "The Monthly Magazine," Aug., 1802
(Under—"Cheshire—Died.")

At Chorley, in his 85th year, J. Hollingshead, Esq., a gentleman alike remarkable for his urbanity of manner and for his persevering spirit in promoting useful improvements in whatever related to agriculture and manufactures. To his treatise on the National Importance of Salt as a Manure (which he caused to be presented to the King, and to every member of the two Houses of Parliament) may be partially, if not wholly, attributed the repeal of the duty on salt.

From the "Monthly Magazine," January, 1803.
(Under—"Cheshire—Died.")

At Parkgate, Christian Modesty, a poor woman, of the very great age of 114.

From Raines "Lancashire Chantries."

Wm. Singleton, of Brookhall, on Apl. 6, 12 Eliz., appeared before Edward, Earl of Derby, Downham, Bishop of Chester, &c., at Chester. "He was at that time a prisoner in the North Gate prison of that city, 'on account of religion,' and alleged that through imprisonment he had fallen into vehement sickness, and by sight of his body and person, as well as by report of Richard Case, the chief keeper of the gaol, 'the same was manifestly true.' The keeper said that the prison was 'pestered with many prisoners,' and that he had no convenient chamber for a sick person." Mr. Singleton was

therefore allowed to go home, on promising to conform to the established religion. (Some one asked in the *Sheaf* about the old prison, and its officers. In Marsh's time the city prison was in the North Gate). J. B.

REPLY.

[509] SIR THOMAS BROWNE, AUTHOR OF
RELIGIO MEDICI.

(See No. 494.)

F.R.C.S. will find a considerable quantity of printed matter relating to the Brownes of Upton, near Chester, in Ormerod (Helsby's edition), Vol. I., p. 336, Vol. II., p. 820. *Earwaker's History of St. Mary's, Chester*, p. 281. *Record Society of Lanc. and Ches.*, Vol. VI., pp. 48-9; Vol. XXX., pp. 174 and 195.

On the evidence before me it is not possible to state the exact relationship of Sir Thomas Browne to the Upton family. The information supplied in F.R.C.S.'s query is evidently not quite correct, as although Richard Browne, of Upton, who died in 1624, had a son Thomas, this son did not "migrate to London"; and though this Thomas also had a son Thomas, it is needless to say he was not identical with the famous Sir Thomas, as he was not baptized till 1639.

There are two alternatives—(1.) The Richard Browne, of Upton, who died in 1624, had a second son Richard, who went to London and became a "silkman," though in 1646 he is described as "of Upton." This Richard *may* have been father of Sir Thomas, but this is scarcely likely, as he would probably not be born earlier than 1585, and so would not be likely to have a son when he was only 20, and besides it is not probable that Sir Thomas's biographer would make a mistake in his father's name.

(2.) Thomas Browne, of Upton (the father of Richard, who died 1624), who died in 1578, an abstract of whose will is printed, p. 195 in vol. xxx. of the Record Society, had a son Thomas who in 1602 (*vide* p. 48, vol. vi., Rec. Soc.) was already married to a—Garraway, and had issue. Sir Thomas Browne may have been one of this family, but if so, there is no evidence of this Thomas having gone to London, and secondly it involves the inaccuracy of F.R.C.S.'s statement that Sir Thomas's grandfather was named Richard.

It may be as well if I add a short pedigree of the family so far as it is known. The first known ancestor was

I. THOMAS BROWNE, of Upton, who married an Alice ———.

II. Richard Browne, their son, married (circa 1530) Katherine [P Constance] Harvey.

III. Thomas Browne, their son, married (circa 1558) Elizabeth, daughter of Henry Birkenhead, of Huxley and Backford, Esq. Thomas Browne, who died in 1578, and his wife Elizabeth, who died 1602, had issue

Henry Browne, o. s. p.

RICHARD BROWNE

Thomas Browne= — Garraway, and has issue (1602)

Edward Browne = Katherine ———, and had issue Richard, Matthew, Thos., and Barbara.

Hugh Browne, o. s. p.

Francis Browne, o. s. p.

Ferdinand and William Browne.

Anne and Jane (both married).

IV. RICHARD BROWNE, married twice (possibly three times), and by his second [P third] wife, Mary, daughter of Sir Thos. Aston, Kt., had issue

THOMAS BROWNE.

Richard Browne, of London, "silkmán," but in 1646 called of Upton. His estates sequestered as a Royalist, 1646, married Susan Cole, of New St. Albans, and had issue

V. THOMAS BROWN, of Upton (died in Ireland, 1643), married Grissel Dobbe, and had a large family.

The pedigree printed in Earwaker's "History of St. Mary's Parish" is singularly incomplete and inaccurate for so careful a genealogist as the late Mr. Earwaker.—Yours, &c.,

Birkenhead. WM. FERGUSSON IRVINE.

ORIGINAL DOCUMENTS.

[510] THE PARLIAMENTARY ELECTION, 1727.

(Continued from No. 505.)

	MALPAS.	Cotton	Chol.	mondeley	Crewe
Wm. Daxson	...	1	1		
Wm. Hopley	...	1			
John Handson	...	1			
John Woolley	...	1	1		
Edward Minshull	...	1	1		
Thos. Barlow	...	1	1		
John Barbott	...	1	1		
John Langford, Clerk	...	1	1		
John Bathoe	Old Castle...	1			
Wm. Wickstead	Whitchurch...	1			
John Tomlinson	...	1	1		
Robert Moulson	...	1			
Joseph Vaughan	...	1	1		

John Etchells (or Hutchen)	...	1	1
Richd. Hays	Whitchurch...	1	
Thos. Foxley	Masefen...	1	1
Wm. Turton, Clerk			1 1
Hugh Carsley	...	1	
John Davids	...	1	
Wm. Keys	...		1 1
Timothy Evanson	...		1 1
Ralph Thickness, Esqr.	Ballterley...	1	1
Richard Barlow	...		1 1
John Overton	...	1	
Peter Penkstone	Whitchurch...	1	
Peter Taylor	...	1	
Arthur Heatley	Edge...		1 1
John Lee	...	1	
Wm. Barton	...	1	
Robert Caldwell	...	1	
Wm. Woodhey	Madeley, Staff....		1 1
Thomas Hutchen	...		1 1
Roger Bentley	...	1	
Randle Brough	...	1	
Hugh Ankers	Whichough...		1 1
Edward Arley	...		1 1
Wm. Blevin	...		1 1
Wm. Fox	...		1 1
Richard Maddock	...	1	1
Thos. Churton	Wirrall...	1	
Wm. Harper, Clerk	...	1	
Jno. Harwood	...	1	
Wm. Churton	...	1	
Edward Bathoe	Bunbury...	1	
Wm. Rowland	Davenham...		1
Thos. Cook	...	1	
Thomas Jones	Bickerton...	1	
MARSTON CUM LACHE.			
Joshua Holland	...		1 1
Thos. Walley	...	1	1
Peter Bostock	Chester...	1	
MARSHES.			
John Moulson	...	1	
Thos. Moulson	...	1	
MASHWELL.			
Thos. Foxley	...		1 1
MARBURY.			
Robert Heath Esqr.	...	1	
MOSTYN.			
Henry Bennett, Alderman	Chester...	1	1
MOSS PROPE MALPAS.			
Wm. Horton	...	1	1
NEWTON PROPE CHESTER.			
Wm. Briscall	Chester...	1	
James Postinwait	Chester...	1	
Thomas Hassall	...		1 1
Wm. Burgess	...		1 1
John Lee, Gent.	Chester...	1	
NEWTON PROPE TATTENHALL.			
Thos. Pratsbett	Chester...	1	
OLDCASTLE.			
Jenks Oarton	...	1	
OVERTON.			
Nath: Griffith, clerk	Shocklache...	1	
Thos Jenkins	...	1	
Robert Calwell	...		1

OULTON.			
Sr Fran: Edwards Bart	Bury, Salop...	1	
PICTON.			
Sam: Cowper	...	1	1
John Marsh	...	1	1
POOLTON.			
Robert Pigott, Esqr.	Eaton...	1	1
Thos Moreton	...	1	1
Thos Bowers	...	1	1
Richd Bostock	...	1	1
Miles Crewen	...	1	1
PULFORD.			
Wm Bradshaw, clerk	...	1	1
Thos Edwards	...	1	1
Peter Hughs	...	1	1
Wm. Fox	...	1	1
Jno. Edwards	...	1	1
Jno. Holliwell	...	1	1
Jno. Crewen	...	1	1
Thos. Wright	...	1	1
Edwd. Williamson	...	1	
Wm. Pate	...	1	1
James Pritchett	...	1	1
Jno. Pergamey	...	1	1
Wm. Pergamey	...	1	1
ROWTON.			
Mr. Jno. Dod	Christleton...	1	
Ralph Hignett	...	1	

(To be continued.)

[511] MARRIAGE REGISTERS OF ST. OSWALD'S,
CHESTER.
1681.

John Worthington and Hannah Grundye	April 2
William Linniker, showmaker, and Elizabeth Ellis, of St. John's p.	April 29
Thomas Branderred and Elizabeth Hale	May 13
Francis Broome, of Clutton, of Farne p., and Jane Woolley, of Chowley, in Coddington p.	June 28
Danniell Person and Elizabeth Percivall, both of Wettenhall, in the diocese of Chester, in Over p.	July 29
John Kinge, of St. Michael p., baker, and Kilin Cartuons, of St. Mary p.	Aug. 4
William Kinge, baker, and Sara Burges, of Plimston p.	Aug. 4
George Scott, cloththyer, and Dorrathy Bickerstaffe, of Saughton	Sept. 17
Joseph Pemberton, Smith, and Jane Griffyth	Oct. 27
Joseph Newhall, of Tarperley p., and Elizabeth Bennett, of Elton p.	Nov. 23
William Fox and Chathrine Crymes	Dec. 8
Thomas Almon and Jane Prescott	Dec. 23
Francis Wadson and Elizabeth Harrison	Dec. 21
Lennard Newhall and Margreat Huntter both of Tarvin p.	Jan. 21
Robert Bruce Silk Weaver and Ellin Longe of Spittle Boughton	Feb. 11

Mr. John Acton of St. Maryes and Mrs. Sarah Ashton Feb. 16
Richard Joanes and Mary Lewis Feb. 22
William Platt of Burton in Bunbury p and Mary Hitchen widd. of Huxley in the parish of Warton Feb. 22

OCTOBER 18, 1899.

ORIGINAL DOCUMENTS.

[512] BACKFORD PARISH.

The oldest charter extant in the Hellesby collection, is an undated one relating to Backford, of the reign of Richard Cœur de Lion, or of Hen. II. It shows an earlier connection of that family with Backford, and presumptively with the Mascies of Dunham-Mascy, than heretofore supposed. It is from Joscerame, first-known lord of Hellesby, etc., to his son of the same name, and is, with the next charter, of some considerable value in connection with the wide Barony of Dunham-Massey—stretching as it did easterly to Sale, if not to Stretford, in Lancashire, in one direction, and southerly to Wilmslowe in another, and west and north, also ever many parts of the Wirral Hundred, from Chester to Wallasey—some of this large lordship being held in demesne, but, of course, the greater part being granted out as members of the Dunham Manor or Barony. "Scia't ta' fut'i," the charter begins, but which translated into regular legal language runs freely as follows:—

"Know all men present and to come, that I, Joceram of hellesby, give and grant, and by my present charter confirm to Joceram my son, and Adam of Acton, his brother, the whole moiety of the lands of Bacford, viz., those which William, the son of the aforesaid Adam, holds, with all the appurtenances to the same, and to their heirs, to hold of me and my heirs by their homage and service, together, in fee and hereditarily, freely, and peaceably, In fowling, in plains, in meadows, in pastures, in waters, in woods, and in all liberties to the aforesaid lands belonging, yielding to me and my heirs one pound of oumin for all services for the lands aforesaid, yearly, at the feast of saint John the baptist. and that this gift shall belong neither to one nor the other—[of them the said Joceram and Adam], these are witnesses: Radulf of Kingeslegh, Richard of froddesham, Radulf of Eston, Adam of Norlegh, Walter of [hellesbi] of froddesham, Thomas of hellesbi, his brother, William the clerc who wrote this charter, and many others who both saw and heard."

The sinister side of the charter is rotted away, or mouse or rat-eaten; but the clause immediately preceding the *testatum* clause must be construed as defining the gift to be a "tenancy in common, and not a joint tenancy;" since, by the last, it would accrue to the survivor of the donees, instead of descending in moieties to the heirs of both equally. That it so descended is proved by the fact that in the Cartulary of S. Werburgh's (Chester) Abbey, or else in the Couchir Book of Whalley Abbey, Lancashire (formerly A.D. 1290, Stanlawe Abbey, near Chester), this Adam de Acton of the charter appears as Adam de Backford—who was then, apparently, holding his moiety of these Backford lands by the old tenure of *villeinage*—yet being a freeman. On the other hand, this Adam may have acknowledged himself, in a Court of Record, as the villain of his father, brother, or of the Abbot of Chester if then in possession, for the gain of some particular ambition. It was not altogether of uncommon occurrence. A man in such cases might bargain himself away for further grants, or for protection, as a *villein regardant* i.e. as appurtenant to a manor, or to lands. All villeins (including those in *gross*—i.e., those who could be sold without the lands) were, at all events, after the Norman Conquest, largely protected by the law. This Adam de Backford who is identical with the then Lord of Acton, (or of a moiety of Acton) was a freeman and held Acton from his father, probably for life, or in "fee—simple conditional"—as there were then no entails proper until after the passing of the Statute of Westminster the 2d. cap. 1, temp. Edw. I. Yet, although a freeman, he might in any further grant, along with his wife (neif—probably the origin of "wife,") have been styled "villein"—as in the grant (probably by the lord paramount of Backford, or by one of the Joscerames), to Chester Abbey, enrolled in the Register of that House. The law on the subject is very explicit; and as late as Elizabeth's reign, a good manor in Herefordshire was held by villeinage, the lord's name being Wanklyn, and he was termed a villein, though in fact, he was not improbably a freeman holding, by that very ancient customary tenure, of a larger manor to which his was appendant by some old subinfeudation, perhaps as in this case of Backford. This tenure seems to have grown out of the originally simple Saxon bondage in which some of the early Britons were held, but was gradually refined, and reduced to the sanction of an elaborate body of laws which grew up into great force after the Norman Conquest, and were only abolished, along with all feudal tenures, some years after the Reformation of the old Church of England.

The next charter, in point of date, relates to Cherletun (pronounced, and in different places phonetically spelled, Charlton, or Chorlton) in Backford parish—a significant name—evidently from the Saxon *churl*. The charter is

undated, as usual, but of about the reign of Richard the First, whereby Sir Hamon de Massey knt., baron of Dunham-Massey, grants to Sir Josceram de Hellesby, knt., lord of Hellesby, etc., and Sheriff of Cheshire, a moiety of the manor of Chorlton, in franc-marriage with Agatha de Massey the donor's daughter. The name of the donee, it may be mentioned here, is in several charters and public documents erroneously written Joceline and Joocerline—of which Josceram is apparently a very uncommon derivative. It will be seen from this translation, and that of the preceding charter, the wide extent of the Massey barony:—

"Hamo d. masci to all his men and friends, as well French as English, as well clerics as laymen, as well present as to come. Greeting. Know that I give and grant and by this my present charter confirm unto Joceline d. hellesbi all and every part of my moiety of cherletu', in franc-marriage with Agatha my daughter, and to his heirs begotten of the said Agatha my daughter, to have and to hold (h'nd' and tenend') of me and my heirs in fee and inheritance freely and quietly wholly and peaceably in fowling, in plains, in tillage, in roads, in paths, in mills, in pastures, in meadows, in ponds, in waters (streams), in pannage, in tolls, in mast, in birds (or fowls), and in all liberties and easements to the said lands appertaining, in hawking, in ploughing, in mast for his own proper swine, and the said Joceline to receive one half the passage (or ferry fares?) appertaining to the lands of the said Hamon. Yielding yearly to me Hamon and my heirs, by the said Joceline and his heirs born of the same Agatha, xiid'. in silver, at the Feast of Mathew, for all services. I, verily, Hamon and my heirs, Warrant to the before-mentioned Joceline and his heirs of the said Agatha begotten, the before-mentioned lands truly in franc-marriage quietly and peaceably against all men and women. Witnesses: Robert d' masci brother of the lord Hamon (Hamon, or Hamun), Adam d' cherletun, Radulf d' kingesley', Radulf d' hellesbi brother of the lord Jocelin, Robert de basfort, Gillebert the priest of Boudun (Bowdon), Hugh d' masci, Henry d' dunham.

Large Seal of dark wax (invisible-green in appearance) two inches in diameter, in good condition, on a narrow label, or thong, of buckskin half torn off, and bearing, from a deeply cut matrix, the legend (after a Maltese cross, above): — "SIGILLV—HAMONT"—the rest—D. MASCI—being undecipherable by the reduction of nearly the whole dexter border.

A 16th or early 17th cent. endorsement runs—
"A deed of hamon de massey to Jocelyn de hellesby of his half of manor of Cherletun in franc-marriage, &c

This charter contains a sample or two of Latinised surnames (such as "Cherletunia" and "Boudunia," the latter, however, excusable as the description of a priest). They are of very rare occurrence, and of a fashion against which, some 400 years later, Lord Coke exclaimed—perhaps from an attempt at the revival of the bad habit by some of the pedantic lawyers of James's reign.

Of these two charters, there cannot be a doubt of the first above printed being the first in date—that is, "delivery"—as the Joscera I. had then a grandson evidently of age; and Sir Joscera, son of Joscera, is proved also by other records to be his son still living in the reign of John, and Sheriff of Cheshire. He was probably knighted at the Crusades, led by Richard Cœur de Lion and Randle de Blundeville; but, private charters of this age do not always give either the personal, or the territorial, titles of the parties, until later on questions as to identity seem to have made it necessary.

[513] THE PARLIAMENTARY ELECTION, 1727.

(Continued from No. 510.)

		Cotton.	Chol.	mondeley.	Crews.
SAUGHTON.					
Randle Jones	Rhuabon...	1	1		
Charles Walley, Esqr	Chester...	1			
Saml. Bingley	Chester...	1	1		
John Nicholls	Chester...	1			
Jonathn. Dutton	Huntington...	1	1		
Saml. Sellars	Littleton...	1	1		
Isaac Cookson	...	1	1		
Joseph Williams	...	1	1		
SHOCKLACH.					
Thoms. Miles	Worthernbury...	1			
John Reade	...	1	1		
Randle Dean	...	1	1		
Randle Miles	Worbury...	1			
Wm. Higginson	Whitechurch...	1			
Owen Brown	Brinnington...	1			
Thos. Maddocks	Willington...	1			
Joseph Ridgway	Chester...	1	1		
Aquiloe Wyobe	Wrexham...	1	1		
Thos. Puleston, Esq.	Emerald, Flint...	1			
STRETTON.					
Randle Bennion	...	1	1		
Randle Bennion	...	1	1		
Thos. Bennion	...	1	1		
John Lee	...	1	1		
SACT.					
Thomas Hampton	...	1	1		
TATTENHALL.					
Wm. Thomas	...	1	1		
Hugh Higginson	...	1	1		
Ralph Dod	...	1	1		

John Edge	Burwardsley...	1	1
John Edge, junr.	...	1	
Richard Hodgkin	Duckington...	1	1
Abram Done	Bunbury...	1	
Saml. Marsh	...	1	1
Saml. Gardner	...	1	1
Jno. Crowfoot	...	1	1
Nathanl. Hurst	...	1	1
Jno. Hodgkins	...	1	1
Wm. Birchall	...	1	1
Daniel Smith	Calvey...	1	1
Ralph Bridge, gent.	Huxley...	1	
Thos. Fisher	Egerton...	1	1
Saml. Midcalf	...	1	1
Wm. Kinsey	...	1	1
George Shone	...	1	1
Thos. Downs	...	1	1
Robert Birchall	...	1	1
Hopley Woolrich	...	1	1
James Hesketh	...	1	1
John Dun	...	1	1
John Farrall	...	1	1
Wm. Crowfoot	...	1	1
Thos. Bruce	...	1	1
Charles Hurst	...	1	1
Ralph Downes	...	1	1
Jno. Prince	...	1	1
Wm. Adshead	Chester...	1	
Jno. Johnson	Hatton...	1	
Thos. Arrowsmith	Beeston...	1	1
Jno. Guest	...	1	1
Hugh Egerton	Elusterston (?)...	1	

(To be continued.)

[514] MARRIAGE REGISTERS OF ST. OSWALD'S, CHESTER.

1682.

Samuell Harrison, husbandman and Mary Pickerren, of Weaveram p.	April 25
Edward Williamson of Tarbock in the parish of Prescott and County of Lancaster, and Margreat Breese of Great Stanney	May 9
Richard Celley weaver and Anne Prinnoe	June 29
Mr. Samuell Kelsall of Plimstone p. and Mrs. Elizabeth Awdewen (?) of St. Peter p.	July 24
Edward Harrison and Anne Moores	Aug. 21
Joseph Kilaha: and Elizabeth Fletcher	Aug. 31
Thomas Hill and Ann Millington both of Plimstone p.	Nov. 7
Sam Thorppe and Margreat Hodgskin	Dec. 3
Francis Gill and Anne Joanes	Dec. 10
Raph Ashley and Elizabeth Venables both of Plimstone p.	Dec. 26
Thomas Williamson and Elizabeth Baker	Jan. 14
David Buckley and Elizabeth Williams	Jan. 22
Mr. Joseph Dutton of Huntington of St. Oswald's p. and Mrs. Sarah Slatter of St. John's p.	Feb. 2
John Prince and Elizabeth Barker	Feb. 12
John Browne and Elizabeth Webster of Alford p.	Feb. 17
John Wilkinson and Martha Vain of Helsby	March 13

OCTOBER 25, 1899.

ORIGINAL DOCUMENTS.

[516] BACKFORD BOSTOCK CHARTER—LATE
13TH CENTURY.

Touching the question of the ancient course of the Mersey perhaps the following translation of a Latin charter (late Hen. III'd's. reign) may afford some little light.

"Know all men present and to come That I Radulf [de] Bostoke give, grant and by this my present charter confirm, for his homage and service, to Hamo de hellesby and his heirs, 14 (Cheshire) acres of land in the town(ship) of Bakforde, viz. one acre and a half below Lupus field in the western part of the aforesaid land following all along to land which Agnes the widow of Richard the smythe sometime held; and 2 acres of land lying in Oherletoune, upon the bridge of Bakeforde over the water of the river, all along to the completion [or end] of the two acres; and 4 acres against [or towards] Bakeforde Bridge, on the way to the house of Robert the wodewarde, and so following the waters all along to the completion of the aforesaid 4 acres; and 5 acres of land beginning upon 'fairecroasse' [the Fair Cross] and ascending near the waters all along to the completion of the aforesaid v. acres; to have and to hold of me and my heirs for ever, freely, quietly, and peaceably entirely and hereditarily, with common of pasture and all other commons, easements belonging thereto in the aforesaid townshipp of bakford, yielding therefore yearly by him and his heirs to me and my heirs seven shillings in silver, namely, a moiety thereof at the feast of the blessed Giles, and the other moiety at the nativity of our lord, for all services and demands, customs and exactions. I, truly, the aforesaid Radulf and my heirs, the aforesaid lands with their appurtenances, as a share of twenty-four acres insured to the aforesaid Hamon and his heirs against all men and their heirs will for ever warrant and defend. In testimony of which things aforementioned, to this writing my seal is appended. These being witnesses: Geoffrey de Vernon, John de troungfourde, Gilbert de Cherletone, Henry his brother, Thomas de Bulkilghe, Radulf son of Adam de Aotene, Peter de Thorne-tone, Henry son of David the clero, and others."

Indorsement, in an Elizabethan hand:—"S.D. Rad's de Bostoke, Hamon de Hellesby, Terr in Chorletone in Bakeforde." No Hamon appears in the pedigrees, but he must have been issue of the Hellesby-Masci marriage.

There are several peculiarities in this charter, which in such cases probably comes from the monkish scribe being an emigrant from some

other and remote county or monastery, whose formularies differed from those of other shires or sees; and, in other cases, from some peculiarity in the title, or the situation of the land. This grant seems to have been only one of several, and is a slovenly drafted document. But it pictures Backford with a Fair-Cross—a cross so named being seldom, if ever, met with, to my recollection. I think the present Backford Bridge spans merely a stream or brook crossing the highway? But there is a deepish ravine not far off, which, I fancy, separates Backford townshipp from Chorlton. X.

[516] THE PARLIAMENTARY ELECTIONS, 1727.

(Continued from No. 515.)

		Cotton.	Chorlton.	mondeley.	Crowe.
TILSTONE.					
Francis Andrews	...	1			
Owen Shore	Edge...		1	1	
James Richardson, clerk	...		1	1	
Edward Jones	...		1	1	
Robert Shad, sen.	Smeaton Wood...	1			
Samuel Lindop	...	1		1	
Joseph Williamson	...	1			
Thomas Bell	...	1			
Thos. Darlington	...		1	1	
Jno. Lindop	Edge...	1			
TUCKINGTON.					
John Leech	...		1	1	
TUSHINGHAM.					
Wm. Shone	Buckley...	1			
Jno. Dawson	...		1	1	
Thos. Churton	Whitchurch...	1			
Chas. Chambre, Esqre.	...	1	1		
Jno. Dod	...	1			
John Peacock	...	1			
Peter Dod	Whitchurch...	1			
Thos. Webster	...	1			
Thomas Hayes	...		1	1	
UPTON.					
John Egerton Esqr.	Broxton...	1	1		
Wm. Brook Esqr.	Chester...	1	1		
Richard Johnson	...	1	1		
John Hutehen	...	1	1		
Wm. Helley	...	1	1		
Robert Haywood, gent.	Chester...	1	1		
James Bennett	Newton...	1	1		
WAVERTON.					
John Fletcher	...	1	1		
Wm. Chelkin	...	1	1		
Saml. Dod	Christleton...	1	1		
Jno. Smith	Foulk Stapleford...	1	1		
Joseph Dutton	...	1	1		
Thomas 'alkin	...	1	1		
John Morst (?)	Oswastry...	1			
Wm. Ashton	Burwardalay...	1	1		
Jno. Williams	...	1	1		
Samuel Pannes	Eccleston...	1	1		

Bichd. Catherall	...	1	1
Ralph Rawlinson	...	1	1
Ralph Dod	Christleton...	1	
	WEEVIN.		
Peter Massey	Upton...	1	1
	WIGLAND.		
John Jackson	Whichough...	1	1
Wm. Sherrington	...	1	
Wm. Povey	...	1	
Joseph Gregory	...	1	
Wm. Bickerton	Bradeley...	1	
John Lewis	...	1	
	WHICHOUGH.		
Jos. Meredith	...	1	1
	WIRSWALL.		
Thos. Randles	...	1	
Peter Davies	...	1	
The total...316 288 264			

REPLIES.

[517] THE TITLE OF BARONET.

Mr. Wolley-Dod raises a very interesting question in his letter which appeared recently in your columns, and one that would require a good deal of research, if a full answer were to be given. Perhaps, however, I may be allowed to reply very briefly, and say that the order of Baronet was undoubtedly created by James the First, as usually stated, and that Sir Randolph Brereton's tombstone is only another example of the uncertainty of the spelling of the English language at the time in which it was sculptured. Sir Randolph was a Knight Banneret, a title of special honour (as Mr. Wolley-Dod evidently knows, by his allusion to Hallam), and it is only by a mistake in spelling that Knight-Baronet appears.

The particular feature in the order invented by King James, of course, was that the title was hereditary, which was not the case with the title of Knight Banneret. With reference to Mr. Wolley-Dod's second query, there does not appear to be any certain information as to who had the right to wear the collar of S.S. There are several local cases of its being worn by knights, and in one or two instances by esquires. It is commonly called the collar of Lancaster. The only certain thing about it is that it was in no way connected with the Order of the Garter.—Yours,
WM. FERGUSON IRVINE.

Birkenhead.

[518] THE DOMESDAY MANOR OF UPTON

JUXTA, RUSHTON.

(See No. 499.)

I have had two interesting and suggestive replies to the above query. Mr. Helsby writes:—

"Touching your Upton juxta Rushton note, I rather suspect that Eaton, near Tarporley, is a corruption of Upton. Are there any other *uplands* about Rushton? 'Upton' may have been the Upper or Over town of Rushton itself at one time. Is Eaton (Banks) described in Domesday? Did Erni hold Eaton or Rushton or both?" [Only Opetone.]

Mr. Brownbill, whose interesting notes on Domesday have been appearing in the "Sheaf," writes suggesting that as the "Opetone" to which I refer is the only example in Domesday where the letter *e* appears in the middle of the word (in the other two cases it is spelt Optone) it may be Op-etone—Up-Eaton, i.e., Eaton by Rushton.

Both these suggestions it will be seen point to Eaton juxta Rushton, as being the manor meant in Domesday, and it is certainly a strong piece of evidence in favour of this view to find that Eaton and Rushton were in the possession of the Earl at an early period, and both passed together in later alienations. A reference to the map also shews that the country to the north-west of Rushton and Eaton rises rapidly within a distance of about a mile to a height of over 400 feet.—Yours,

WM. FERGUSON IRVINE.

[519] MARRIAGE REGISTERS OF ST. OSWALD'S, CHESTER.

1683.

Thomas Joynton and Anne Bellen, of Nesson

May 20

Thomas Randle, of Hanmer p., and Mary Kenrick, of Elamere

June 25

Mr. Thomas Kelsall, of Trafford, of Plimston p., and Mrs. Christian Brerewood

July 3

Thomas Evans and Sarah Wright

July 9

John Joanes and Margreat Cooke

July 15

John Gruffyth and Anne Joanes

July 16

John Fox taylor, of Trennity p., and Elizabeth Pownall, of St. Oswald's p.

July 31

William Williams and Isabell Dodd

Aug. 6

Edward Davies and Elizabeth Lewis

Aug. 19

Thomas Bradbury and Ester Cooke, both of Plimstone p.

Aug. 21

Randle Ince, smith, and Sarah Summerfield

Sept. 11

Thomas Jones and Jane Ormes

Sept. 14

Samuell Maddooke, brickmaker and Elizabeth Marsh

Sept. 29

Ephrim Bardsley and Anne Blackamore

Oct. 23

Mathew Whitehead and Anne Plimstone

Oct. 27

Peter Humphreys and Elizabeth Dodd

Oct. 30

Richard Key pipemaker and Prudence

Chester Nov. 3

Robt. Chamberlin and Mary Williamson

Nov. 11

John Lewis of Tarporley p. and Martha Millington of Plimstone p	Nov. 13
Samuel Bradford Taylor and Philicia Fletcher of St. Michael's p	Nov. 18
John Smith and Frances Plumpton	Nov. 28
William Holm and Elisabeth Taylor both of Bodden p	Dec. 1
Robert Joanes and Anne Davies	Dec. 26
William Taylor and Margreat Baddiley	Jan. 1
Richard Kellsall of Dunham of Thornton p. and Ester Clarke	Jan. 1
Richard Sheppard and Ester Willoughby	Jan. 3
William Heighfield and Ales Joanes	Jan. 7
John Carrington and Mary Lighfoote both of Tarvin p.	Jan. 5
Tomas Joanes and Mary Moreton	Jan. 20
Robert Okell of Ince p. and Anne Potter of Great Budworth	Jan. 21
Robert Heaward and Mary Estom	Jan. 24
William Colley and Anne Tindeley	Jan. 29
Randle Ducas and Mrs. Sarah Hallwood, widd.	Feb. 5
Richard Twemloe and Elizabeth White of Childer Thornton of Eastom p.	Feb. 9

NOVEMBER 1, 1899.

ORIGINAL DOCUMENTS.

[520] POLITICAL RIOT AT NANTWICH, 1734.

As a sequel to the printed returns in the "Sheaf" of the polling in Cheshire at the general election for the first Parliament of George II. (Jan. 23, 1728, to April 18, 1734), when SIR ROBERT SALUSBURY COTTON, of Combermere, Bart. (Whig), and CHARLES CHOLMONDELEY, of Vale Royal, Esq. (Tory), were elected members for the county, and JOHN CREWE, of Crewe Hall, Esq. (Whig), was rejected, I send two letters relating to political affairs in Cheshire, written when that Parliament was approaching dissolution.

"The first ten or twelve years of George II.'s reign," says Hume, "are marked by few events of importance. Walpole was employed in maintaining his power by his skilful Parliamentary tactics, and the nation was peaceable and prosperous." It may also be added that but for the constant watchfulness, patriotism, and loyalty of Sir Robert Walpole, England would again have had the Pretender. Still, as the time drew near for a new Parliament, there was great unrest and excitement in the country. Chester city was in a very disturbed state in 1732 and in 1734 (see Hemingway's *Chester*, vol. ii., 397-8), and at Nantwich in January, 1734, there were riotous disturbances in view of

the coming general election of that year, according to the detailed account in the sub-joined letter, addressed to Sir Robert Salusbury Cotton, M.P., with a dignified politeness almost bordering on obsequiousness.

The writer of the letter, William Maisteron, was a prominent inhabitant of Nantwich, being a justice of the peace, and at that time one of the churchwardens. In the same year, and probably through the interest of the said member of Parliament, he obtained an Act for making the Weaver navigable to Nantwich, which, unfortunately for the trade of the town, was never carried out.

I. Mr. Maisteron's letter is as follows:—

"Nantwich,
Jany: 14th: 1733-4."

"My Lord,

Not only ye Post of Honour & Importance you bear in this County, but ye Consideration of your being my principal Benefactor, make me esteem my Duty to acquaint you with the troublesome state of affaires here & ye methods we have taken to promote ye peace of ye Neighbourhood.

Your Lordship knows that free-ale is ye primum mobile of the vulgar; [i.e. the common people] 'tis ye main Spring by wch they are actuated & kept to work: & he that deals out this Specifick in ye greatest Plenty secures the Mob on his side: And accordingly the Crewe Family who spare no Pains, nor any Expence, to influence the inferior Voters in this Town, have allowed constant refreshment & given unlimited orders for the spiriting up their Dependants. In this manner they have (with old Boniface in the Play*) Eat their Ale, drunk their Ale, and reveled in the Effects of it for two or three Months together, and since this has been done, we have had no quiet amongst us. The windows of the Publick & Private Houses of people that are Fri[en]ds to Sir Robert Cotton have been broken, the Gentlemen of the Party insulted, & it has been scarce possible to pass ye Streets unmolested.

These outrages were first begun when a sett of people, who stile 'emselves the true Blews, Corbet Kinaston &c. made their publick Entry here. At wch time they brought Numbers of Rabble from Congleton, & from several Parts of the County to bully & abuse our ffrinds. Not long after there was a general invitation to Crewe, and all the Mobility attended according to ye Sumons. On their return home they broke Mr. George Salmon's windows & Palisades: When they came hither they fell upon the Windows of the Lamb [Inn], & shattered them all to peices.

*George Farquhar's comedy of the *Beaus' Stratagem* 1707, in which *Boniface*, the Lichfield Landlord, who had lived 58 years on ale, says—"I have fed purely upon ale; I have ate my ale, drank my ale, and I always sleep upon my ale."

Several Disorders of this Nature have been committed since, & frequently Sir Robts friends of the Lower sort have risen & beat them as they deserved. On Wednesday ye 2nd of this Instant Janry an affidavit was made before me that about forty or fifty of ye Mob had assembled ye night before near Eleven of the Clock, & had broken the windows of Mr. Richd Walthall in Nantwich, Cheesefactor, & had committed ye same Ontrages at Peter Filcocks. Two of the Persons concerned were positively sworn to, & appeared Guilty; whom from want of Bail, I thought proper to commit. During their Examination Mr. Crews Mob, in Number about Sixty, came to my house & cry'd, where is your Justice? Damn him, turn him out! And when ye Persons committed were taken away by the Constables, the Mob rescued them & carried them off by force: Two days after a Person asked ye head man of their Mob how he could put on a face to insult Mr. Maisteron after so notorious a Manner at his own House; to woh he answered with an Oath, that if I had come out I should not have gone in again alive.

On Tuesday last ye 8th Instant we had appointed a Months Meeting [of magistrates] at Peter Filcocks ye Talbott [Inn, in Beam Street] in Nantwich, where Mr. Cotton, Mr. Lowe, and I attended. But whilst we were dispatching ye Business of the Day, some of Mr. Crewes Mob play'd at football before ye Door; & endeavour'd to molest us with a constant Noise & Tumult. Before we had finish'd ye business of ye Countrey, about Six in ye Evening ye Rioters gathered into a Considerable Body, armed themselves with Clubs, Bails, and Staves, & Attacked the House where we were sitting in a most rude, insulting manner. They cry'd a Chumley! a Crews! for ever. Damn you, turn out. Broke all ye Windows & Shutters of the Room we were in, & obliged us to leave the business of ye Countrey unfinished. The next morning after Mr. Lowe & I met again; we took the affidavits of proper Persons who had seen ye Riot; & issued out our warrants to convene such of the Mob before us as were certainly known, & upon full conviction, Committed them to Goal [sic]. For they told us Mr. Crews had given orders not to offer any Bail, intending (as we were privately informed) to try if he could find out some flaw in our proceedings to persecute [sic for prosecute] us upon. On Saturday last ye 12th these Rioters returned from Chester, when they were bailed by one Faulks & Yoxall before Mr. Wettenhall a Justice of peace for this County, & came into town with great triumph, wearing blew Cookades in their Hatts, shouting down ye Bump, and shewing the same Disposition to do Mischief that had led them into inconveniences but just before. I forgott to mention in its proper place that they fixed a gun from one of Mr. Crewes Houses, where they have constant free ale, & have wounded a poor unconcern'd Boy so ill, that he lies now in great Danger of his Life.

These strange & barbarous proceedings despirit the friends of ye Governmt & bring us all under great Difficulties. We can hardly tell how to act with safety, either in publick or private Life. If we give free ale, we seem to contribute to the Riot; & if we forbear, we encourage their insults. Indeed we want men of figure & fortune in Town. Our Pursees are unequal to such expensive Engagemts. The Dean [Dr. Brooke, Rector of Nantwich] & I have done all we can: we have tried Fair means: but those are too light to bear up against the Hurricane of a Mob. I have enforced ye Laws, and those tempered with as much Chancery [i.e. equity] as the matters will bear, but all is at present ineffectual. I shou[d]d be glad to be honoured with your Lordships Advice woh I shoud steaddely persue & yet keep private.

The perplexity of our affaires, my Lord, seems to make some apology for this tedious scrawl; & I flatter myself your Lordship will readily connive at the faults of my Pen whilst I am performing what I think is the indispensable Duty of

Your Lordships, &c.,

WM. MAISTERSON.

II. Another letter, dated two months later, relates to the time when the candidates were canvassing for votes in the northern part of the county.

"Over Tabley,

13 March 1733-4.

Reverend Sir,

Last night Mr. Cotton & I returned to Tabley from our diversion of Parliamentering betwixt the hours of 9 & 10. Wee have been out 7 dayes. I do assure [you] wee have met with great encouragement from ye freeholders but very vilely treated by ye Mobb at Stockport. They treated us with stones & dirt. They show'd themselves to be a vile sett of Animals. The particulars of our Expedition is too tedious to insert &c.†

I desire youl give my hon'ble service to Sir E. Cotton. I am glad to hear yt [that] he is able to go out; & you may assure him yt now I am come home yt I will use all possible dilligence in takeing Examinations; but desire yt matters relating to ye affair may drop at present, & hope to give him an account of ye whole in a little time.

I sent for Thom: Gleave son to your old steward who declared before Mr. Cotton yt Hulton said yt Sir E. Cotton was a pensioner, and had from the Government five or 800 per annum; but he believed it was 800£.

† As the writer does not give the particulars, the reader might profitably refer to Hogarth's *Election Prints*, Plate II.

I find by a letter I received from Sir R. Cotton yt he acquainted Lord Cholmondeley with ye particulars. I wrote to him about ye affaire, & I find yt ye Lord Cholmondeley was at ye ill behaviour of ye executor very much surprised; but thinks at present better to take no notice of it; but rather try him a little further before we proceed to an information. Those are the very words in Sir R. Cottons letter wch I have at this time by me,

I am afraid Sir R. Cotton has forgott to order instruction for one Smith at Stockport. I desire youl putt him in mind his ffather & himself was with Mr. Cotton & me at Cheadle yesterday; & wee both promised to write to Sir R. Cotton this post; but I thought it better to write to you to save Sir R. Cotton the trouble.

I hope upon ye Receipt youl show this letter to Sir R. Cotton; & you will much oblige

Yor most humble servant,

CHA: DUKINFIELD."

At the general election in the summer of 1734 for the second parliament of George II. (14 Jan. 1735 to 28 April 1741) CHARLES CHOLMONDELEY, of Vale Royal, Esq. (*Tory*), and JOHN CREWE, junr. of Crewe, Esqre. (*Whig*, opposed *Walpole*) were returned as members for Cheshire. SIR ROBERT COTTON, of Combermere, Bart., being the defeated candidate.

JAMES HALL.

Lindum House, Nantwich.

[521] MARRIAGE REGISTERS OF ST. OSWALD'S,
CHESTER.
1684.

Edward Evans and Anne Hairefinch	March 31
Peter Taylor souldier in the Castle and Mary Woodward	April 13
William Tuson and Hannah Meaken of St. Ollives's p.	May 1
Richard Carter and Margreat Meoles both of Bromborough p.	May 17
William Carter, mason, and Mary Hancock	June 25
Edward Croughton, tanner, and Margreat Knowles, widd.	June 24
William Griffyth and Ellin Ince	June 24
William Siddall and Chatharine Frances both of Hearden p.	June 25
Samuell Cosson, barber of St. Peter's p. and Elizabeth Taylor	July 1
Joseph Raullason and Mary Olliver both of Thornton p.	July 17
James Davies slatter and Mary Celley	July 19
William Bostocke and Ellin Joanes of St. Peter's p.	Sept. 22
Sam. Wright and Mary Barnes of St. Ollive's p.	Nov. 6
Roger Shrigley and Elisabeth Lummas	Nov. 25

John Johnson and Mary Finchett of Tarperley p.

Dec. 6

Richard Carder of Churton of Aldford p. and Anne Morte of Warton p.

Dec. 10

Mr. William Ormes of Highton p. in Lancashire and Mrs. Ales Cemberbach of Plimstone p.

Dec. 18

Thomas Crosse joyenner and Frances Hull

Dec. 30

John Clarke and Mary Denson

Dec. 27

Robert Moulson, yemond and Chatharine Kin-niston both of Malpas p.

Jan. 1

William Joanes and Dorroathy Davies

Jan. 6

Joseph Okill and Sarah Lewis both of Thorn-ton p.

Jan. 10

Richard Laurranson of Gt. Budworth p. and Mary Hatton

Jan. 24

David Tompson and Mary Fox

Feb. 19

Thomas Caddock of Trennity p. and Elizabeth Palin

Feb. 19

Mr. Thomas Breese and Mrs. Martha Kendrick

Feb. 28

[522] A RELIC OF ST. MARY'S NUNNERY,
CHESTER.

The "Henry Bradshaw Society," which was founded in 1890 for the editing of rare liturgical texts, has just issued as the eighteenth volume of its publications a work of some local interest. It is entitled "The Processional of the Nuns of Chester," and is edited by Dr. J. Wickham Legg, F.S.A., from a manuscript in the possession of the Earl of Ellesmere at Bridge-water House.

In the introduction the editor writes as follows:—"This manuscript is connected with the nuns of Chester by the writing at the end of the book: *This booke longeth to Dame Margery Byrkenhead of Chestre*. The directions on Palm Sunday and Shere Thursday make it plain that the book was written for a convent of women, and there was a monastery of Benedictine nuns at Chester under the invocation of St. Mary. The patron of the church for which this book was written seems to be our Lady, as her altar is the first named in the ceremonies of Shere Thursday, and there is an abundance of anthems and hymns in her honour, somewhat beyond what is usual. St. Benedict also is marked by a procession on his day in March and in July, and by other memorials. The requirements of these phenomena would be satisfied by ascribing this book to the Benedictine Nunnery of St. Mary at Chester.

"From the liturgical point of view the book is a processional, to which the rubrics testify with their frequent use of the word "procession," and, further, a short examination will satisfy an enquirer that the earlier part o

the book is in direct affinity with the processions of Sarum and York. Towards the end a number of private prayers appear; and quite at the end, the hand, as well as the tongue, change into the ordinary and vernacular."

The little that is known of the history of St. Mary's Nunnery, with the documents of the suppression in the time of Henry VIII. may be found in Ormerod, 2nd ed., vol. 1., p. 346. See also Tanner's *Notitia Monastica*, 1787, Cheshire vii. 3, and Dr. Morris's *Chester during the Plantagenet and Tudor Periods*. In the last mentioned book is a plan of the buildings as they appeared in the reign of Queen Elizabeth, from a drawing among the Harleian manuscripts, and also a reproduction of Buck's engraving of the ruins as they appeared in 1729.

Can any genealogist identify "Dame Margery, Birkenhead"? The name Margaret occurs in the pedigree of the Birkenheads of Huxley.

F. S.

NOVEMBER 8, 1899.

NOTES.

[523] MONUMENTAL INSCRIPTIONS IN BIDSTON CHURCH.

In the recent alterations to the heating apparatus in Bidston Church, the Rev. J. F. Buckler, the Rector of Bidston, has discovered some grave slabs, which had been used as a covering to the old heating flue.

A careful examination shews that though not of any great age they are sufficiently interesting to be placed on permanent record in these columns.

The first appears to be as follows:—

[HERE LYETH THE
BODY OF ELIZABETH
GODWYN BURIED]
THE TENTH OF
IVLY 1656.
WILLIAM GODWIN
AGED 77 YEARS.

The first three lines are not very clear, but with the assistance of Randle Holme's Church notes from the British Museum they can be made out. Randle Holme in his notes says that he visited Bidston Church in 1668, and on "grave-slabs by the Chancel" saw among others the following:—"Here lyeth the bodye of Elizabeth Goodwyn, buried 10 July, 1656." From the lettering of the remainder of the inscription,

it is clear that William Godwin was buried at a much later date, probably nearly a hundred years later.

Elizabeth Godwin was doubtless a near relative of Arthur Godwin, of Saughall-Massey, who built a farmhouse in that village. This house is still standing, and bears his initials and those of his wife Ellen, over the date 1690. Arthur Godwin died in 1697.

Another grave slab, which can also only be partially deciphered, reads as follows:—

[H]ERE LYETH THE
[B]ODY OF ROBER[T]
[S]ON OF DANIEL WIL
[S]ON THE 24, 169[8].
[E]LLEN DAUGHTER [OF]
[DA]NIEL WILSON D[EC]
[T]HE 2, 1709.

And next to it the following:—

HERE LYETH THE
[BODY] OF MARY [WIFE]
[OF] DANIEL WILSON
AUGUST THE 16.
1717.

This Daniel Wilson was a son of "Robert Wilson of Bidston Hall, gentleman," who died in 1698. The dates on the tombstones are correct as shewn by the parish register.—
Yours,
WM. FERGUSON IRVINE.

ORIGINAL DOCUMENTS.

[524] TWO EARLY CHESHIRE CHARTERS.

The two undated charters, abstracts of which follow, are from the De Trafford muniments, and are especially interesting, since they refer to the transfer of a serf and his family. The name of the serf, Ulfetnote, in both charters is broken into two words by coming at the end of a line, so that it is not clear whether the name should be Ulfetnote or Ulfet Note. One would have had no doubt about its being one word had it not been that in all the divided words in the first charter the hyphen is clearly marked, except in this instance. The charters are undated, but from the handwriting, and also from the names of the witnesses, they may be fixed approximately at 1170 and 1190. The grantees are De Traffords, Randle being the earliest known member of the Trafford family. It will be seen that three generations of the Trafford family occur in these two charters, Randle, Ralph, and Robert.

The charters are interesting as throwing some light on the early pedigree of the Masseys. It is not quite clear, but it seems probable that the first charter is from Hamon II. and the other from Hamon III. Matthew de Bromhale, one of the witnesses, appears to be the original grantee of Bramhall and part of Dukinfield (see *Barwaker's East Cheshire*, Vol. I., p. 423). Matthew de Mortun (Moreton, near Bidston), died *ante* 1189, so that this enables us to fix the date approximately.—
Yours,
HOLLY.

Hamon de Maci, to all his men clerks and laymen, French and English, future and present, greeting. Be it known that I have granted Ulfetnote and his heirs to Ralph son of Randle and to Robert his son and their heirs. The consideration being four marks. These being witness. Adam the Chaplain, Robert de Maci, Robert de Tattun, William de Tattun, Matthew de Bromhale, Matthew de Mortun, Roger son of Hamo de Maci, Robert Maluensis, Geoffrey son of Richard de Maci, Simon son of Hugh, William his brother, Hugh de Maci, Robert the Reeve and Hugh his son.

Hamon de Maci, to all his men clerks and laymen, French and English, future and present greeting. Be it known that I have granted Ulfetnote and his heirs to Robert son of Ralph and his heirs in confirmation of my father's charter. The consideration being half a mark. These being witness, Matthew de Bromhal, Hugh de Maci, Robert de Maci, Hamon de Maci son of Hamon, Adam and William his brother, Peter Canute, Robert de Arderne, Simond Tours, Richard son of Kospatriok William and Roger brothers of the lord [Hamon], Hugh the Reeve, Hugh de Stotfort, Robert son of Warin, Henry his brother, Robert the clerk, and many others.

[625] MARRIAGE REGISTERS OF ST. OSWALD'S,
CHESTER.
1685.

Henry Parry of St. Mary's p. and Elizabeth Hulton of St. Martin's p.	April 20
Robert Mullenex and Chatherine Edwards of Leeswood	April 21
Richard Dyason of Warton p. and Anne Dutton	May 6
Joseph Possnet and Margreat Robinson	May 28
Randle Robinson and Anne Ball	May 28
Samuel Roberts and Elizabeth Edwards	May 31
Richard Boulton and Margery Mills both of Walton p.	June 11
John Fletcher of Plimstone p. and Joane Goldinge of St. John's p.	June 18
Samuell Peckeringe and Mary Axton, both of Nantwich p.	June 28
John Dutton and Elizabeth Kirfoote	June 29
Humphrey Joanes and Ellin Chester	Aug. 1
John Woodworth and Elizabeth Angle	Aug. 20

Joseph Simpson and Elizabeth Hickson, both of Fradsome p.	Aug. 29
John Williams, Smith and Elizabeth Ashley, both of Plimstall	Aug. 31
John Todd, souldier, and Mary Hopkin	Sept. 2
Thomas Dodd and Mary Marsh	Sept. 28
Thomas Hancock and Elizabeth Sharpe	Sept. 29
Richard Smith and Mary Davies	Sept. 29
Peter Dunbabin and Anne Summerfield	Oct. 13
Thomas Barker, of Shorley, and Magdalen Willbraham, of Dodleston p.	Oct. 17
Ichabod Longe and Mary Johnson	Nov. 7
James Hill and Elizabeth Fassarley, both of Plimstone p.	Nov. 11
Thomas Lee, of St. Mary's p., baker, and Jane Bingley	Nov. 23
Mathew Whitehead and Esable Greene	Nov. 28
Rowland Hill and Margreat Robinson	Dec. 5
Richard Joanes and Mary Joanes	Dec. 28
Thomas Ancors and Bridget Eley	Dec. 28
Humphrey Woodward of Thornton p. and Mary Adams widd.	Jan. 6
John Sedden and Prissila Jackson	Jan. 5
John Jason and Elizabeth Cealey	Jan. 26
Josiah Barrow of Fradsome p. and Anne Hill of Plimstone p.	Feb. 2
John Buckley of Chriaelton and Mary Smith	Feb. 12
Charles Sheele butcher and Ellin Hulton	Feb. 16

NOVEMBER 15, 1899.

NOTES.

[526] THE ANCESTRY OF SIR THOMAS BROWNE.
(See Nos. 494 and 509).

A correspondent sends me an extract from the pedigree entered at the Herald's College by Sir Thos. Browne himself in 1664, which satisfactorily explains his connection with the family at Upton-by-Chester, and proves that my second suggestion (*vide* No. 509) was the correct one. The entry is as follows:—

Richard Browne of — Co. Chester, married
[blank.]—[their son]
Thomas Browne of the City of London married
Anne daughter of Paul Garraway of
[Lewes] in Co. Sussex, and had issue
[*inter alia*] Sir Thomas Browne.

An extract from Le Neve confirms this, and adds that Richard Browne was of Upton, Co. Chester, and that Sir Thomas Browne's mother married for her second husband Sir Ralph Dutton, of Co. Chester.

We thus gain the important information that Sir Thomas's mother was a Garraway. Now if we turn to the funeral certificate of Mistress Eliza-

beth Browne, of Upton, who died in 1602 (vide Rec. Soc. Vol. vi., p. 48), we find that among her sons by her late husband, Thomas Browne, she had one Thomas Browne, her third son, now (1602) "married to —, daughter to — Garraway, and by her hath issue."

This exactly fits in with the known facts of Sir Thomas Browne's family, he being the youngest of four children, and born in 1605.

I think the evidence therefore is conclusive that Sir Thomas Browne was the son of a Thomas Browne, of Upton and afterwards of London. This Thos. Browne was in his turn son of another Thomas Browne, of Upton, who died *ante* 1578 (see his will Rec. Soc. Vol. xxx., p. 195), and who was in his turn son of Richard Browne, of Upton. It is certainly strange that Sir Thomas Browne when entering his pedigree should have called his grandfather by his great-grandfather's name, but he clearly did so. He may have simply made a mistake, but it is more likely that as he no doubt only recorded his pedigree in order to get the right to bear arms, and as Richard Browne may have been the last "recorded" of the Upton family, Sir Thomas may purposely have passed over his grandfather in silence in order to obtain the necessary *navus* with his nearest armigerous relative. For it must be remembered the Heralds would only accept a man's statement as evidence, back to his grandfather, and to have obtained the necessary documentary evidence to satisfy the Heralds of his connection with his great grandfather might have been costly in those days, living as he was in Norwich, all the evidence being in Cheshire, especially as his father had been dead many years, and his intercourse with his Chester relatives possibly had fallen into disuse.

The discovery of the connection of this famous man with our county at once invests the Browne pedigree with interest, and it is worth pointing out that Sir Thomas's grandmother came of a celebrated Cheshire family, being a daughter of Henry Birkenhead of Huxley and Backford, Clerk of the Green Cloth to Queen Elizabeth and Prothonotary and Clerk of the Crown for the Counties of Chester and Flint.

Sir Thomas Browne also bore the arms of the Brownes of Upton, apparently with only a slight difference, viz., Argent, two bendlets

between as many pellets all sable, crest, a lion sejant, argent, instead of two bendlets between as many mullets, &c.—Yours,

WM. FERGUSON LEVINE.

Birkenhead.

[527] MINSHULL AND TORBOCK.

(See No. 489).

I happen to possess a copy of Mr. Bellamy Minshull's privately printed "Visitation" peds. of the Mynshulls, which is probably the work (1869) referred to by Miss Lega-Weekes. By it, Mr. Minshull shews that his predecessors for the last half-dozen generations, were of Manchester and afterwards of Birmingham; and his unaccomplished efforts, to compound for the usual negligence of past generations, were to find evidence of the branch of the Minshulls to which he belonged—and which he believed to be the early (17th century) Manchester branch of the Wistaston House, particularly as an old lady, of the Manchester branch, quite a century since "allowed the claim"! There can be little doubt, however, of its probability; and, physically, there was also very much in his favour, in support: more so than would come from mere female-lines, unless, perhaps, of that great masculinity which may be well supposed to have a sufficiently powerful effect in subduing—in more senses than those commonly understood—the male and chief element in descents of any kind; and, by so altering the current, to produce, in the future male blood, that more or less permanent variety which so often strikes us as coming from other and not strictly hereditary male sources.

In the Mynshulls of *Stoke Visitation*, Edwd. Mynshull of Church Mynshull, Esqr., A.D. 1530, heads the descent as possible ancestor. In more southerly counties, by the bye, they would have dubbed this township by the Saint name of the Church, to distinguish it from some other Mynshull then in being—as "Mynshull St. Paul." From this Edward, the Herald, drew a dotted line to Edward M. of Wiche Malbank (Nantwich) Mercer (Will 1557). He, by Margaret daughter of Hugh Mainwaring of Nantwich (whose arms are differentiated by a mullet in chief) had a son, Jeffrey Mynshull, of Nantwich, Mercer, whose youngest brother was named Thomas Mynshull—whose second wife (according to Mr. Minshull's MS. notes) was Elizth. Wright—probably the salt-mine-owning Wrights, who, it was thought by Mr. Ormerod, came out of a family of the surname in Yorkshire—the name however, being a

common trade one, and another and entirely distinct family being the 17th cent. Wrights of Stretton, in Malpas. (I write the latter from memory.) By her, he had an only son, Richd. Mynshull, of Nantwich, whose wife was Elizth. dau. of Rd. Wilbraham of Lincoln's Inn, Esqr., and doubtless of the Town's-end-of-Nantwich branch of the great Woodhey stock. She died in 1658, æt. 74, and he in 1637, and there is a tablet, in Nantwich Church, to his memory. (See Mr. Hall's Nantwich, or the Hist. of Chesh.) It doesn't appear by this ped. that this Rd. Mynshull left issue—therefore *quæra*, all Visitation peds. being the merest skeletons—very deficient in collaterals, and names even of younger issue, as well as in dates; as it was no part of the Herald's duty to do more than prove for the applicant the descent of *arms*, by tracing back, through the evidences produced, to some ancestor, near or remote, who bore the coat claimed.

Jeffrey Mynshull left an elder son, *Randal* ("who wrote 'The Antiquities of Cheshire'"). By his wife, Eleanor Griffyn, dau. of Richd., lord of Bartherton, co. Cest., he had Sir Richd. Mynshull of Burton, co. Bucks, a cavalier, "created baronet," and "viscount" in 1642—"ultra vires Reg. practically.

Randle's brother, EDWARD of Nantwich, purchased the Manor of STOKK in 1622 and died 1627 æt. 68. His great-grandson, Edward, in 1719 (when aged 69) sold STOKK, to Roger Wilbraham (of Dorfold?—whose issue some 50 or 60 years after was defrauded of Dorfold). In this ped. from first to last, it may be advisable to add, there is only one *Thomas*, and he not of Stoke—unless he went there after his nephew's purchase of it. Of all the seven brief lines from these Visitations of 1613 and 1663, the ped. of Mynshull of Nantwich is perhaps the only one having the slightest chance of helping the ped. of Miss Lega-Weekes's yeoman line. The Visit. of 1613 gives the 1st ped. of M. of Nantwich. It says, Edward M. was son of Hewen M. of Clutton, son of Nicholas M. 2nd. brother of the House of Mynshull. This Edward's son Geoffrey had a second son, *John Mynshull*, of Namptwich, who, by his wife Ellyn, dau. Rand. Manwaringe of N, had Geoffrey his heir, æt. 25, 1613; also 2nd. *Thomas*, and 3rd *John*, then living. The Registers of Nantwich would perhaps shew what had become of this John, and this son Thomas—who was perhaps 20-23 in 1613. Thomas may very well have been grandfather of the 1st John of Lachford father of Thomas of STOKK,

1682, and ancestor of all the Minshulls of Appleton, Penketh, &c.—every one of them most probably Quakers—as were nearly all the Tarbucks, Torbocks, or Tarbocks. Lancashire and Cheshire, indeed, met at Penketh, and these neighbouring places. There was, I remember, among them a representative of the stout old race of Haydock of Haydock—(modern "Haddock," a 17th cent. corruption, several of whom settled in the Quaker town of Warrington). This was Roger Haydock, gentleman, temp. Jac. II. of Penketh, and he, with a Lowe and Becket, of Newton near Nantwich, and others who came from there to live near Penketh (where there was a famous Quaker Chapel), towards the end of the 17th cent. shipped at Liverpool as emigrants to Pennsylvania. One family brought another, and I suspect the Lachford, &c., Minshulls were among them. If we could read *Thos* (son of John of Nantwich), as father of a *John* who (on Geo. Fox coming to Nantwich) turned Quaker and migrated to Lachford, where he became father of *Thos. of STOKK, &c.*, 1682, we should get nearer to the affiliation of John of Appleton, the testator of 1639. The Registers of Warrington, &c., should throw some light upon these questions, as I strongly think Lachford to be a late settlement of the Minshulls. "Appleton Thorn" has for centuries been a sort of Beacon—perhaps from old popish times—for many miles round, to the people who swallowed heathenish superstitions. And so its prestige may be considered something of an element in casting about and fishing up the "missing links." The *Stoak* referred to is of course the township near Nantwich.

(To be continued.)

[528] MARRIAGE REGISTERS OF ST. OSWALD'S, CHESTER.

1686.

Mr. Thomas Ormes and Mary Broster both of St. Peter's p.	April 6
Thomas French taylor and Jane Eayton	April 29
William Davies and Jane Hickocks	May 6
Richard Chatherall and Elizabeth Lightfoote both of Plimstone p.	May 18
John Hughes and Elizabeth Barker both of Doddlestone p.	May 25
William Weyd and Jane Huntingeton	June 1
Jacob Wrenshall of Great Nesson p. and Alles Walker of Bevington p.	June 24
Robt. Hynd of St. John's p., beere brewer and Elizabeth Fletcher of St. Marye's p.*	July 1

*This is the last marriage entry in the second volume of St. Oswald's Register.

NOVEMBER 22, 1899.

NOTES.

[529] MINSHULL AND TORBOCK.

(Continued from No. 527).

Dugdale gives in a pedigree of Mynshull of Wistaston, Thomas M. of Manchester, *set.* 51.1664, whose grandfather was John son of John. This Thomas had a brother John, *set.* 21, 1664. Should these two lines, of Nantwich, and Wistaston (as a "forlorn hope") prove barren of satisfactory results, then it would be not improbable that the settlement near Warrington and Penketh was, as early as the days of the Reformation, or even of the Dissolution of the monasteries—a slice of whose early ill-gotten property might very well have been purchased from the Commissioners, by the father or father-in-law of the first Minshull settler. A search in the Harl. MSS. would probably be productive of good. Appleton became the property of the Warburtons, and is so still; and Appleton old court rolls and charters might possibly be found at Arley Hall.

I may add that Hardshaw (a corruption of Hartshawe) was a hamlet in the now glass-house and chemical town of St. Helens, which was a chapelry anciently in Prescott parish. There was a picturesque ivy-clad 17th cent. Chapel of the Quakers there in the days of a "fast" old friend of the writer and in the heyday of Newton-le-Willows Racecourse. From there to Penketh—via the old Gerard burial-place, Winwick Church—is about four miles; but, the cut from Hardshaw, via Bold, would be some seven miles; and the mileage from Penketh to Runcorn and Tarbock, everybody knows. Round that circle and its outskirts, such as Knowsley, Ormskirk, Frodsham, &c., stood the Quakers' strongholds of the 17th and 18th centuries—just as the then obscure Fylde country of Lancashire was always the stronghold of Popery.

As to much that relates to the Torbocks, I can lend a reprint, if of any use? The old lords also held Sutton and other manors and many lands. But, Miss Lega-Weekes's *Richards* of Sutton must have been collaterals. There should be a pedigree in Croston's much improved edition of *The Hist. of Lancashire* (*Baines*) sub Tarbock.

Finally, there are several 18th cent. *Thomas* Minshulls in Mr. Bellamy Minshull's MS. ped.—who most likely descended from the line he claimed to come, viz., that of Wistaston and Nantwich. All these little incidents are of some

service considering that up to within a century ago parents usually namesaked their children, with great strictness, from themselves, or from some very near male relatives—very few families of any kind—barring the ancient Jews—having, till the novelists deluged us with silly 'fancy' names, had the strength to disregard that very ancient custom.

As to the Caldwells (*cold wells*?), they were to be found everywhere; and were generally a race of respectable yeoman, i.e., modernly, tillers of their own soil.

X.

[530] "THE TOWN AND PORT OF GREAT NESTON."

This designation was given to Great Neston by the authors of "Vale Royal," about the year 1656. To the people of this busy little town to-day, the above may appear to have more than a tinge of romance. At the time of the Roman occupation, and for some hundreds of years after, the river Dee was "a noble river hard by the City Walls, and on the south side a rode and harbour for shipping coming from Gascoine, Spain, and Germany." The Dee, as Lucian the monk truly says, must have been a noble river. Its broad expanse, its picturesqueness, and its depth for navigation were all that could be desired; and, in addition to this, there stood on this river one of the most renowned cities of the world. It was a great centre of attraction in the past, as it is without doubt in the present. Fuller quaintly but truly says that the fashion of Chester is "somewhat hard to conceive, the like being said not to be seen in all England, no nor in all Europe again." What was the cause of that ominous spell that dried up the water of the Dee over which floated proud Rome's twentieth legion, and transferred the maritime prestige of that river to the narrow and once unattractive creek of the now wonderful river Mersey?

From the time of the Roman occupation down to that of Richard II., the city of Chester as an emporium of commerce ranked high. It was about the time of this reign that the merchants and citizens to their great dismay discovered that their ships were experiencing great difficulty in their navigation up to the port. Besides being one of the most important centres of commerce, Chester was moreover the great water-way to Ireland, to which place thousands of troops and many Government officials were periodically going. As time went on, in this their serious dilemma, the merchants and citizens of

the old city had the whole sympathy of England. To save their trade they made every effort. The traffic, at great inconvenience, diminution and loss, they shifted lower down the estuary. To Shotwick, to Burton, and to Denhall. We may imagine to what trouble and inconvenience they were put in shipping and transhipping their goods and passengers at those places. And still they were harassed by adversity as cruel as it was irresistible. The gradual silt of the river went steadily on. The places of trade went lower and lower, till finally the whole coast line between the city and Hilbre was embraced and became the port of Chester. For some years an agitation had been going on in the city in behalf of building a suitable quay in the estuary for landing both goods and passengers. After much inspection and deliberation a site was at length fixed upon. This site was that of "Lightfoot's Poole" immediately below the Parish Church of Great Neston. The name of Lightfoot remained in this district within our recollection. There must then have been a great volume of water at Lightfoot's Poole as it was significantly said to be in "the belly of the sea." To build a quay here for the merchants of Chester, regardless of its inconvenience, which was that of transhipping goods into lighter vessels, was considered, and justly so, a very great undertaking. There has been much confusion among writers with regard to the site of this quay, such as "about 1550 a new quay or haven was begun at Neston, where Parkgate now stands." Others, again, have assumed that the quay is submerged at Parkgate, where there never was a quay, but a modern flimsy stage, built within our recollection, for the convenience of pleasure boats, and an older stage, built by "Blore" about the year 1814, for the use of the Flint and Bagillt ferry boats. After long consideration and protracted delay, the new quay, or new haven, was begun, just opposite, and near to the place now known as the "Old Quay House." We write with some authority as to the position of this quay, as it was a confused mass of ruin within our time; the outline part, however, was in perfect order and reflected deserved credit upon the masons of the time of Queen Elizabeth. The quay in ruin was sold to Sir Roger Mostyn in the year 1799, just one hundred years ago, when Parkgate became popular as a place for sea bathing, and probably some of the stones were utilised in the building of the quay wall at Parkgate.

"The Old Quay." It may be well to explain why this quay in the first instance took the name of the New Quay, or New haven, and then afterwards became known as the Old Quay. The change in the name arose entirely through the building of the Denhall Colliery Quay, which about two hundred years later became the New Quay. The following concise and authentic account of what we now call the "Old Quay" is from Canon Morris on Tudor Chester. "As the sea receded from Chester, a vigorous effort was made to retain for the port some of the trade of former times, by building a new quay or haven further out in the estuary on the Wirral Peninsula. In the Great Letter Book is preserved an order dated 3 March, 1541, addressed to Mr. Hennage, master of the King's Woods beyond Flint, directing him to deliver to the Mayor of Chester 200 trees of his Majesty's woods in Flintshire and Cheshire that be nearest to 'Lightfote pole' (Neston) to be used in making a new haven there. The completion of this new haven was apparently, six years later, still delayed for want of funds, for in February 1547 the Lords of the Council, in a reply to a petition for aid in carrying out the projected work, announce that they have advised King Edward in favour of it. The sum of £40 which Henry VIII. had conferred on the newly erected college in Chester to be bestowed in "dedes of charitie and the mending of the high ways" is to be diverted for seven years to the construction of the haven in "Lightfoot's Poole," and in addition 200 trees from the Flintshire and Cheshire woods. The work went on for four years more before a further appeal was made, 19 July, 1551, to the Lord Treasurer by the magistrates of Chester, begging his intercession with the King for a sum of money towards the building of a new Key in Wirral, upon the river Dee, in the "face and belly of the sea," "which would amount to £5,000 or £6,000 (a large sum for that time), or else their present povertie would force their present charges therein to be as labour lost, and therefore the undoing of the whole citie, and hurt to the county adjoining" (Harl MSS. 2,082, 14). Effort after effort was made to finish the quay. In 1557 and 1560 a fresh collection was ordered to be made in the churches. Private individuals and the whole of the city guilds contributed towards the completion of the new haven. At the beginning of 1576 the work, after lingering on for nearly 30 years, was approaching completion. Again there is an appeal for help, ten years later (1586), when an order is given

for a piece of work to save it from decay. This structure, which had for more than half a century occupied the mind of the authorities, and been the subject of so many appeals to the Royal bounty and to the patriotic citizens, was doomed to partial demolition. In 1608 a decree was made for the "pulling down of one half of a certain quay or harbour for shippes called the New Key." In less than one hundred years after 1608 this quay, that had been the source of so much trouble and anxiety, not only to the citizens of Chester but also to the whole country, was finally abandoned, and Chester had ceased to be a great centre of commerce. A packet service then began between Parkgate and Dublin. After the long, weary, and protracted difficulties with which the citizens of Chester had to contend in the building of this quay, we need not be surprised that they did not interest themselves in building a quay for the accommodation of the Dublin packets at Parkgate.

(To be continued.)

[531] EXTRACTS FROM THE RECORDS OF ST. JOHN'S COLLEGE, CAMBRIDGE.

In Mr. R. F. Scott's "Notes from the College Records," printed in "The Eagle," June, 1897, is the following letter interesting to Cheshire readers:—

My good cosen,—I am to recomende to your love and care a young gent, one Mr. Clipesby Crewe, sonne to my deare ffriende and long acquainted Sir Randle Crewe, his Majesty's Sergeant at Lawe, desiring you to charge his tutor to have a special care of hym as well for his conversacon as his learninge, especially that he avoyde the company of tobacco takers, drinkers and swagereres. The young gent is by nature of a modest, sober and cyvill conversacon, and no doubt will so contynewe if evell company draw hym not from it, which no doubt his tutor wilbe more diligent to observe in hym and he hymself more carefull to avoyde if at the first you shall shew your respecte in chardging them both therewith and hereafter take notice of his proceedings, howe so ever well, or ill, which I hope you shall never fynde in him. Good cosen, I do not doubt but you will have a care herein and the rather at this my request, his father being a man of worthe and so neare and deare a friend to me, and you shall ever commande any kindnes remayning in the power of your assured and loving cosen.

ELLIS WYNN.

Bowle, 26th Aprilis, 1616.

Addressed: To the worshipfull and my muche respected good cosen Owen Wynn esquier, Doctor of Dervynyty and Mr. of St. John's Colledge in Cambridge geve these.

Dr. Owen Gwynn, a Denbighshire man, was master of the college from 1612 till his death in 1633. Sir Randle Crewe (1559-1647) was son of John Crewe, a tanner, of Nantwich. His son, Sir Clipesby Crewe, was a friend of Herrick, the poet; two of his sons, John and Ralph, were admitted to St. John's College in 1646.

J. B.

[532] MARRIAGE REGISTERS OF ST. OSWALD'S, CHESTER.

1686.

(Continued.)

William Littler and Elizabeth Finchett both of Tarvin p.	July 3
John Johnson and Jane Roberts	July 5
Thomas Gillico and Mary Browne	July 13
George Quicke, smith, of St. John's p. and Elizabeth Bevan of St. Mary's p.	July 15
Mr. William Bellis, grosser, of St. Michael's p. and Mrs. Grace Houlst of St. John's p.	Aug. 3
John Lewis husbandman and Mary Sumner	Aug. 14
Thomas Edge and Hannah Wright both of Tatnall p.	Aug. 15
Hugh Evans and Mary Parker	Aug. 30
Sam: Vernon and Margreat Woodhouse both of Tarvin p.	Sept. 11
Mr. Danniell Welde and Mrs. Deborah Davies both of Wrixham p.	Sept. 9
John Joanes and Mary Loyd	Sept. 18
George Wood and Mary Bramley	Sept. 24
Thomas Martinscraft and Mary Martinscraft both of Prescott p.	Sept. 30
George Lee and Barbara Griffyth of Mould p.	Oct. 5
Robt. Cowdocke, smith, and Ales Johnson	Oct. 7
Peter Bell and Margreat Overton	Oct. 23
William Joanes and Mary Barton	Oct. 24
John Warmingeham and Judith Fletcher of St. Mary's p.	Nov. 3
Joseph Richard and Elizabeth Lloyd	Nov. 13
John Cottgrave of St. Mary's p. and Elizabeth Dodd	Nov. 14
Thomas Ellis and Mary Heaward	Nov. 16
Robt. Edwards and Elinor Rigbbs both of Tarporley p.	Nov. 26
Charles Smith, tinker, and Ales Soocles	Dec. 1
Thomas Pheasant and Margreat Joanes both of Shotwick p.	Dec. 11
William Huntington and Chatharine Edwards	Dec. 15
John Price and Mary Johnson	Dec. 29
Edward Edmonds and Sarah Fickmore	Jan. 7
William Rymmer, husbandman, and Ellen Cooke	Jan. 17
Richard Joanes and Margreat Key both of Plimstine p.	Jan. 20
Mr. Sam. Henthorne of St. Bridgett p. and Mrs. Elizabeth Bennett	Feb. 2

NOVEMBER 29, 1899.

NOTES.

[533] "THE TOWN AND PORT OF GREAT NESTON."

(Continued from No. 530.)

When a decree was made to save from destruction this quay in 1586, the heart of England throbbed with emotion as it had never throbbed before. Although the population was then both small and sparse, and the means of communication slow and intricate, yet, as though with the touch of magic, every hamlet and every homestead throughout this favoured isle were acquainted with the fact that the power and prestige of Spain was preparing a vast armament, with the view of invading and blotting out our country. Ships from Spain and contiguous nations would doubtless be discharging and transhipping their cargoes at the "Port of Great Neston," so that we may therefore assume the expected invasion would be much discussed at this place. The nation was in a state of great excitement. Beacon piles we may conclude were ready for the torch along the Flintshire coast on the one hand, as they would be also on the highest range of Windle Hill, and the Wirral shore on the other. In this state of patriotic tension and alarm arose "A sudden and fearful 'hue-and-cry' by reason of a post which came to the city (Chester) in the night, that London and Bristol were set on fire by the Papists, and that there were a navye of 700 Spaniards shippes landed at 'New Key in Worral,' which sudden news raised up all the citizens and cuntries." This cry, though false, proves with significance the importance of the town and port of Great Neston at that critical time, when

Night sank upon the dusky beach and on the purple sea,
Such night in England ne'er had been nor e'er
again shall be:

From Eddystone to Berwick bounds, from Lynn to
Milford Bay,

That time of slumber was as bright, and busy as
the day.

The new quay for the port of Great Neston was built in the time of such men as Wren and Jones, when England had began to make rapid strides in laying the foundation of that great empire, still expanding, on which it is tritely but truly said the sun never sets. The new quay entailed great expense upon the citizens

of Chester. This harbour or haven was the very reverse of a good one. It was periodically exposed to violent storms which swept up the Dee. The harbour afforded no shelter to the shipping, which at times suffered much damage. The quay seems to have been used commercially for about the space of one hundred years. Chester, which hitherto had been the third, if not the second mart of commerce, had now all but lost its foreign trade. Liverpool, which had been looked upon as a mere creek, and of no shipping reputation, now begun to make progress, as the following letter demonstrates:—"1602. A letter from the Privy Council to the Mayor, in consequence of a complaint from Liverpool, charging the Mayor of Chester with giving an undue preference to his own port and sending troops to Ireland by way of the 'New Quay' instead of by Liverpool. Recorder Whitby having been heard by the Privy Council, it was ordered that no change be made."

The Neston roads had been taken advantage of by foreign shipping so far back as the reign of Henry VIII., and during the reigns which followed until the time of Queen Elizabeth, when the quay was built. The tonnage of those ships did not often exceed 120 tons. The Neston ships, such as "The Catherine of Neston, belonging to Roger Garret in 1571, and the Margaret of Little Neston, belonging to John Lawnsley and Roger Garret, the Martin of Neston, belonging to Richard Kempe, the Trinitie of Neston, belonging to Richard Bennet and William Waley were between 50 and 80 tons." (Wirral Notes and Queries). In addition to what has been said with regard to the cost and difficulties the citizens of Chester had to contend in building this quay at Neston, and in proof of it being a great centre of their anxiety, "John Smith, alderman, was made treasurer and William Leche, alderman, and Thomas Stuart, overseers of the said work. Every week one of the aldermen, sheriffs, peres, or Common Council of the said citie, upon his own costs and charges, shall go down to the said haven, and there continue all week, to survie over the said work, and upon every Sunday every such person to present and exhibit to the said maire a boyle of charges of the said haven for that week, and of the furtherance of the workmanship there all that time." The building of this quay had doubtless an awakening effect on the primitive forefathers of Neston. The builders and their officials must have stirred the life of the rude and motley village. We may surmise that the

accommodation for visitors was then on a rude and limited scale, for it was not until the year 1561 that there were licensed houses in Wirral, and we then had only Richard Robinson de Neston ("Wirral Notes"). It would now be interesting to know in what part of the village the house of Richard Robinson stood. Probably on the site where now stands the Golden Lion. Here it was, however, about the year 1622, according to Smith and Webb, "where our passengers into Ireland do so often lye waiting the leisure of the winds, which make many people better acquainted with the place than they desire to be, though here be wanting no convenient entertainment." At that time the new quay had seen the best of its days. It had then been of commercial importance for one hundred years. Neston in the meantime must have grown into a Wirral town of some notoriety. To it, however, there were no coach roads in the early history of the quay, for according to Lord Wm. Pitt Lennox coaches were introduced by the Earl of Arundel in the year 1580, before which time Queen Elizabeth rode behind her chamberlain. So that we may therefore conclude that the traffic through Neston by way of the New Quay was carried on by the primitive Pack-horse. There is a hidden and never to be revealed mystery shrouded in the history, and halo of romance of the one hundred years of shipping at what we now call the "Old Quay." If the old house had a tongue what a tale it could tell. Upon this house and quay then fell the shadow of the old Neston parish church, as that shadow falls on the Old Key house to day. "Waiting the leisure of the wind." What a commotion at times there must have been in, and about that house. What episodes of burlesque among the variety of heterogeneous nationalities. What pomp and display among Government officials.

From this place (under the head of Chester) thousands of troops time after time have embarked for Ireland. Early in the last century, when the quay had become a heap of ruin, the famed "Daniel Defoe" came to this place. We do not wish to insinuate that he wrote Robinson Crusoe in the Old Quay House. From what he says, although a very clever man, he evidently was not well acquainted with the local history of the place. However, Neston can compliment itself upon having been visited by the renowned author of "Robinson Crusoe."

In Daniel Defoe's interesting work "A Tour through Great Britain," we have the following: "Going down from Chester by the Rhoddes as they call it, that is the marshes of the river Dee, and coasting the river after it has grown broader than the marshes, the first place of any note we come to is 'Nesson,' a long nose or ness of land, which running out into the sea makes a kind of key. This is the place where in the late war in Ireland most of the troops embarked when that grand expedition began." We cannot close these notes on the town and port of Great Neston without making a parting reference to what are well known as "The Old Key Fields." The name is significant. The winding footpath below the Parish Church to the still remaining Old Key House runs through these fields. The footpath is now obsolete and all but forgotten. It has, however, been otherwise. This footpath is of great antiquity, and may have been trodden by the Lightfoots in the antique days of the Neston roads. Three hundred years ago this path, then across the heath, was paced by the workmen, as they crossed and recrossed to their daily toil between Neston and the Quay. No footpath has so charmed the life of our Neston ancestors. Its fascination, in the first place, was doubtless caused by the building of the Quay, and, secondly, by the long continued life, and novelty there. This footpath is, moreover, hallowed by the footsteps of generation after generation of our Neston forefathers. The spell-bound association, however, like the port of Great Neston, has departed. The old foot-path is cut up, and now dissected by modern civilisation. The Old Key fields are no longer in spring time the haunt of the cuckoo. The early primrose is not now seen there in profusion, nor do the wild rose and honeysuckle scent the invigorating air. The picturesque scenery is still there, but the rural aspect has changed. This footpath and these fields, in their historic connection with the old quay, will ever have an abiding place in the affection of every true and loyal Nestonian.

GEORGE GLEAVE.

[534] MARRIAGE REGISTERS OF ST. OSWALD'S,
CHESTER.

1687.

Mr. John Walker and Mrs. Anne Mescocke, of
Christleton p. March 28

Thomas Warmingham, silk weaver, and Ellin
Calley April 23

Henry Parry and Mary Roberts April 30

Mr. Thomas Robinson and Margery Hese of Estone p.	May 28	Edward Dodd and Margrat Ley	Jan. 3
Roger Jackson and Ales Whalley	June 1	Licence dated Jan. 2.	
Danniell Hurstake, labourer, and Anne Tirpin	June 4	Richard Davies and Margrat Knowles	Jan. 6
William Large and Mary Jackson, both of Tarvin p.	June 4	Licence dated the same day.	
Everhart Walton and Mary Hulton	June 14	Thomas Crofoote, of Handley p., and Elizabeth Powell	Feb. 4
Mr. Joseph Leech of Warrington p. and Mrs. Jane Gregorry of St. John's p.	June 30	Licence dated 31 Dec.	
Robert Barker of Backford p. and Shousana Evens of Shockwick p.	July 23	John Holwood, of Woodchourch p., and Margrat Yeates, of Eston p.	Feb 4
George Farnell of St. Petters p. and Alles Bulen	July 25	Licence dated 1 Feby.	
John Bennitt and Martha Smith of Plimston p.	July 28	John Soaplin and Margrat Mathues	Mar. 5
Licence datted the same day.		1688.	
Thomas Hill and Anne Goner	Aug. 2	Samuell Bennett, of Thornton p., and Sara Bannion, of Ince p.	April 7
Licence dayed the same day.		Mr. John Willinson, of St. Mickoll's p., and Mrs. Elin Wetherall, of St. Oswald's p.	May 24
James Galtor and Margery Prices	Aug. 3	Henry Roliston of Plimston p. and Jane Brunn, a stranger	May 28
Licence dayed 2 Aug.		Licence dated the same day	
Samuel Filkin and Katterine Speede	Sep. 15	William Sefen of Berrow p. and Elizabeth Onens of Bambery p.	June 9
Licence dated the same day.		Licence dated the same day	
Joseph Fleck and Mary Which	Sep. 15	James Farguson and Catharin Yonge both of Neston p.	June 26
William Pricket and Mary Windser both of Acton p.	Sep. 29	Licence dated the same day	
Licence dated the same day.		John Stevenson and Jane Rogers	July 13
John Jones of Thelnasa and Mary Jones of Canarvin p.	Sep. 30	Thomas Joanes and Ales Grine	July 15
Licence dated 29 Sept.		John Warrington in the county of Darby in the parish of Grasup and Elizabeth Nickeson of Stoperd p.	Aug. 8
Thomas Panton and Francis Elis both of Halliwell p.	Sep. 30	Licence dated the same day	
Licence dated the same day.		Edward Wall and Jane Loyd	Aug. 12
Fabin Billingham and Anne Walker	Oct. 20	Ralph Holis and Mary Panne	Aug. 18
Licence dated the same day.		Richard Carter and Mary Welshman of Backford p.	Oct. 1
William Cooke and Jane Flecher	Oct. 21	Licence dated the first day	
John Knowles and Ellin Barrow both of Fradsome p.	Oct. 26	John Balle of Neson p and Mary Warmingham	Oct. 5
Thomas Jones and Jane Edwards	Oct. 27	Mr. Alies Lucis of St. Petter's p. and Mrs. Anne Swift of St. Oswald's p.	Oct 6
Thomas Plymley of St. Bridjit's p. and Anne Braghaw	Oct. 30	John Bennitt of Heswall p. and Alice Powell of Estom p.	Oct. 16
Licence dated the same day.		Licence dated the 15th	
Iasack Warmigham and Margrat Woodworth of Fradsome p.	Nov. 10	Mr. Charles Birch and Mrs. Shusanah Mercer	Nov. 18
Licence dated the 8th.		The war asked in Church	
Thomas Boulton and Anne Jelion	Nov. 17	Mr. Thomas Motershead and Mrs. Sera Hinces	Nov. 26
Edward Liverock of Inces p. and Mary Densen of Stoke	Nov. 19	Licence dated the same day	
Licence dated 18 Nov.		Mr. William Maxfild and Mrs. Katren Briggany of Pulford p.	
John Reilton and Jane Jones both of St. Bridjitts p.	Nov. 21	Licence dated the 23rd	
Licence dated 17 Nov.		William Cowley and Margrat Finchett both of Tarvin p.	Dec. 1
Jacob Hues of Stoke p. and Anne Haton	Nov. 24	Licence dated the same day	
Licence dated 23 Nov.		Petter Joanes and Martha Peires	Jan. 11
John Williams and Mary Tomison	Nov. 27	Randle Suderes and Anne Pottes	Feb. 4
Licence dated 26 Nov.		Richard Rigbey of Winick and Margret Haward	Feb. 4
John Barker and Ester Hewood	Dec. 10	Mr. John Hulton, prockter, and Madam Elizabeth Finch	Feb. 7
Licence dated 7 Dec.			
Richard Flecher and Elizabeth Johnson	Dec. 23		
Licence dated the same day.			

DECEMBER 6, 1899.

ORIGINAL DOCUMENTS.

[535] THE MERES AND BALLS, AND A VILE MURDER IN THE 15TH CENTURY.

The following deposition was made by 13 Staffordshire yeomen and husbandmen in 13 Hen. VII. It relates to one of the very vilest murders on record by a Cheshire gentleman who probably lived near the borders of the two shires. The deponents, Mere and Ball, were perhaps heads or other members of families descending from the Meres of Mere, and Balls of Malpas parish, both in the county of Chester. Branches, at all events, from both of these families are known to have settled, like other Cheshire houses, such as the Maxfields, early and late in the county of Stafford. This murder—only one of many, of our ancestral abominations, and little less odious—may only be compared with that committed by Richard III.

"To all Criston peple to whom this p'sent wrytyng shall come, Wee Hugh Forde, Thomas Boule (Bowley ?), Thomas Sherard, John Trussefeld, Rob'te Grene, Stevyn Cartelage, John Ball, John Mere the younger, Thomas Baddeley, William Burne, John Mere the (sic) yelder [the elder], Henry Baddeley, Hugh Sherarde, ten'nts and inhabitantes in the Lordeship of Norton upon the More in the Counte of Staff. wode [sic] qy. "Staffworde," for Stafforde] senden gretynge. Forasmooche as it is meritori' and medefull to testifye and bere witness in mater of trouthe to them that be doubtfull we the seid Hugh, Thomas, [&c. &c.] testife and witeens that we have herde seyde and tolde ofte and many tyme spoken by our faders and elders before us that on Sr William Meere, knight, was sole seied of the lordship and manr of Norton aforesaid whch Mear [sic. Norton] was on entire manr as by ryght of heneritance; which seid Sir William Meere had childer on son and a daughter, and the doughter married to a man dwellyng* in Chestrehyre and her husband entending to henherite the seid landes after the desces of the seid Sr William as by reeson of his wyff came weth force and company of pepull by nighte to the house of the seid Sr William at Norton aforesaid entending to murder the seid son of the seid Sr William for the entent aforesaid, and there murdered and kyled the seid son of the seid Sr William, and at that tyme the seid Sr William fledde for feare of his lyf, and afterwarde forasmooche as the son of the seid Sr William was so murdered for the intent afore rehersed the seid Sr William entending to disaheret the husband of his doughter,

for the mischevous dede by hym so doon, gave certen p'cellis of the landis to the said manr, belonging to the Baron of Stafford [the Staffords, feudal barons] that tyme being. All whiche depositions to be trulie in manr. as is above wryten, wee will be redy at any tyme, yf wee be thereto required to testifye, and for the profe of this our dede wee set to our sealis the fyfte day of Maye the xiiij yere of Kyng Henry the vijth."

See whether Plott's "Staffordshire," or Ward's "Stoke-on-Trent," have a copy or abstract of this very interesting piece of evidence, which probably was taken for the support of the title of the lord of Stafford of 1497—most likely a Lancastrian grantee—after the probable attainder of the old Staffords, on the termination of the Wars of the Roses? The 13 "tenants and inhabitants" were doubtless sturdy, reliable witnesses, and probably the murder occurred nearly some half century before. T. H.

[536] 17TH CENTURY LOVE LETTERS.

(See Nos. 129, 174 and 361.)

The following letter is the first in date of the small batch of the lady's correspondence, though not in this single instance a "love letter." It shews, however, the presence of her so-called "servant," or lover, some four years before marriage, for she was not the sort of dame who would be taken on short notice, and, moreover, old-fashioned courtships were usually long, even down to the present century. By a "fluke" she became an heiress of many quarterings, some trifles of old jewellery, of which the settlement is extant, but of little else beyond her own considerable abilities and other personal attractions:—

"Madame—I rid into this beautyfull Citie with Rafe and our servants by fyve of ye clocke past noone, on the 4th daye after quitting yor hospytable house. We rid by ye castell of Wyndsor wch semeth to me quite emptie and forlorne save for ye souldiers wee espied a playnge wth ye wanches of ye towne, and makeing as free wth ye tankarde. Moste of or horses were quite broke downe wth ye travail of ye moste evil roads in the Countrey butt wee had much good Company most of the waie. Ye Cytie of Bathe containeth good accomodations for man & beaste And there is a faire walle and lyttell towres around its circumference, wth. ye river of Avon (I hadd all butt sayd ye river of heaven) wch. compasseth itt on all butt every side.

There is a grete Com'on here wth. much cattell & shepe about itt, and wee have much ffishe every daye as you could wishe, butt ye houses are butt olde things as people saye wch. never sette fote in London towne nor

* So, he may not have been a Cheshire man?

Chestre, So you will see from this how you wolde like itt. I bathed here yester morne & shall evry daie for a moneth till my fote is better, I was att churche on Sondais & met Mastr. Eggerton & Mrs. Gerrarde with yonge Rafe H—Mrs. flanshowe & her servants & some ors. as my lord of Darby his sonne & some of our Sydneys kyns folke of yors in no p'per condic'on any of ym. as yett.

We ride att 6 tom'ow morne to Bristowe. There be manie millaners of good report (& some bad) butt they are not good enough for mee, as I want none of ym. as yett. Wee shalbe in Cheshire by Auguste after our visitac'on of Tamworthe & some of our freinde on the road thither And Madame I am trulie

"Yor loveing freinde alwaies
"from Bathe this MARY HATTON."
4th of June 1651.

"My ffather is bett'r & leaveth Hatton for Chester in a few daies as the poste hath broughte me a lett'r from Quistie Birohes."

It is addressed as follows:—"These—
"ffor my good Ladie—The Ladie Smythe—
Eppynge fforrest—by Walthamstowe—
—in Essex—These."

The seal of dark red wax shews a small shield of arms, apparently the Brooke of Norton coat; from which it may perhaps be inferred that one of that family was then a visitor at Bath.

She would be some 20 years old at this date, so far as I remember the record. Nearly the whole "common" of pasture to which she refers was turned into a park 70 years ago, which was opened in 1830, by the Queen when a little girl, travelling with her mother from Bristol.

Perhaps the most curious fact was the marriage of the last known descendant of this Lady Smith to the descendants of the pair to which these letters relate, after a lapse of nearly 150 years from the date of this letter—the friendship having been kept up, I suppose, without a break during the whole of that long period!

[537] MARRIAGE REGISTERS OF ST. OSWALD'S, CHESTER.

1689.

Mr. John Golborne and Mrs. Shusanna Hill	April 11
William Vick and Katerin Sones	May 10
John Milington and Elizabeth Flecher	June 2
Thomas West and Elizabeth Totty	June 23
Joseph Fleck and Margrat Venables	July 21
Mr. Samuell Harrison, of Roston p., and Mrs. Hannah Hall, of Sandwich	July 24
Edward Harrison and Katren Robinson	July 30

William Parteriged and Margrat Holand, of St. Petter's p.	July 30
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Jonathan Renahall, of St. Petter's p., and Mary Reece	Aug. 7
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Edward Orsborne and Katherin Strange	Aug. 12
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Robert Knight and Dorrothy Finer	Aug. 25
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Thomas Davis, of St. Toulers p., and Elisabeth Cooe, of St. Mikeles p	Sep. 2
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Isaac Thomas and Ellin Cotton	Sep. 5
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Jonathan Wanne and Anne Borrow, both of Fradsome p.	Oct. 22
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Thomas Tousey and Jane Mason	Oct. 22
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John Wildig and Anne Denson	Oct. 24
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William Davis and Sara Moulson of St. John's p.	Oct. 28
---	---------

John Loton of St. Petter's p. and Anne Dann	Oct. 4
---	--------

Mr. John Edwards Vee. of Ruthland and Margrat Wynn of Gora. in Flintshire	Nov. 22
---	---------

Tho. Thube and Anne Parigegees of Handley p.	Dec. 3
--	--------

Thomas Joanes and Margaret Madackes of St. John's p.	Dec. 25
--	---------

Thomas Chamerlin and Anne Penkitt both of Shookwick p.	Dec. 28
--	---------

Edman Grifeth Esq. and Mrs. Elizabeth Multon both of Acten p.	Jan. 15
---	---------

Mr. Thomas Loughton and Mrs. Ales Salesbury	Jan. 21
---	---------

Thomas Cottingham and Elinor Selby	Feb. 25
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1690.

John Barker and Margrat Tayler	April 16
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Thomas Magines and Mary Alin	June 2
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Simon Edwards and Mary Jones	June 10
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Thomas Hatton and Mary Winser	July 16
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Thomas Hugues and Elisabeth Davis	July 20
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Mr. Robert Crosby of St. Petter's p. and Mrs. Catherine Orton	July 20
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John Baker and Mary Venebels of St. Petter's p.	Sept. 18
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Thomas Lee of Handley p. and Elisabeth Laran of St. Mary' p.	Sept. 29
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Charles Lightfoote and Jane Pane	Oct. 20
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Renald Whicingham and Elinor Coulton	Nov. 20
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William Beley of Tarperley p. and Martha Edgworth of Trenity p.	Nov. 25
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Joseph Boulton and Margrat Hoyle	Nov. 25
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Jonathan Bruer and Catharin Kaye	Dec. 3
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Nathanall Selby and Martha Appelton of St. Mary's p.	Dec. 9
--	--------

Mr. Robert Hoole of Bumbery and Mrs. Martha Hallwood	Dec. 22
--	---------

Richard Hamnitt and Jane Knight	Jan. 1
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Thomas Baker and Mary Calf	Jan. 15
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Richard Whithead and Elisabeth Lanselot of St. John's p.	Jan. 24
--	---------

John Dounes and Anne Crofoote both of Tatna p.	Jan. 24
--	---------

Andrew Hall and Elisabeth Ashton	Jan. 31
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Thomas Beley and Margrat Winstanley	Feb. 2
John Hankey and Ales Mulin	Feb. 10
Thomas Eles and Ales Hodakin	Feb. 12
Daniell Hignett and Sarah Rason both of Tarvin p.	Feb. 18
Richard Craven and Mrs. Elisabeth Brook both of Bumbery	Feb. 19

DECEMBER 13, 1899.

NOTES.

[538] WHITNEY'S EMBLEMS.

THE FIRST EDITION.

In 1586 appeared Geoffrey Whitney's great work, "A Choice of Emblems." It was "imprinted at Leyden, in the house of Christopher Plantyn, by Francis Raphelengius," and a fac-simile of the book was published in 1866 by the late Rev. Henry Green, of Knutsford. Mr. Green spared no pains in his attempts to bring out an exhaustive account of the Cheshire poet, and the introductory dissertation of his book is full of valuable information. At p. lvi. he calls attention to the fact that in the dedication to the Earl of Leicester the author speaks as if his book were a second edition. "If so," says Mr. Green, "no other is now known." He goes on to say, "the collection of emblems 'presented in writinge unto my Lorde,' constituted, I conceive, 'the firste edition' of which Whitney makes mention; it was not a printed, but a written edition, set forth among his friends. He afterwards added to the manuscript that had been '*offered up to so honorable a survaighe*' as that of his lordship, but he declares '*licence* being obtained for the publishing thereof, I offer it heare (good reader) to thy view in the same sorte as I presented it before. Onelie this excepte: That I have now in diverse places quoted in the margent some sentences in Latin, and such verses as I thoughte did beste fit the several matters I wrotte of. And also have written somme of the Emblemes to certaine of my frendes to whom either in dutie or friendship I am divers waies bounde: which both were wanting in my firste edition, and nowe added hereunto."

The manuscript submitted to Lord Leicester, and the additional notes and Latin sentences, together with some emblems to his friends, were now set up in type, and constitute the

printed edition. No prior edition was made, and no other printed edition is known."

There can be no doubt as to the correctness of Mr. Green's view. And this is confirmed by the following item in the last printed catalogue (No. 194, December, 1899) of the eminent bookseller, Mr. Bernard Quaritch, who offers for sale for £48 the original manuscript copy of Whitney's "Choice of Emblems." Here is a grand chance for some wealthy Cestrian to enrich one of the city libraries.

Mr. Quaritch's notices are as follows:—

1395 Whitney (Geoffrey) died 1603. Emblems, the author's MS. dedication-copy to Robert Dudley. Leaf 1: Arms and crest of Robert Dudley Earl of Leicester, a drawing. Leaf 2: To the right honourable my singuler good lorde & maister Robert Earle of Leicester . . . lorde Leefetenaunte vnder hir Maiestie of the lowe cuntrees . . . This dedication ends on leaf 5 with the signature of Geffreie Whitney. Leaf 6: A Jove principium. Since man is fraile and all his thoughtes are sinne . . . Leaf 7: Te stante virebo. A mightie spyre whose toppes dothe pierce the skye . . . Leaf 98: Auxilio divino . . . Sir Francis Drake doth rightlie stande and weares the goulden palme.

Small folio, MS. written in a very beautiful "Italian" hand, 98 leaves of paper, with 198 Drawings of Emblems shaded in monochrome, those of the first part in sepia, those of the second in a pale blue, done with exquisite taste and skill; in a sixteenth-century gilt vellum binding, enclosed in a red morocco case. (London, 1585)

The first part is written in brownish ink, the second in violet ink. The edition printed at Leyden in 1586 is a fine and rare book, but to see the real beauty of Whitney's work one must pore over this charming combination of lovely writing and delicate illustrations. The second part which begins on leaf 51, opens its preliminary title and quotation with "In praise of the two noble Earles Warwick and Leicester. Two beares there are, the greater and the lesse . . ."

The variations in arrangement and text between the MS. and the printed book give particular interest to this dedication copy which ends with the eulogy on Francis Drake. It is evidently the MS. referred to by Whitney in his printed book (address to the reader) in which he says "When I had finished this my collection of emblemes, gentle reader, and presented the same in writinge unto my Lorde, presentlie before His Honour passed the Seas into the lowe countries . . ." It is therefore clear that this MS. was written and illustrated in England. Its artistic qualities are far above those of the printed edition produced one year later in Leyden.

In the same catalogue, Mr. Quaritch has a copy of the original edition of the emblems, of which the description is as follows:—

1396. Whitney. A Choice of Emblems, and other devices, For the moste parte gathered out of sundrie writers, Englished and Moralised . . . by Geoffrey Whitney. . . . Imprinted at Leyden, In the house of Christopher Plantyn, by Francois Raphelengius. M.D.LXXXVI.

2 parts in 1 vol. Small 4to. 10 preliminary leaves, and 230 pp., with 246 woodcut Emblems; fine copy in olive brown morocco extra, by Riviere, tooled to imitate a richly gilt English binding of the period. 1586.

He added in this printed edition 48 extra illustrations, put Latin quotations and references, and affixed the names of various patrons in the latter part of the book.

Fine copies are extremely rare.

F. S.

[539] THE FAMILIES OF MINSHULL OF PENKETH, AND TORBOCK AND CALDWELL OF SUTTON.

(See Nos. 459, 527, and 529.)

I am much indebted to "X." for his very kind and full response to my Minshull inquiry, I fear, however, that the task of tracing the descent of the Appleton and Lachford (etc.) branches will not be an easy one. There seems to be a little discrepancy between the dates quoted (from the Chesh. Visns.?) and those given in Hall's "History of Nantwich." Here the second son of John Minshull of N. (bur. 1634) is "Rev. Thos. M., of Exeter, aged 23 in 1620 (Visn. Devon)" (c.f., "aged perhaps 20-23 in 1613"), and the third son—John, aged 14 in 1620 (Visn. Dev.). In either case there was not time enough between Thomas and John Minshull, of Appleton, Junior (will pr. 1639, naming wife Katherine), for the implied John, Senior, to have intervened; nor could Thomas have been the grandfather of the first John of Lachford (though he might possibly have been the father), for this John, I note, has a dau. bapt. 1644.

Contemporary with John of Lachford, but not—if I judge aright—identical with him, is a John M., Charterer (i.e. copy-holder?) in Appleton Hall in 1666, perhaps his cousin, and probably the son of the aforesaid John, junior (will 1639). Is the conjecture untenable that the Rev. Thomas was father of the 1st John of Lachford and that Thomas's brother John was identical with John, of Appleton, junior (will pr. 1639)? The entry in Hall's

ped. of a son John living at Nantwich 1705 (of Thos' bro. John) would shatter this theory, unless he could be identical with the Charterer!

The Thomas, son of John of Lachford, who in 1682 emigrated to Pennsylvania from Stoak, may perhaps have been living there with his sister Elnour, who in 1678 had married at Wm. Barnes's house in Sankey, Robert Vernon, husbandman, of Stoak. Another sister Mary m. Thos. Barnes. A brother John Minshull seems to have dwelt at Great Sankey after marrying Margaret Atherton in 1676 from Godfrey Atherton's house at Rickersteth—the very Godfrey, by the way, referred to in the sufferings of the Friends—as carrying a pitiful messenger from his imprisoned father Oliver, to the Countess of Derby, and being "abused" by her servants, who "plucked off his cap, and put him out of the gate."

Thomas Haydock of Copple, and Robert Haydock of Liverpool are among executors of Richard Tarbock's will 1701.

ETHEL LEGA-WENKES.

P.S.—On referring to Vivians Visitations of Devon, I find further particulars concerning the sons of John Minshull, of Nantwich.

Thos. M. of Exeter, 2nd son, aged 22, in 1620, d. before 1663 had a dau. Ellen (and according to Hall probably a son Randle, minister of Exeter).

John the 3rd son, aged 14, in 1620, was vicar of Sidmouth. Will 26 Nov., 1663.

So I am afraid neither of these can have been the progenitor of my friends Appleton, ancestor.

[540] MARRIAGE REGISTERS OF ST. OSWALD'S, CHESTER.

1691.

Thomas Hancock and Anne Barnes	April 14
William Jonas and Elizabeth Sefon	both of Plimston p. May 14
William Wicherley and Elizabeth Hughes	May 19
Charles Boswell and Elizabeth Kelshaw	May 30
Benjamin Scagrust of Holborne Esqre and Mrs. Mary Hodgkings of Bostock widow	June 4
William Bannion of Gresford and Mary Parker of Daynum p.	June 24
Richard Jackson and Mary Mayers	both of Boston p. June 25
Robert Egerton and Rachall Dale	June 27
Ralph Davis of Tatna p. and Mary Plate of Warton p.	Aug. 1
John Speed of Backford p. and Jane Smith of Barrow p.	Aug. 10

Mr. Isaac Sharpe and Mrs. Mary Barkley	Aug. 13
James Weldin and Hannah Janion	Aug. 15
Mr. Richard Robinson and Mrs. Margrat Weever of Nantwich p.	Sept. 13
John Banner and Catherin Davis	Sept. 20
John Mecock and Ales Moyle	Nov. 8
John Simons and Anne Flecher	Dec. 1
Lueis Low and Mary Coutkriff hee of Plimston p., she of Chriselten p.	Dec. 2
Mr. John Gerth and Mrs. Hannah Bingley	Dec. 10
Edward Calley and Mary Robinson	Dec. 26
William Gaman and Anne Massey both of Plimstall p.	Dec. 31
Asarias Sharpe and Mary Totty	Jan. 6

1692.

Joseph Tellett and Mary Roberts	April 26
John Hodorn of Bidle in the County of Staford and Sara Tams	May 10
John Banner of Fradsome p. and Elizabeth Muskit of Runkon p.	May 19
Martin Ball and Anne Roberts both of St. Olive's p.	May 31
Samuell Lee of Estam p. and Dorothy Jones of St. John's p.	July 16
Thomas Willson and Catherin Jones	Sept. 8
Petter Taylor and Widdo. Celsall of Picken	Oct. 6
Hugh Bowland and Catherin Hucksley both of Tarvin p.	Oct. 8
Richard Speed of Ricksom p. and Margrat Filkin	Oct. 25
David Davies and Mary Barlow	Nov. 10
Mr. John Celsall of St. Petter's p. and Mrs. Elizabeth Goulborn	Nov. 24
William Fanshaw of Neson p. and Elizabeth Woods of Burton p.	Dec. 8
William Robinson of Neson p. and Susanna Masson	Jan. 5
Richard Madaocks and Elinor Allebye	Jan. 25
Richard Dodd and Elizabeth Worrall of Baekford	Feb. 3
Hennry Parr of Prescott p. in Lancasheer and Elin Smouth of Fradsom p.	Feb. 4
Epherm Barseley and Magdelane Williams of Barrow p.	Feb. 5
Samuell Charnock of Neson p. and Anne Gough	Feb. 18
Robert Cotgreave of Foulk Stapleford in Tarvin and Ellen Simpson of Kinderton in Dodleston p.	Feb. 18
Richard Cokes and Jane Dale	Feb. 23
Ralph Davies of Brumbro p. and Elizabeth Worrall of Neson p.	Feb. 27
Richard Scott and Jane Cockes	Feb. 28

DECEMBER 20, 1899.

NOTES.

[541] 17TH CENTURY LOVE LETTERS.

(See Nos. 129, 174 and 361.)

The following rather extraordinary letter is perhaps, also, "a survival of the fittest" (after the destruction of a great number of all sorts, in 1852); at all events, it now comes in order of date, as will the rest of the correspondence. M^{rs} Mary's sweet heart had been sporting, it seems, with her well known aversion to his entanglement in one of the numerous plots of the times. So she intensely sermonises him, with suppressed anger. Her master stroke was the half-timid introduction to his notice of the name of one Master Brook—apparently of Norton, where the family had then been about a century. This Master "Brook" she knew he would not brook—though he might then be a lay recluse dwelling amid the ruins and modern repairs of Norton Abbey (anciently only a Priory). The letter is mostly remarkable perhaps for the political insight of one who could not be aged more than two and twenty. It was quickened, perhaps, by her lover's supposed danger; but she was equally conversant with the theology of the times. (Long slanting strokes at an angle of 45° are the only punctuation she employs.)

"Sir,—How greatly yor letters rejoiced me none can tell, save one shipwraekd and drifting hither & thither halfe dead in the waving seas, which at last suddenly eyeth the succours that seemed awhile agoe utterlie beyond the vision of even hope. Not that I am afeard, like he of the psalmes, where noe fear is; but at times [it] noyeth me to think how matters might ensue in that great Babylon to yor ill fortune. Yet godd knoweth the unfearing trust I have in him for yor well fare, nowe & hereafter. For it is in vaine that we praye to him in which we have not either hopes nor truste. But liken unto any or [other] things, both may att times fail us when the clowdynesses of life blinde the eyes to the ever watchfull saviour. for godds love then, howsoevr much temper nedeth the spurr, putt reines on to it, & lett it do nothing in its heat. Bear watchefully the changes till time ripens the fruits that you talke of, and join in no rawe feaste because of the provokings of hungre. Itt were ill advisedly done of you to followe

those who be placed lesse advantageously than the verie fewe *oth^{rs} that can note discretely from their overseeing place the tymes & oportunities for fortunate action. Whatso^r good partes one may enjoye can not themselves forme that perfectness that is necessarie to win (in any thinge) without the experience & acquaintance with circumstances that is nott given unto him by reason of the utter darkness and uncertaneties of the tymes; how many of better place than you do faile for such causes, rather than for great partes, yea truly where also they have even all these, yet by reason of some frailty of temper or treacherousness of oth^{rs}, or some other calamitie. It was not m^{rs}es [matters] of this savor that created Oliv^r (& oth^{rs} to be read of) but some suche matter did holpen the uncrowneing of the poore King. Tis true tis out of the verie mudd & mire of the tyme that a bolde man of partes & some place, tho hee may not pick his way, maye fly upwarde to fortune, by his clear vision of the wayes that lead unto her (straightly, or crookedly as the crooke of a papiste shepherde). But he who would over throwe him when there, must wait upon patience to know if such an Olliv^{rs} power can hold all he hath gotten.† Of all I have ever read, this I conceive to be the greatest of trialls Conquerors can be putt to. But, what are they which would presse you to be partener with them in such adventures. I will not be so unjust to you to beleeeve you would risque every thing upon the caste of a dice, yet I truly feel there is nothing more for you in a game so madd. How idle it would be for me thus to talk, if I did not know you bett^{er}; & from all you have said to me, in wiser sort, you can not but be mocking [me] in your lett^r. Itt would in deed ease me much to thinke so, & I shall to forgett the tryall my mistakeing of you my fears have greatly (I praye) provoked. It was haply good for this cuntry that there should be a martyr for itt (as some call it, methinkes not reverentlie), but evill hath also his martyrs; nor can it be allways the litlest evill that what is good for the biggest should be evill for the least. I

*She forgot to say "honestly!" How dependent are a nation's or a party's fortunes, then, upon the few leaders that convenience can only allow.

† This was rank treason against my Lord Protector! There must have been little espionage on the post of the times; which argues considerable more freedom than in modern France—after all the piping of the "Marseillaise."

praye you forgive me dwelling so longly upon so dismall a theam, which aches my verie soull as I write itt. But if godd[†] be truly in the heart of gentile or jewe, it mattereth so little for the forme in which they shewe it, that I would as soone be for king as round head, or the last as the first; & to fight for the forme would net be worth one arrowe head or a blast of powder. Yet moste of the evill of the tymes hath come from much self-love of forme that is of prejudice to the minde of onely the ungodlie (whether they that love it, or they that love it not), ffor godliness expelleth the evils of our nature, & it is the veriest of follie to nurse in our flesh the illnesses that doome us to miserie, whilst wee have such a medicine as the true spirit to purge us of it, without verie much helpe from the doctors. I do indeed exhorte you to walk not in the temptations of the times, but I doubt not your desires & competencie to pleasure me herein, as in all other things that toucheth us jointlie & sevrillie very perillouslie. Mr Brooke hath againe come here yesterday. I can not tell wherefore; but I did not see so much of him, as he thinkes he did see of me.‡ Hee seemeth to have a minde to help my dear father much more than I care for him to helpe mee. It would greatly discomfourt me. I shall goe stay p^{re}sently att Daresbury for a long while, where they love us so well, & more strongly than ever. It would distraught them much if aught of ill fortune touched us, or ever so little thrutched ittselfe betwene you my dear one, & myselfe; & I dare warrant you ill fortune would have butt an ill tyme of itt. But we must not be faithless to godd, whose presence in all or thoughtes should guide us. It is the tyme of the greatest evill that should trie us, & that we have not yet come unto, & shall not, if we but shew we read it not, by makeing readie for it in a right waye, by prayeing heartily for godds aide to avoid it. So I nowe commend me unto yor prayers & love, & will ever remaine stedfastlie yor true &

loveing freind

MARY HATTON.

"Quistie Byrches

ye i0 of Sepr 1653."

Seal gone. Directed:—"These ffor—Mr. Randolph H—— at the Strande—in—London.—Haate."

‡ She seems to think that the more letters she puts in "God," the more the reverence—but we accomlish that in capitals—and are not the bit the nearer.

‡ That she was averse to seeing him.

[542] MARRIAGE REGISTERS OF ST. OSWALD'S,
CHESTER.

1693.

Thomas Bryerley of St. Olave's p. and Elizabeth Robinson	May 23
Davitt Jones and Alice Holmes	July 18
Edward Grifeth and Margrat Parry both of Achen p.	July 24
Mr. Samuel Bennitt of Nessen p. and Mrs. Mary Hollin of Shookwhick	July 24
Ralph Twist and Jane Roberts	July 17
John Sudword and Elizabeth Loyde both of Great Stane	Aug. 5
Richard Linsdell and Alice Alitt	Aug. 14
Mr. Thomas Cuper, gent. of St. Petter's p. and Mrs. Martha Calles	Aug. 18
Davitt Mathewes and Margrat Cadman both of Bicksome ware married . . . handing a setifaket frome the Minester of that plase	Sept. 1
Richard Rowland and Ellen Frodsham	Nov. 1
Henry Nelde of Thornton p. and Elece Green	Nov. 30
Thomas Lenton and Hennah Cotton	Dec. 28
Joseph Nightingele and Mary Jone	Jan. 10
John Duton of Huntington and Elizabeth Fradsham	Jan. 30
William Cenderick and Dorothy Hairfinch	Jan. 30
Thomas Dowden, a Shergant, and Mary Jackson	Jan. 31
William Johnson of Heeswell p. and Elizabeth Wilberaham of Dodelson p.	Feb. 3
Evan Lewis of Dodleson p. and Anne Carter	Feb. 17

1694.

Robert Robison and Martha Davis	April 30
Mr Edmond : Warington and Mrs. Hannah Lee	May 3
John Peekcock and Elizabeth Prince	May 21
William Meredith and Sara Jones	May 28
Richard Harrison of Bakford p and Elizabeth Bostock	June 1
Thomas Jones and Mary Robinson	July 1
George Johnson of Barrow p. and Martha Warmingham	Aug. 30
Edward Wheler and Alece Eles	Sept. 10
Thomas Ratliff and Jane Tomason	Oct. 29
John Barrow of Bumbury p. and Alece Nilde	Nov. 27
Richard Smith of Morley in Barrow p. and Margrat Low of Gilen Sutton p.	Dec. 8
John Bennitt of Nesson p. and Anne Pimlow of Brumbrow p.	Dec. 13
Edward Hiccock and Mary Crane	Dec. 25
Randle Twist of Marbery p. and Mary Jones of Bangor p.	Jan. 2

John Denson and Martha Parteridg both of Tarvin p.	Jan. 5
Charles Baker and Brigitt Rothwell both of Crisleton p.	Jan. 6
Mr. William Wettmull of Renbury and Mrs Anne Panne both of Whitchurch	Jan. 9
Nicolous Dicoons and Elizabeth Basfld	Feb. 15
William Carter, smith, of Barrow p. and Margrat Goulding	Feb. 20
Reeces Jones and Elizabeth Harris	Feb. 24

DECEMBER 27, 1899.

NOTES.

[543] D'ANYERS ALIAS DANIELS OF
DARESBURY.

Few original charters of this family are to be met with. I have one, which probably came through their kinsmen, the Hattons, or the Gerards. It is a receipt for part of a considerable sum in the reign of Hen. VI. These Danyers and the Danyers of Bradley and Clifton were of same common ancestry. The latter ended early in the person of Sir Thomas Danyers, knt. banneret, whose daughter and heiress married thrice, and was ancestress of the Leghs of Lyme (whose estate came from him), and of the Savages of Clifton (which took the name of Rock-Savage from that of Sir John Savage's new house there, temp. Hen. VIII.).

This receipt is a duplicate or counterpart and runs as follows :—

"Nov'int univ'si p. p'sentes me Joh'em Danyell de Derusbury seniore[m] recepiase," &c., the translation of which throughout, however, is more convenient.—"Know all men by these presents that I John Danyell of Daresbury, the elder, have received the concluding payment, this day, of John leycester, John, son of Richard of legh, Peter of Stanley, and Thomas of legh of Northwode, 10 marcs in part payment of forty-six pounds and xij shillings and four pence, in which lawful sum of xlvj pounds xij shillings and iiij pence the aforementioned John leycester, John de legh, Peter, and Thomas, were bound to the aforesaid John Danyell in a certain indenture of marriage of John, son of the aforesaid John Danyell, and Alice daughter of William Heylegh, knight hospitaller of St. John of Jerusalem in England, completed, as plainly appears; of which ten marcs owing to me to be thereafter paid by the aforesaid John leycestr, John de legh, Peter, and Thomas, their heirs

and executors from this time henceforth I hereby acquit for ever by these presents sealed with my signet. Given the iij day of the month of July in the 24th year of the reign of king Henry the Sixth after the conquest of England."

Indorsed in a flowing, early Elizabethan hand, "Danyell De'sbery—Wylliam legh—Henryci Sextij."

There are two other things to be noted here. More than 20 years before the date of this script a statute came into operation declaring that all legal documents should thenceforth contain the names, address, and title of all parties to the same; in consequence of which—though for many years it was by no means observed—"John de Sutton," for instance, then became described in the latin, as "John de Sutton de Sutton, armig.," and much later on, "in comitatu Cestr.," or *generosus*; and in English as "John Sutton of Sutton in (&c.) squyre." Then, a few years after, the description was, for example, "John Sutton de Sutton," &c., &c. But up to the reign of Edw. IV. great variety in the descriptions prevailed (for so simple a matter), which I shall in the next "Sheaf" illustrate better by the copy of an English charter of early date (4 Hen. VI.) But, in this receipt it will be noticed that although the Leghs are styled as of yore, with the prefix "de," Leicester is not; nor is Heylegh. The two latter are therefore described in accordance with the Act, barring the personal title of esquire, or gentleman, or yeoman, &c. These Leghs, I think, were all of the High-Legh East Hall family—the Northwood line being a younger branch that ultimately succeeded to High-Legh on the extinction of the elder line.

But, there is another much more curious point in the description of Sir Wm. Heylegh. Was he only some Healey, Hely, or one of the lords of the picturesque, rough, barren border country dividing Cheshire from Derbyshire. There was a family of small proprietors in those highlands, named Hulley (Hill-ley or lee) corrupted to Hoolley in some descents, but still represented by a family which from Hen. the VII.th's time to Jac. I.st's were rich yeomen, and thenceforth as "gentlemen"—their mansion being called "The One House," near the highway to Buxton. However, despite the want of precision in the descriptions of the parties to this receipt, it

would appear that the Knight Hospitaller was really a younger son of the Leghs of High-Legh—here called—not of—"Hey-Legh," or Heigh-leigh (High-Legh). But, why were John and Richard not also called "of Hey, or Hegh, Legh;" because few of them ever bore "High" prefix; yet Sir William's father may have borne it. If Sir William was not one of these Leghs at all, it seems singular that he should be so nearly associated with these undoubted Leghs, who in fact were his bondamen on the marriage of his daughter, and moreover paid the marriage money. Perhaps he was a West Hall Leigh of High Leigh (for there were "two Kings of Brentford)," who were Limmes or Venables, originally. The names of both these lords were once spelled in all manner of ways, but for distinction sake settled down to Legh, and Leigh in about Elizabeth's reign.

The next point is the name of Daresbury (Daresbury). Deer in old times was "Daar." If Daresbury—and nothing is more probable—was the burgh of the deer in Saxon times, it goes a long way to show that on the Conquest there were existing Forests sufficient for the enclosure of those beautiful but destructive animals (all on that side), there would be very little need of such an extension of wood as is sometimes attributed to the fat and savage Hugh Lupus; and that the reason for the destruction of any buildings, was in reality the enclosure—of the native woody forest, moors, and some commons; which the poor Saxons, in their distress, magnified greatly. The same may be said of every Norman Forest-enclosure.

In Acton in the Forest of Mara, as in some parts of the united westerly forest of Mondrem (both long afterwards, known as Delamere) the destruction of crops was so great, by the deer leaping their enclosure and trampling the corn fields on their way to the waters of the Weaver, that the Palatine Earl (the King, or Prince) had to compensate the growers by a rate payable out of the Chester Exchequer.

In Daresbury, things would not be much different. The deer would smell the limpid waters of the Mersey. In short, wherever Mara extended there was deer, and there was some river, or stream, and some of the animals would leap palings of even the height of a dozen feet from the spring forest turf, in order to get at it.

T. H.

ORIGINAL DOCUMENTS.

[544] RANDLE HOLME'S CHESHIRE CHURCH NOTES.

(See 878 and 898.)

BOWDEN.

[Harl. M.S. 2151.]

In another light of the windowes before-mentioned North side this coate with the writting under the same.

[Drawing of a shield] Quarterly Or and Gules, in the first quarter a lion passant Argent; in pale a pastoral staff with the head turned to sinister of the third. [Birkenhead Priory.]

Orate pro bono statu Johannis Sharpe Priore de Birkenhed qui istam fenestram fieri fecit ano doni mccccxxx.

On the roof of the North Ile

[Drawing of the same shield]

Orate pro bono statu Johis Sharpe priori de Birkened qui hanc fenestram vitriu fecit Ano dom. mdxxx.

In the lowermost window on the North side is this coat & figure with writing underneath it,

[Drawing of a shield] Argent, an eagle with two heads displayed Sable [Millington]

[Drawing of a man kneeling, in a loose robe, perhaps a cassock, and wearing a hat with a round crown and a broad brim; in his right hand a chalice, his left hand raised] Orate p bono statu Roberti Mellenton ano dom. 1328.

Robert Mellenton was a Prior of Birkenhed Abby.

[545] MARRIAGE REGISTERS OF ST. OSWALD'S, CHESTER.

1695.

William Wedthers of Thornton and Mary Beven of Werven Mar. 27

John Jones of Stableford of Tarvin p. and Elin Salthouse of Thalnass p. May 8

Jonathan Dutton of Huntington of this p. and Mary Rephson of Waverton p. June 22

Robert Brook and Margrat Walker July 25

William Roberts and Catherine Rutter July 29

Hee was sarvent to Jonathan Dutton att Huntington

Randle Moors of Knutsford and Mary Tomelson July 29

Thomas Sherburn and Dorrothy Biserton July 30

Petter Taylor and Martha Selby Aug. 6

Richard Halliwell of Nuton and Eliz. Key of Plimston p. Sept. 10

John Price of Plimston p. and Anne Hill of Stoke p. Sept. 18

John Kerfoote of Huntington and Mary Gough of Choly Sept 25

Rich. Dutton of Ineshall (?) of this parish and Debora Smith of Bumbury Oct. 1

Samuel Wilcock of Storeton in Bebington p. and Bebecka Carter of the same Oct. 3

Thomas Pool of Beventon p. and Jane Charnook of Neston p. Oct. 20

James Knight of Wigen and Grace Baldwin Nov. 28

William Browen of Bekenwood in Dreyton p. (?) Cooper, and Mary Prickett spinster of Audlem p. Nov. 30

Thomas Arnott of Neston p. and Aloes Spark of Estam p. Jan. 9

Mr. Gibson, Clarke and Mrs. Shouana Celshall, both of Plimston p. Jan. 16

Arthur Sanders and Ann Carr Jan. 28

Robert Chaterton of Wearham p. and Elinor Garnor Feb. 25

Mr. John Oakes of Manchester and Mrs. Rebecca Worsley of Ashley of Boden p. March 24

● 1696.

George Cowap and Mary Pass April 13

Ralph Borrowes and Mary Carter April 21

Mr. William Anterobus of Fradson p. and Mrs. Elin Richerson May 28

Ralph Dean and Anne Jackson of St. Mary's p. June 21

John Fradsham and Elizabeth Swinley June 22

Thomas Tomelson and Mary Buteryboth of ye Parish of Deynam June 24

Edward Wyatt of Thykbrum in the parish of Woofortt in the county of Staford and Dorconas Whicksitt of Thornton p. June 25

John Bostock and Sarah Welshman of Backford June 25

Jacob Royslance of Morley in Wimalow p. and Elin Walton of Flixton p. in Lancashire July 15

Edward Williams of Gresford p. and Elce Huitt of Farne p. Aug. 29

Ralph Hotchkin and Alee Brumfld Oct. 19

Ralph Hulton and Margery Hughes Oct. 28

John Williams and Mary Cardin Nov. 10

William Goulson and Alee Hinkes Nov. 19

Randle Edge of Stoke and Lidia Perry of Estam Nov. 25

John Fowler and Elizabeth Rimer Dec. 22

Richard Darrall of St. Petter's p. and Elizabeth Jackson Dec. 24

William Colley and Hannah Ashton Dec. 29

George Morris and Elin Loyd Jan 6

John Marbuery and Mary Loyd	Jan. 6
Raph Evenson of Whitechurch and Elin Stanley	Jan. 29
Grifeth Hughs and Catherine Parker	Feb. 2
William Wright and Anne Martlew	Feb. 3
John Jones and Anne Pears	Feb. 24
John Gouf of Cheuseley and Margret Heefild of St. John's p.	Feb. 15

JANUARY 3, 1900.

[546] 17TH CENTURY LOVE LETTERS.

(See Nos. 129, 174, 361, and 541.)

Mistria Mary Hatton's next letter, extant, was written in the month of March following the last printed letter. This brings us into the thick of the theology of the times, which, as half a puritan, she appears to enter into with an intelligence far beyond the fashion of the sex of her time, barring such examples as the Lady Bridget (Grey) Egerton of Egerton and Oulton, who some 50 years earlier, wrote her "Confessions," or creed; which was published, about 30 years since, in the Chetham Society's Publications.

"Sr. I met wth yo^r man bearing to me newes of you as I was this day taking the morning aire, wch methought lesse sweete & lesse well come than yo^r sweete & well come lett^r, all be itt the morne was so brighte, & softlye the winde passed by filld wth ye songes of the birdes, which methinks they made sweeter for the well come of ye springetyde that greenely freckleth ye hedges & some of the trees thus earlie. 'Tis scarce three daies gone hye since the great windie nighte felled many of the biggest trees here aboutes & appeared us much that we should be left roofoless before morne. But my dear ffather laughed so, & saith the roofe trees were never made for tempest or fire to destroye. And in his grande fathers day albeit the house all shiv'ring in the greatest storme & tempeste (of a hundred yeeeres) that then happd neither roofe nor wall stone nor tymbr^r was scathed everso little. I[t] was onely (this tyme) by opeing the greate doores of ye hall place that we heard very much of the lowde winde inside, so heavylie & stoutelie are ye walles builded, but ye gardenes and apple yardees were covered with large & small braunchs & twygs that had fallen broken to the ground on that terrible night, which your lres telleth of to my great contente that naughte of evill happ'd to you. I am a reading of your newe booke of Mr. Spensers wch I like well. I do believe his

poetry for exoellancy is as abundantly great & in as handsome & pretty language as many of the best in the worlde, but more of this when I have done, for I have ano^r matt^r to saye to you. I am verily greatly concerned to thinke that yo^r Chambre fellowe doth digg such pit-falls in the holy booke. Surely St. Paul maye have commended only his freinds & [the] Apostles to batchellorhood & not all peep^{le} in the world, otherwise his commendation might empty the earth of all inhabitants (& especially of Christians) & 'tis known of all that such could not be the will & liking of godd. I am estartl'd (sic) by his sayeing that they of Rome did of auntient tymes (as out of the mouthe of St. Paull) add to the holy writaings, namely this commendation. He must be a Cavillier indeede, & tis better (in theise days) to be on garde that he prove to be nothing more. I have questiond a godly & learned minister therein (so greatlie did I tramble to thinke that the bible, or as it were, the magna Charter of Christendome, might thus have been abused) & what saith he Q: He saith if the addition was meant as a greater warrantie of that Catholique church in its decretals or commands that all its clerkes remain batchell^{rs} it was in truth too late: in asmoche as the holy Scriptures had even then been so long scattered abroad (like seeds) among all nations, And if (saith he) the addition happ'd long before that time it could not be a warrantie for that cause: & if for some other, where was the occasion for that tricke when the ffath^r or bishpp of Rome claimd the power to loose & bind (wth ye aide of ye holy ghoste) that the saviour promises to St. Peter (himselfe only, we say) in all things for ever, Q: [P] I have considered these answers much but am not fully satisfied. But I do thinke that the 12 apostles (wch the auntient bpps or popes created saints) could not speake in all things as could our lord the saviour, and so St. Paull himselfe confesseth in this very place. Tis not to the saints (be they as holy as they maye & were) but to the blessed saviour himselfe we must looke for the mooste sattisfying doctrines. And in truth tis only where the exortations of the Apostles are holpen by our lords commands that we may accepte of them as ye bonde of conscience. Otherways we may aswell worshipp the blessed virgin at once & evry o^r saynt of Romes Kalender. for ye appostles were but men (albeitt under ye inspired spirit^t of Christianity) & were free to err, as St. Paull (more humble than they of Rome) doth himselfe readilly admitt, by reason of the weake-

ness of the fleashe wch could not with stand
eythr y^e tempests of the sea or of the wicked,
but were brave servants & highly favoured of
our lord & saviour Jesus Christe. I fear me
nevertheless that yor friende maye tell you that I
am butt liken unto the chaplein that Olliv^r
tasked after his sermon (Saith he) "Yor sermon
was very good. My sermon [] (saith y^e
"minister) It was one of the great bishpp
"Laudes. Laudes [] (saith Olliv^r) Laud &
"praise be to itt then [] But I am astounded:
"ffor I knowe all of his very well but have no
"recollection att all of this one. But you see
"(quoth the Minister) I did his sermon into the
"Scotche tongue to preache to my parishioners
"in Scott land, and when I come hither to
"Ingland I againe did into Englishe the
"sermon wch I had done into the Scotche.
"Well (saith Oliv^r) no marvell after
"all that, ffor if Laude rose from
"the dead hee (himselfe) would not
"knowe it againe []" But Sr I shall not
trouble you to tell yor freinde y^e storie lest he
conceive me guiltie of a double translation in
the former matt^r when there can not but be
little doubt about the truth I have attempted
to sett forthe: So I leave you to god's blessing
& y^e love I bare you.

Yor verie ffreind

MARY HATTON."

"Kisstie Birches, Hatton,
this 27th of Marche
Ao dni: 1654."

Sealed in red wax. with a small broken
impress of the arms of Hatton (a chevron
between three garbs) & directed—"These deliv^r
—to—Mr. Randolph H— — att y^e Mote
house of—H—y—nigh ffordsham—Haste
poste." And endorsed in his handwriting
"March 27, 54." It is (like all the other
letters) written on a sheet of fine woven fools-
cap, of a foreign appearance. Her handwriting
is feminine, well-cultivated, regular, ornate,
and full of character.

"Kisstie Birches," it may be added, was not un-
likely intended by her as partly suggestive of her
preaching faculty, & the contents of her present
letter. But, the Hall, commonly called
"Quistybirches," was also often spelled "Custy
Birches," & "Custy," as well as "Kistybirches."
It was a stout old mansion of stone, surrounded
by ancient birch trees within a moat; but, like
old Torbock Hall, and many other Lancashire
and Cheshire mansions, only one poor wing of
it now remains—which has for ages been in the
tenure of farmers.

S

JANUARY 10, 1900.

NOTES.

[547] THE ESTATE OF THE B'PRICK AND
DIOCESE OF CHESTER IN THE TIME OF R. R.
FATHER IN GOD JOHN BRIDGEMAN, LORD BP.
OF CHESTER.

The following document is printed in the
Appendix to. Dansey's "Hors^e Decanicae
Rurales," Vol. ii., page 380:—

The state of the rural deanries in Bp. Bridge-
man's time, begun upon his coming to the See
MDCCXIX.; but not finished till after the patent
granted to Joseph Cradock in MDCCXXVI.

At the entrance of Bp. Bridgeman in the See of
Chester, because the rural deanries in this diocese
were leased out for lives or years, so as sometimes
they came to the possession of unworthy & base
men, and some of them to women (for Middlewich
deanry fell, by administration to one—Kensey,
widow of a serving-man, who got in like sort); &
Dr. King, on whom the said bp. bestowed that
deanry, could not after much sute, evict her; till
she was taken in adultery on a Good Friday, in
the — inn, in Chester, & publicly punished for
it. As also because the severall deanes kept no
constant office, & brought those places into disre-
pute; for that the deanes usually put in mean
men who would give them most yearly rent, &
seldom kept the records; so as many orphans,
when they came of age, knew not how to find, or
where to claime their dues. Therefore Bp.
Bridgeman, that he might restore those places to
their first dignity, & erect some constant office to
which all persons might resort for search of their
rights by the records, & also might enlarge the
profits or authority of his two archdeacons of
Richmond & Chester (who being destitute of all
jurisdiction are yet but mere stipendiaries or
almsmen to the bps., who oftymes pay them
slackly and perhaps with an ill will); & lastly for
the benefit of the bishops themselves in succession
that so they may be disburthened of that 100^l.
yearly stipend which they pay by the charter of
foundation to the said archdeacons. The said bp.,
when those deanries fell into his hands,
reserved them for the said archdeacons, &
enlarging the old rents which those deanries
usually paid to the bps. & increasing them to such
sums (or rather less) as these deanes used to sett
them att to their deputies, & adding more deanries
thereto, whereby those who exercised those places
might (besides their jurisdiction) benefit themselves
in profit & gayn; he hath united all the 8 rural
deanries in Cheshire to the archdeacon of Chester
upon the yearly rent of 50^l to the bp. for the
discharge of the said archdeacon's stipend, as
appears by this patent thereof registered. And

for the other 50l yearly for the like stipend of the archdeacon of Richmond, when the deanrys of Warrington fell to his gift by the death of Mr. Collayne, & the deanrys of Blackburn & Leyland fell likewise by the deaths of Mr. Morris & Mr. Bennet, he increased the rents thereof to such sums (or somewhat less) as the said deans sett them att to their deputies viz. Warrington deanry for 17l yearly, Leyland deanry for 10l yearly, & Blackburn deanry for 13l 6s 8d yearly. In toto 50l for the archdeacon of Richmond. And because the bps. have few preferments besides to bestow upon their chaplains, he hath reserved the deanrys of Manchester & Amounderness for that purpose. And because the old rent issuing out of those deanrys to the bp. should not be lost, & so the bp's. revenue yearly impayred, he hath a purpose (& doth entreat his successors for the good of their posterity) that when the other deanrys of Copeland, Furnes, Lonsdale, Richmond, Catherick, & Burrow-bridge, fall voyd, their rents may be increased to the sum of 36l, & so the ancient revenue may be continued, & the 100l to the archdeacons clearly saved; yet for the present, he was constrained to grant them in patent (or rather only to exchange the name of the patentee) to Mr. Joseph Cradock only pr vita, who is now commissary of Richmond, upon Dr. Mainwaring's resignation of his patent, who had the said commissaryship & the said deanrys in patent before his time for two lives; viz for his own & Mark Pickering's life, so as now there is only one life in the said deanrys, whereas usually there was two lives before.

[548] MARRIAGE REGISTERS OF ST. OSWALD'S,
CHESTER.

1697.

Richard Bebbington of Bickley in Malpas p. and Mary Parks April 4
Edward Davis and Anne Parsefull April 12
Tho. Briacoe of Ledsom in Neston p. and Mary Bennitt of Chester April 24
John Francois and Elizabeth Wright April 29
Thomas Lake of Neston p. and Elizabeth Moore of St. John's p. June 25
William Dickeson and Mary Wilkinson July 6
Rich. Bridge and Alice Soote July 8
John Robbidge and Jane Hodgkin July 11
George Murry of Renbury p. and Margrat Willinson of Tarperley Sept. 29
Thomas Woodward and Sarah Bradford both of Fradsham p. Sept 29
Tho. Scot and Mary Farington of Trenity p. Oct. 6
Hugh Dodd of Acan p and Martha Dodd Bum-burye p. Dec. 16
Mr. Arthur Fogge and Mrs. Anne Burrowes of St. Petter's p. Dec. 23
Thomas Cowley and Anne Smith both of Farne p. Dec. 23

Thomas Bradford of Fradsham p. and Sarah Bos-tock of Hardin p. Dec. 23
Robert Fletcher and Hannah Robin both of Burton p. Dec. 24
William Jones and Mary Acorley Jan. 13
Uriah Minshall and Mary Hallywell Feb. 8
John Marsh of Stoak p. and Catherine Bennitt of Hawarden, Spinster Feb. 18
Joseph Tunnah and Mary Tunnah both of Tarvie p. Feb. 19
George Mealor and Mary Young both of Burton p. Feb. 25
Tho. Groose of Westoerbey p. and Mary Bennitt of Heswell p. Mar. 3
George Hach and Margret Jones Mar. 4

1698.

Thomas Dutton and Mary Jones widdo. both of Codington p. April 25
Thomas Dutton of Waverton p. and Anne Sim-mons of Egelstont p. June 4
Tho. Tomason and Elizabeth Guteridge June 5
Gilbert Dutton and Margrat Flecke June 11
John Almon of Meadley p. in the county of Staford and Prudence Blackwell late of Ireland June 15
Mr. Edward Halwood and Mrs. Hannah Starkey of St. Mary's p. June 19
Joseph Loyd of Acken p. and Anne Cardin Alim p. June 24
Rob. King and Alice Valentine both of Estam p. June 25
John Sheen and Sarah Jones both of this parish from the Lay Hall nere Odford July 15
John Hamnitt and Mary Mather both of this parish from Boughton Sept. 12
George Garsden and Eliz. West Sept. 15
Thomas Green, yeman of Handley and Elin Patte of St. John's p. Oct. 1
Petter Darwell and Elizabeth Codwell both of Kingsley in Fradsham p. Oct 9
William Gough of Choueify and Sarah Ince widd. Oct. 27
Mr. James Bucher of ye city of London of ye parish of St. Mary's of ye Arches and Mrs. Abygell Borrowes daug. to Mr. Ralph Borrowes of St. Petter's p. Oct. 27
William Trigg and Ellen Maron widd. both of the towne and parish of Burton in Worall Nov. 12
Benjemen Storry and Anne Jeniones both of Liverpoole Dec. 17
Sammell Jenions and Hannah Willy both of Nesson Dec. 20
Samuell Hayes Marinor and Martha Ball both of Nesson Dec. 22
John Euter of Boughton, smith and Mary Atchis of Nuton in Middlewich p. Jan. 9

John Johnson of Plimston p. and Martha
Chaterton of Handley Feb. 18

Thomas Meeles of Burton and Mary Williams of
Mould p. Feb. 19

Thomas Wynne of Dyffrintlid Esq. of the town-
ship of Heskin and of ye parish of Llannanan in
Dembighshire and Mrs. Anne Barnston of Chorton
in ye parish of Farne widdo Feb. 21

1699.

Mathew Moore of Northwich and Mary Gifford
May 3

Mr. Jacob Dennes and Mrs. Martha Leetch
May 9

William Mosse, Bucher, and Mary Waine widdo
May 23

William Edwards and Mary Pulford both of
Plimston p. June 1

Thomas Skelon of St. John's p. and Elin
Bateridge of Barrow, widdo June 17

John Garrat of Little Budworth Yeaman and
Ellen Entersley of Somerford Radnal of Astbury p.
July 4

Mr. Richard Taylor Inholder and Mrs. Elizabeth
Smith of Stanall in the parish of Shenton July 9

James Poolett, husbandman, and Anne Augger of
Trennity p. July 20

Richard Reed, a parishener, quaterd in this
parish and Marrgrat Royle widdo July 24

Richard Williams Husbandman from Causley and
Elin Jones spinster from ye Ley July 31

Grifeth Malborne Whitsmith and Martha Panton
Sept. 1

William Leigh, Husbandman of Budworth p. and
Margrat Mitchel, spinster Sept. 2

Thomas Moreton, blacksmith, and Mary
Willenson spinster, both of Comberbach in Great
Budworth p. Sept. 28

William Smith Milner of Woodchurch p. in
Wareall and Ales Barnes Sept. 29

William Williams Husbandman and Anne Hughes
Sept. 30

John Cullome, gunsmith, and Ales Brook of
Nuton Oct. 2

William Evans husbandman and Anne Hill
Oct. 23

Rich. Penkitt Groser and Mary Williams both of
St. Michell p. Nov. 14

Tho. Cowdock Slater and Jane Garnor Nov. 16

Jonathan Pickerin Carpinier of St. John's p. and
Dorothy of St. Michell p. Nov. 29

Tho. Milner of St. Petter's p., a Parishener, and
Catherine Meredith Dec. 5

John Sefen a Seeman and Mary Parsons of St.
Marten's p. Dec. 22

Edward Crew husbandman and Anne Meredith
both of Pouten in Poulford p. Dec. 30

John Edwards Taylor and Mary Harrison Spenet.
Jan. 1

Randle Platt of Churton Heath and Sarah
Phillips of St. Takman's p. in Shursbury Jan. 1

William Delves gent of Boden p. and Mrs.
Susannah Brook daughter to Will Brook Esq.
Jan. 18

Josia Parkes Lininwever and Elin Swane of St.
Mary's p. Jan. 20

Dannill Brownfeild of Hoale in Plimston p.
Husbandman and Anne Platt daughter of Will
Platt of Churton Heath Husbandman Jan. 31

Giles Pecke Husbandman and Ellinor Mallor of
St. Mary's p. Feb. 1

Petter Hament of Burton in Wearall Husband-
man and Catherine Williams spinster of Hardin p.
Feb. 10

Joseph Deanson Husbandman of Hocknell in
Tarven p. and Catherine Birde of Tarven spenster
Feb. 24

Rich. Carter weaver of Chelwell p. in Lancashire
and Elin Wiswell of Heale in the parish aforesaid
Mar. 19

1700.

Rob: Leake Husbandman of Little Nesson and
Elizabeth Joynson spenster April 4

John Davy Joyner of St. John's p. and Martha
Pecke daughter to Giles Pecke, Husbandman
April 9

Mr. Will Allen Marchant of Trinity p. and Mrs.
Catherine Bennitt, daug. of Will Bennitt then
Maioir of this City May 21

Thomas Molley Marriner and Ales Kenion
May 21

George Robinson Taylor, a stranger and
Theadosha Berkenhead June 9

Thomas Davis Shoumaker and Isabella Edwards
June 10

John Telley and Mary Roberts both of Wervin
July 1

Grifeth Mulboon Whitsmith and Anne Eaton
July 15

Thomas Hughes and Mary Jones both of
Seathton on the Hill July 15

John Taylor a stranger and Anne Crother widdo.
July 15

William Shaw Yeman and Jane Tomeson both of
Cudington in Malpas p. July 21

Rob: Cowdock, smith and Isabelley Webster
servant to Mr. Key in the Abby Court July 20

Thomas Rimmer taylor and Sarah Voughan
Sept. 9

Richard Allen and Mary Yearley of Shocklidge
p. Sept. 18

Hugh Nicholson and Mary Buckley both of
Sayhton on ye Hill Sept. 30

Davitt Buckley porter and Dorothy Jones
Oct. 14

Richard Williams Gariner and Elisabeth Shone
Oct. 21

Mr. Tho. Uerin Marchant and Mrs. Elizabeth Manor daug. to Mr. Will Manor	Oct. 22
William Tyera Osler at Ye Green Dragon and Sarah Nickson	Oct. 28
John Rowland of Hoole in Plimston p. husbandman and Elinor Speed widdo. of Upton in St. Mary's p.	Nov. 30
William Hurleston Gent. of Upton in St. Mary's p. and Mrs. Elizabeth Brook daug. to Will Brook Esq.	Dec. 5
Peter Pulford Husbandman of Codington and Anne Rowland of Cardin in Tilston p.	Dec. 7
Josia Moores Wheelwright and Katharin Hostage of Trinity p.	Dec. 16
Charles Stanton and Mary Whitle	Dec. 23
Benjemen Clubb Husbandman of Huntington and Jane Clarke Spinster of St. Mary's p.	Dec. 24
Joseph Price a Jerniman Shoumaker a stranger and Elinor Jones Spenster	Jan. 6
George Guest Barber and Anne Reece both of St. Peter's p.	Jan. 31
Thomas Ball, husbandman and Ales Milington both of Harden married by licence at the request of the minister of Harden	Feb. 12
Samuel Grundy, Blacksmith, and Mary Heskith	Feb. 27

ADDENDA.

THE GROSVENOURS OF HULME.

In the interesting account of the Grosvenors of Eaton, given in the columns of a recent issue of the "Courant," on the much lamented death of the Great and Good Duke of Westminster, its accomplished writer quotes as his authority Croston's "Families of Lancashire and Cheshire" for all the early history of the Grosvenors. Mr. Croston, I remember at the time, took nearly all his accounts of the surviving Cheshire Houses from "The History of Cheshire" (1882 edit.). His object was merely to write a popular and entertaining history of the families in question—simply a "Drawing-room Book"—without the least intention of going to the trouble and expense of consulting many, if any, original documents. In this he succeeded admirably; and in the account of the supposed eldest line of the family, viz., the Grosvenors of Hulme, the editor of Ormerod's "History of the Shire" (as distinguished from the whole Palatine, including all its near and remote members), in dealing with the descent of the Manor of Hulme, in Allostock, clearly enough shews the possibility or the probability of the first known Grosvenour of Hulme, in

the 12th century, being a younger son of one of the Venables, Barons of Kinderton.

Subsequently, I think, to that suggestion, he discovered in Normandy a *Manor of Venables*, from which lordship there can be no sort of reasonable doubt came directly or indirectly, our Gilbert de Venables, the first Baron of Kinderton, after the Norman Conquest of England. Now for the derivation of so singular a name thus bestowed upon a Norman Manor. It is quite clear that some of the townships, parishes, and manors, of France and Normandy, if not all, received their names from their lords—as in early England—where the names of Saxons and Danes largely figure as those of their respective lordships. It is, therefore, not to be doubted that this Gilbert's ancestors, after a long prior user, thus gave their personal surname to the manor of Venables—just as, on the other hand, from the manors and other places in England nearly all the Normans (as lords thereof, by the purchase of the sword), received their surnames by the same long custom. But there is one peculiarity touching the name of Venables of Kinderton that should not be overlooked. All the early scribes write the name "le Venables." This, there can be no doubt, arose from one of two causes; either the natural ignorance of the scribes, or from the fact that the Venables prefix *le*, was nearly always borne by them in Normandy because of the origin of that official name, *Venator abilis*, which thus became the surname of the lord, and afterwards of the manor in the modified form of "Venables." But, subsequently, the strictly proper form would have been "de Venables"—its bearer being lord of the territory.

In view of all this evidence, we could assume the fact that if the office of Chief Hunter was held by Gilbert de Venables at the Conquest, it was hereditary. This is a point of importance. For Gilbert Venables, as a younger son, would almost be out of the question. He must, therefore, for the present argument, be assumed to have been the elder son of his parents, and the important head of a great Norman family; which coupled with his possession, in our Palatine County, of the considerable barony of Kinderton, and with the fact of Hugh Lupus being tenant in fee of the Norman Barony of Auranches (though a much less important post and lordship than those of the St. Sauveurs, ancestors of Fitz-Nigel of Halton, premier Baron of the Palatinate, who were

tenants in fee of the great Viscounty of the Cotentin), it may well be admitted that a close relationship, in those not too "liberal" times of "nepotism," did really exist between Hugh Lupus and Gilbert le Venables, as well as between many other Norman houses who came in the retinue of William the Conqueror, or of Hugh the Wolf, or some of their great tenants. One of these nephews or cousins of Hugh is said to have been Kingsley of Kingsley, Hereditary Chief Forester of Mara and Mondrem (Delamere). These kinsmen were all either *majores barones* or *barones minores*.

But, if Gilbert le Venables was, as invariably stated, and as likely as not, a "younger son" of Eudo, Count of Blois, and first cousin of the Conqueror, how came this younger son into the possession of an hereditament which, in all probability, formed the subject of the tenure of Grand Serjeanty by which the Norman manor of Venables would, there is scarcely a doubt, be held? Certainly, it was the custom of the Normans to gavel (divide) their lands and lordships and all their hereditary possessions, among their issue, near or remote; and it can, therefore, only be conjectured that Gilbert le Venables, as *grantee* of his father, before or after the invasion of England, became possessor of the office of Grande (instead of Gros, in the sense of "Great") Hunter ("Burke" brings us to that almost ludicrous alternative to modern ears); and that it was thus divorced—by deed of partition, it may be—from the Norman manor of Venables by the consent of the lord paramount—whoever he was, particularly if Hugh Lupus. If so, indeed, as is probable, this might have been effected after the Conquest, because of Gilbert sailing in the retinue of Hugh his kinsman as an invader of England, and afterwards settling there as one of Count Hugh's barons. But if the Count of Blois had been tenant of the manor of Venables he might, as became the custom, have been *meane lord*, under the suzerainty of Hugh—as Baron of Auranches—a suzerainty acquired perhaps long before the Counts of Blois acquired their county. There is no difficulty here, from the true feudal point of view, even for that early period; and feudal tenures were practically the same in all France and Normandy as subsequently in England. All this settles the intimate relations of the parties.

But, on the other hand, if the evidence of the Abbot of Vale Royal, and other friends of the Grosvenours (who in those days held by their friends and their county through thick

and through thin, unscrupulously, as against a "foreigner"—as Scrope would be regarded and as "a point of honour"), if the Abbot's evidence is to be taken as reliable, and therefore that "Gilbert le Grosvenour" was the name (*sans alias*) of the Norman Kinsman of Hugh Lupus, and that he was not identical with this "younger son of the Count of Blois," we are transfixed on the other horn of the dilemma. For this great officer—this Grande Venour of "Burke," and Gros Venour of the scrupulous Abbot of Vale Royal and other nobles, and the Venator-abilis of somebody else—held nothing beyond this great hereditary office except a simple manor or two (altogether inferior to that other kinsman's fee, Ranulph de Kingsley), in this country, to entitle him to be ranked as a minor baron with numbers of others in the county; but, above all, neither he, nor his descendants, from A.D. 1066, up to 1238 (when the son of the King of Scots died and the County and Palatinate Earldom passed to the English Crown), even once appears, for a term of nearly 200 years, as a witness to any of the charters of the Norman Counts and Earls of Chester! This fact alone, at that particular period especially, is crushing negative evidence of the reliability of the Abbot's testimony—the spuriousness of which, moreover, receives the additional support of another fact directly in relation to the defence of Sir Robert le Grosvenour, but, as heir to the first man who ever bore the disputed shield of arms—a most important question at that period and for a century afterwards. It is this; the inference to be drawn from the Abbot's evidence (if it is not actually given in terms) touching the "Bend Or" is, that this charge was borne, as "Arms of affection" to the Count, on an azure field, by Gilbert le Grosvenour *temp. Conquest*, as well as by all his descendants up to the time of the suit of Scrope (Scroope) v. Grosvenour, near the end of the 14th century. The Abbot was living at too remote a time to know that the coat never existed over 200 years before his day! But every one now knows very well that the earliest regular armorials were first borne in the time of Richard Cour de Lion, at the 4th Crusades, A.D. 1198; and neither the Abbot nor anyone else could produce a single charter bearing a seal with even the shieldless "Bend," in wax, as the simplest form in which it would have appeared, had it existed at that early period as a badge or an ensign merely, such as was the case with that of the Barons of Dunham Massey, for example; who at that period sealed with a "lion passant"—not the armorial

escoccheon which it afterwards developed into, like other coats. Yet this abbot stood to his guns, as did the other clerics for the plaintiffs, and would have the Court infer if he did not actually depose to the fact, that throughout part of the 11th and through all the 12th century, the Grosvenours bore these arms, Azure a Bend Or—for he seems to have stuck to his colours as well as to his guns, because a "difference" of tincture would have made all the difference! So much for the testimony of the clergy of those pure and undeffiled times. The rest of the evidence, no doubt on both sides, is about on a par with the Abbot's—a very decent gentleman who officially was paramount lord of a good many manors and lands, most probably including some of those of the defendant and the witnesses? But, irrespective of all that, the fact remains that on neither one side or the other—Scrope's or Grosvenours—was there any reliable evidence going to the marrow of the question. Yet the Court had to decide, and it leant unduly to the side of Scrope, and even insulted Grosvenour by offering as a "difference" an "engrailed bordure," which all heralds seem agreed was then, before, and after, a sign of bastardy until the advent of the base bend—bend sinister. Why did they not suggest another tincture for the Grosvenour bend; but it was as uncompromising as the "Grecian bend."

All this being the case, we can now only fall back upon the suggestion in the 1882 edition of the Hist. of Ches., that Gilbert le Venables and Gilbert le "Grosvenour"—the Abbot's curiously modern form, for the 11th century—were in fact identical persons; and that from the Baron of Kinderton descended Sir Robt. le Grosvenour, the knight of Ric. IId's reign, whose descendant of Hulme, some half century after, by the marriage of his younger son to the heiress of Eaton (15th century), became ancestor of the great and interesting House of the Grosvenours of Eaton. But, there was also another early house of Grosvenour, shewn to be of equally as early a date (middle 12th century) as that of Hulme and Allotook. This was that of the Grosvenours of Budworth-le-Frith, alias Little Budworth, and they bore similar arms, according to the Heralds—who are not very reliable, however, as they say no two coats in heraldry are alike, while in fact there are numbers. In the reign of Edward I. Robt. le Grosvenour lord of Budworth-le-Frith, left two daughters and co-heirs, one of whom, it is known, was married to Thomas de Acton, son of Thomas de Acton alias de Elton, son of

Ranulph de Hellesby (a younger son of that house), from whom both these minor Acton and Elton houses sprang. This lady was, in 23 Edw. I. sued in her widowhood by Richard, son of Warren le Grosvenour, apparently of a younger line of the same house, which shews that it was not then extinct. She, herself, sued Alan de Acton, son of this Thomas, in 30 Edw. 1st. While Alan's brother Robert sued this same Richard le Grosvenour, 22 to 30 Edw. 1st, when Robert de Acton slew Robert de Wynington, who had perhaps married the other co-heiress, or his death arose from a quarrel in the forest, probably over the Forestership which the Budworth Grosvenours held. (Hist. Chesh., Vol. II. 124, Acton ped.).

Which of these two younger branches—if both younger branches they were—was really the elder cannot be determined; but their estates all lay near to Northwich, and not many miles away from the Barony of Kinderton. See Hist. Chesh. (2nd Edit.), Budworth-le-Frith, for a pedigree of that line. But, in addition to all that has gone before, it may be said that the simplest and perhaps only elucidation the case can afford, may be summed up in the following lines. The whole of the great Cheshire Forest of Mara and Mondrem—stated to have been some 14 miles long and proportionately broad—was surrounded by the lordships, or manors (the Norman term, from *manoirs*) and lands of the major and minor nobles or barons and other considerable proprietors, the principal of whom were, in all probability, of the Earl's own blood and kindred, and who must have held their estates by the tenure of Grand-Serjeanty, as Hereditary Foresters, from the Palatine Counts of Chester,—as we must call the Earls Palatine, and all but Sovereigns of what, with its members, was virtually two or three counties, and who were all, still, of nearly pure Norman blood during their reign for almost two centuries. Ranulph de Kyngeslegh, lord of that fee, was the Hereditary Chief Forester; and his perquisites in the Forest (which the other Foresters would also to a lesser extent enjoy) may be seen in the History of Cheshire, as then held by Kingsley's heirs general, the Dones. As these several Forestership estates became divided among co-heiresses, the offices would in the course of time lapse, as feudalism weakened. But, among the Hereditary Foresterships, in the 13th and 14th centuries, the writer many years ago found, incidentally, only two. One of these belonged to the Grosvenours of Budworth le Frith, and the other to the Hellesbies

of Helleaby, also of Acton, Elton and Hapaford—their neighbouring lordships, all within the purlieus, or, at all events, the liberties, of the Forest of Delamere. Now there can be no doubt that the Barons of Kinderton held one or more of their manors by the same tenure, and that the Grosvenours of Hulme were among these Hereditary Foresters—whose wardenship was executed by deputy (except perhaps on such occasions as a Royal Hunt, under the Hereditary Master Forester). There were also two other Cheshire forests—that on the hills between the Cheshire Marches and Buxton, called Maxfeld (Macclesfield) Forest, whose Hereditary Chief was Devenporte of Devenporte (pron. Dampport, and afterwards written Davenport), whose crest in allusion to the office was a felon's head, with a rope round his neck. The other forest was Wirral Forest (pron. Worrall), of which Silvester of Storeton was Hereditary Chief, and which also early fell to heiresses—the Stanleys of Hooton being the last; who bore three buck's heads on an azure bend,—perhaps intended to represent a broad shoulder belt, of the Earl's colours, for the Horn of Chase? But Silvester—a surname smelling strongly of that small forest—bore a tree vert. Enough, however, of this. Though Kingsley's shield was also vert, he bore, as chief, an official coat—an inescutcheon charged with a bugle. Whatever might be the allusion of the coat of the Grosvenours of Budworth, and of Hulme, the crest of the latter, a talbot, is sufficiently allusive—and, perhaps, illusive. However, if Gilbert Venables's barony embraced the manors, or even the services of Hulme, or Allostock, or Budworth-le-Frith (which I have not at this moment the means of ascertaining), it would fortify one's position considerably. But, as it stands, there is no getting away from the fact that whatever the Venables alias Grosvenour position, with regard to the chief question, was, in Normandy, there is a very strong flavour of Mara and Mondrem in the Grande-Venour or Gros-Venour (sometimes, in later ages, written Gravenour), of ancient times, coupled with the kinship of Baron Gilbert le Venables, and a feeling that the whole magnified tradition that the name of "Gros-Venour" (rather than "Venatorabilis") grew to eminence in Normandy instead of, by "vert and venison," under the shades of our own great, leafy and picturesque Forest of Mara and Mondrem.

December, 1899.

BISHOP LLOYD'S HOUSE.

During a recent visit to Chester, the writer inspected the ancient palace known as Bishop Lloyd's House, in Watergate-street, which has been so recently rescued by Alderman Charles Brown from falling into American hands. The eight curiously carved oak panels in the front of this house are extremely interesting, and it seems strange that no proper translation of the remarkable inscription on the sixth panel has ever been made. It is with a view to call attention to it that he ventures to give the results of his own researches, with the hope that some of the many archaeologists in Chester may still further elucidate the matter. The translation given in part I of 'Chester and Its Environs,' illustrated by J. Romney, with historical descriptions by a citizen, though ingenious, cannot be said to be satisfactory, inasmuch as to obtain his translation, 'Citizen' added some letters, and altered others, which is scarcely permissible. In his day (c. 1853) he printed the inscription thus:—FORMA-DAT ESSE-REI INTVS-VT IN-CVTE ANO-DOMINE-1615,—and states that it is probable this motto should have been written:—'FORMAM DAT ESSE RE INTVS VT IN CVTE, ANO DOMINI, 1615;' meaning 'Consistency is the highest beauty.' There are good reasons for believing that 'Citizen' has himself erred through not observing closely, if the inscription was the same in 1853 as it is to-day. The late Dean Howson, in his 'Chester as it was,' illustrated by Alfred Rimmer, 1872, says this 'Latin inscription has never been satisfactorily explained.' Since then in a lecture on the 'Rare Old City of Chester,' given at the Grosvenor Museum in 1895, another translation was made known, but this the writer also considers unsatisfactory. Subsequent research has shewn him that there is probably much more in the inscription than at first sight appears; and with a view to an attempt to properly elucidate the matter he was enabled through the kindness of the then owner of the Palace, and three of his old friends in Chester (Mr. J. Croft, Mr. E. Clark, and Mr. J. D. Siddall, junr.), to have the inscription closely examined and copied. It was then found that a correct transcription was as follows (the panel inside the moulding measuring 10 x 7½ inches):—

FORMA DAT
ESSE REF
INTVS . VTR
IN CVTE
AN. DOMINE 1615.

Through the kindness of other friends who most willingly interested themselves, the writer also discovered—

1. That the inscription was in the form of a chronogram, and that it gives its own date, independent, i.e., of the last line. Taking the letters which have a numerical value M., D., IV., VI., C., V., these added make 1617; but if IV. be taken as 4, then the total is 1615. Not an uncommon literary device in old inscriptions.

2. That 'whoever wrote it had in mind the proverb in the line Persius,' Sat. 3-30. 'Ad populum phaleras: ego te intus et in cute novi.'

I know thee to thy bottom, from within
Thy shallow centre to thy utmost skin.

3. Referring to the history of Bishop Lloyd, Hanshall states that he was of a most amiable and lovely countenance of a mild and righteous nature, liberal to his friends, merciful to the poor, and died in the prime of life, much lamented by all. May not the word 'Forma' be in allusion to the form or beauty of his countenance, and possibly derived from the statement of King James, who called the Bishop the 'Beauty of Holiness?'

4. It is most probable that the inscription has some hidden or obscure meaning, referring to the bishop himself as a pattern (example or model) which he (the bishop) supplies, to be thoroughly imitated (copied or reproduced) both within and without; or to his beautiful character and capacity for judging, both inwardly and outwardly, the character of others. As several learned Latin scholars can make nothing of it, unless an expert in chronogram inscriptions pronounces on the matter, it seems almost like guesswork for one fond of research, but a mere student, to have the temerity to venture to trace its meaning. However, the ideas above expressed may be a help to its further elucidation; and, having proceeded thus far, the writer leaves it with confidence in the hands of the Chester Archaeologists to follow up.

INDEX.

A

Aoorley, Mary, 138
 Acton, Alice, 64; John, 109; Thos., 67
 Adam, William, 5
 Adames, Marie, 15
 Adams, John, 72
 Adams, Mary, 118
 Addamson, Robert, 39
 Adderton (or Atherton), Richard, 41.
 Adahead, William, 106, 111.
 Aher, Mary, 33
 Ainaworth, John, 67; Roger, 67
 Akerley, Roger, 54
 Alcott, Thomas, 94
 Aldersey, Thomas (Alderman) 32
 Alin, Mary, 128
 Alitt, Alin, 133
 Allart, Margaret, 59
 Aldersey, Caldicott, 90; Dioken, 90
 Allebye, Elinor, 131
 Allen, Richard, 139; Will., 67, 139
 Allerhead, William, 64
 Alley, John, 74
 Allin, Jane, 94
 Aline, Annie, 15
 Almon, John, 138; Thomas, 109
 Almond, Richard, 78
 Aims, Roger, 99
 Alport, Chatherine, 103
 Alrodde Family, The, 81
 Altrincham, Mayor of
 (His Breeches), 6
 Ambrose, Peeter, 12
 Ambrose, John, 97
 America, Cheshire Emigrants to, 55
 Amery (City Sheriff), 46; Jane, 64, Ric., 50
 Ancors, Thomas, 118
 Anderson, John, 51
 Anderton, A Recusant, 60; Raphe, 15
 Andrews, Francis, 112
 Anger, Thomasin, 56
 Angle, Elizabeth, 118
 Anglesey, Robert, 61
 Ankers, Hugh, 108; Nathaniel, 91
 Annione, Alice, 17
 Ansdale, Thomas, 74
 Ansdall, Samuel, 70
 Antrobus, William, 135
 Anyon, Thomas, 51
 Apewell, Rev. Hugh, 12
 Apowell (Powell), Rev. Hugh, 29
 Appleton, Martha, 128
 Archbishop Grindal (Cant.), 3
 Archbishop Parker (Cant.), 2
 Archbishop Piers (York), 4
 Archbishop Sandys (York), 4
 Arden, Jane, 62
 Arderne, Sir John, 31
 Arley, Edward, 108
 Armada, The Spanish, 124
 Armeby, Catherine, 72
 Armed Protest of 1569, 26

Arnott, Thomas, 135
 Arnsion, Hugh, 56
 Arrowsmith, Jane, 45; Thomas, 111
 Ashbroke, Anne, 42
 Ashbrook, Thomas, 84
 Ashbrooke, Elizabeth, 78; John, 35
 Ashley, Charles, 93; Elizabeth, 118; Raph, 111
 Ashton, Elizabeth, 128; Hannah, 135; Sarah, 109; Thomas, 54; William, 112
 Aston of Aston, Arms of, 29
 Aston, John, 3
 Atohis, Mary, 138
 Atkins, Jos., 61
 Atherton, James, 62; Mary, 106
 Andlem Free Grammar School, 21, 24
 Audley, Thomas, 74
 Augger, Anne, 139
 Awbury, Thomas (clerk), 99
 Awderven (P) Elizabeth, 111
 Axon, Thomas, 67
 Axson, John, 106
 Axton, Mary, 118

B

Babington, Rev. William, 30
 Backster, Henrie, 3
 Baddiley, Margreat, 114
 Baggiley, William, 56
 Bagguley, James, 94
 Bagnall, John 61; Randle, 61
 Bailiff, The Title of, 91
 Baker, Charles, 133; Elizabeth, 56, 111; John, 105, 128; Samuel, 99; Thomas, 128; William, 67
 Baldwin, Grace, 135
 Ball, Ales, 22; Anne, 118; Frances, 39; George, 67; Henry, 20, 70; Hugh, 54; John, 70; Martha, 94, 138; Martin, 100, 131; Mary, 81; Thomas, 20, 140
 Ballard, A, xviii Century, 14
 Balle, John, 126
 Ballymore (P Dallymore), 67
 Banckes, Edward, 21
 Banks, John, 77; Joseph, 100; Richard, 93; Thomas, 61; William, 93, 94
 Bann, Katherine, 42
 Banner, John, 15, 131, 131
 Bannion, Sara, 126; William, 130
 Barber, Robert, 78; Thomas, 59
 Barbott, John, 108
 Bardsley, Ephrim, 113
 Barker, Elizabeth, 103, 106, 111, 120; Jane, 72; John, 81, 126, 128; Robert, 105, 126; Thomas, 81, 118; William, 62
 Barkley, Ben, 84; Mary, 131
 Barlow, Bateridge (P Beatrice), 75; John, 39, 75; Mary, 131; Rich., 108; Rev. Robert, 32; Thomas, 108
 Barlowe, Rev. John, 32; John, 56; Sarah, 85

Barnes, Ales, 139; Anne, 130; Mary, 116; Rev. Randle, 34; Bishop Richard, 4; Robert, 10
 Barnett, Nathaniel, 51; Thomas, 93
 Barns, Charles (clerk), 74; Denis, (clerk), 106
 Barnston, Anne, 139; John, 48
 Roger, 99
 Baronet, the Title of, 113
 Barowe, Robert, 88
 Barrett, Chatherine, 75
 Barrow of Barrow, Family of, 88, 92, 93
 Barrow, Daniel, 69; Elizabeth, 59; Ellin, 126; John, 133; Josiah, 118; Richard, 99
 Barrows, Thomas, 105
 Barseley, Ephrim, 131
 Barton, Alice, 62; Andrew, 49; Ane, 3; Mary, 123; Martin, 40; William, 108
 Bartone, Henrie, 3
 Basfid, Elizabeth, 133
 Basford, William, 64
 Bashford, John, 70
 Basil, Benjamin (Minister), 20
 Bassnet, John, 35
 Bastwell, Jane, 15; Robert, 52; Thomas, 21
 Bateridge, Elin, 139
 Bateson, Matthew, 24
 Bather, Mary, 91; Robert, 67
 Bathoe, Edward, 108; John, 108
 Batrick, Oliver, 91
 Battersby, John, 70
 Bavand, Daniel, 42, 48
 Baven, Rev. R., 29, 39
 Baxter, Thomas, 66
 Bayley, Samuel, 70; Thomas, 59; William, 100
 Bayly, John, 62
 Beavan, Marie, 6
 Bebbington, Arthur, 105; George, 93; John, 91; Richard, 138; Thomas, 94
 Bebington, The Arms of, 18
 Beck, Hugh, 61
 Becke, Elizabeth, 30
 Beckett, Jane, 100; Margreat, 94; Mary, 52; William, 66
 Bedson, George, 70; Mary, 97; Thomas, 67; William, 74
 Beevan, John, 39; Lewis, 39; Mr., 70
 Beley, Thomas, 129
 Bell, James, 66; Peter, 123; Thomas, 112
 Bellan, Anne, 113
 Bellie, Alice, 10
 Bellin, Joseph, 78; Ralph, 78, 81; Bellingham, Capt., 52
 Bellis, William, 123
 Bennet, Henry, 28; Joane, 28; Randle, 36; Richard, 34, 36; William, 28, 42

- Bennett, Arthur, 66, 77; Ben, 61; Charles, 77; Christopher, 103; Deborah, 70; Elizabeth, 109, 123; Henry (Alderman), 108; Hugh, 70; James, 67, 112; John, 59, 84, 84; Mary, 103; Samuel, 74, 93, 126; Thomas, 12, 20, 103
 Bennion, John, 105; Randle, 111, 111; Thomas, 111
 Bennitt, Catherine, 138, 139; John, 126, 126, 133; Mary, 138, 138; Peter, 72; Samuel, 133
 Benson, George, 70
 Bentham, R., 55
 Bentley, Roger, 108
 Berkenhead, Theodosia, 139
 Berrie, Ellin, 75
 Besticke, Thomas, 42
 Beston, William de, 55
 Bestwistle, Richard, 39
 Bethell, Rev. Hugh, 20
 Bethin, Peter, 67
 Betson, Rev. Thomas, 27
 Bett, Elizabeth, 59
 Betteley, Ellen, 64; Thomas, 59
 Bettie, Sarah, 56
 Bevan, Elizabeth, 123; Hugh, 85; Mary, 135
 Bevand, Richard, 74
 Bieerton, Dorrothy, 135
 Bickerstaffe, Dorrothy, 109
 Bickerton, Elizabeth, 33; John, 100; Thomas, 33, 56; William, 113
 Billingham, Fabin, 126
 Billington, John, 99
 Bingley, Jane, 118; Hannah, 131; Margreat, 98; Samuel, 111
 Birch, Charles, 126; Samuel, 90
 Birchall, Robert, 64, 111; William, 111
 Birches (Burches), Rev. Richard, 32
 Birchwood, Robert, 97
 Bird, Henry, 84; Joseph, 74, 84
 Birde, Catherine, 139
 Birdey, Elizabeth, 30
 Birkenhead, Anne, 62; Henry, 119
 Birkett, Ellen, 42
 Biron, Rev. Humphrey, 29
 Birtles, Thomas, 69
 Bishop Barnes (Durham), 4
 Bishop Bird (Chester), 26
 Bishop Cartwright (Chester), 50
 Bishop Cotes (Chester), 27, 38, 45, 48, 49
 Bishop Downham (Chester), 26, 66
 Bishop Gheast (Sarum), 3
 Bishop Horne (Win.), 3
 Bishop Jewell (Sarum), 2
 Bishop Lloyd (Chester), 57, 58, 59, 60, 62, 63, 65
 Bishop Lloyd's House, Inscription on, 143
 Bishop Sandys (London), 3
 Bishop Scott (Chester), 26
 Bishop Seaburne (Chester), 62
 Bishop Vaughan (Chester), 58, 60
 Bispham, William, 62
 Blackamore, Anne, 113
 Blackburn, William, 69
 Blackburn, Peter, 106
 Blackthorn, Samuel, 91
 Blackwell, Prudence, 138
 Blakemore, Elizabeth, 42; Randle, 42
 Blaken, John, 75
 Blevin, William, 108
 Blewar, Robert, 94
 Blewin, Thomas, 19
 Blower, William, 67
 Bluer, Mary, 81
 Blundell, Richard, 67, 68, 69
 Blundeville, Arms of Randal, 18, 19
 Blynhill (?), Arms of, 28
 Boardman, Joseph, 65
 Bold, Edward, 5; Rev. Edward, 32; Elizabeth, 5; Henry, 4; Peter, 4, 5
 Bold, of Upton, Family of, 4, 28, 29, 58
 Bolland, Edward, 67; John, 74; Thomas, 69
 Bolton, Mary, 97; Phebe, 106; Sir William, 21, 24
 Boore, David, 6; Ellin, 75
 Booth, Sir George, 77; John, 48; Robert, 74; William, 60
 Bore, Ellen, 103
 Boreman, Joseph, 15
 Borrow, Anne, 128
 Borrowes, Abygell, 138
 Borrowes, Ralph, 135
 Bosall, Richard, 94
 Bostock, Elizabeth, 133; John, 106, 135; Lawrence, 96; Peter, 108; Richard, 94, 109; Robert, 90; Sarah, 138; Thomas, 61
 Bostocke, Elizabeth, 42; Mary, 78; William, 116
 Boswell, Charles, 130; John, 103
 Bothom, William, 6
 Boulde, Mr., 17
 Boulton, Edmund, 78; Joseph, 128; Richard, 118; Robert, 67; Thomas, 56, 126
 Boutho, Robert, 17
 Bowen, Thomas (Alderman), 20
 Bowers, H., 55; Ralph, 99; Thomas, 109
 Bowker, William, 64
 Boydell, Robarte, 12
 Bradberie, Richard, 12
 Bradburne, William, 81
 Bradbury, Thomas, 34, 81, 113
 Bradford, Samuel, 114; Sarah, 138; Thomas, 138
 Bradshaw, Charles, 72; John (The Regicide), 24, 25; Katherine, 52; Margaret, 3; William (clerk), 109
 Bragshaw, Anne, 126
 Bramley, Mary, 123
 Branderred, Thomas, 109
 Brassey, Rev. Hugh, 40
 Brassy, — (Coronor), 48
 Brayne and Chantler, 77
 Breach of Promiae in 1637, 52, 54
 Brearewood, Priscilla, 15
 Breers, Lawrence, 37
 Breese, Margaret, 111; Thomas, 116
 Breiveley, Hannah, 70
 Brereton, Humphrey, 106; Thomas, 74; William, 105; Sir William, 20, 24, 25
 Brerewood, Christian, 113
 Bressey, Thomas, 93
 Brete, Elizabeth, 85
 Bridge, Edward, 99; Margaret, 59; Ralph, 111; Richard, 138; William, 39, 70
 Bridgeman, Elizabeth, 62; Bishop John, 137; Dean Henry, 62; Dean and Bishop Henry, 102
 Bridges, Elizabeth, 78
 Briggany, Katren, 126
 Briscall, John, 74; William, 108
 Briscoe, Ales, 103; Edward, 74; John, 66, 67, 84; Joseph, 67; Samuel, 66; Thomas, 84, 138
 Brishall, John, 84
 Bristo, William, 75
 Britain, Richard, 91
 Broase, Thomas, 106
 Brook, Ales, 139; Elizabeth, 129, 140; Joane, 67; Robert, 135; Susannah, 139; William, 112
 Brooke, Mary, 85
 Brok, Rev. William, 31
 Broke, Anne, 42; Rev. James, 29
 Bromfield, Daniel, 91; William, 105
 Bromleigh of Chetylton, Arms of, 18
 Bromley, Michael, 59
 Brooke, John, 30
 Brooke of Norton, Arms of, 128
 Brookes, Anne, 67; John, 70
 Brooks, John (Liverpool), 61; William, 90
 Broster, Charles, 37; Mary, 120
 Brough, Randle, 108
 Broughill, John, 20
 Brounefield, John, 15
 Brown, William, 135
 Brown, George, 100; Mathew, 74; Owen, 111; Thomas, 93
 Browne, Adam, 54; Francis, 109; Jane, 94; John, 111; Mary, 123; Thomas, 20; Sir Thomas, 100, 107, 108, 118, 119
 Brownfield, Daniel, 139
 Brownhead, Elizabeth, 59
 Bruce, Robert, 109; Thomas, 111
 Bruen, Richard, 105; Samuel, 64
 Bruer, Jonathan, 128
 Brumfield, Ales, 135
 Brydde, Rev. James, 5
 Bryerley, Thomas, 133
 Bucher, James, 138
 Buckeley (?) Catherine, 72
 Buckley, Chatherine, 72; David, 111; Davitt, 139; Edward, 99; John, 118; Joseph, 70; Mary, 139
 Buckleye, Rev. T., 12, 29, 30
 Bucksie, Nicholas (Preby.), 27
 Bulen, Ales, 126
 Bulkely, Sir Richard, 29
 Bullmer, James, 6
 Bunburie, David, 32; Thomas, 39
 Bunbury, Henry, 85; Sir Henry, 74; Joseph, 91; Margaret, 4
 Bunley, Thomas, 105
 Bunting, Ellen, 62
 Burceio, Nigel de, 84
 Burchall, Jane, 52
 Burokenhed, John, 42
 Burgess, Sara, 109
 Burgess, Ben, 74; William, 108
 Burrell, John, 12
 Burroughes, Edward, 45
 Burrowes, Anne, 81, 138; Hugh (Minister), 20
 Burrows, Anne, 67; Daniel, 69; Ralph, 67; Samuel, 94
 Burrowse, Richard, 39
 Bury, Edward, 69
 Bushell, Ann, 30; Ellin, 75; George, 77; John, 33, 35; Mary, 62; Nathaniel, 31; Richard, 64; William, 77

Buabill, Ralph, 44
 Buttler, Lady, 70
 Buttler, Jane, 98
 Buyrtou of Buyrtou (Buerton),
 Arms of, 18
 Byfield, Nicholas, 60
 Byrom, William, 59

O

Caddock, Humphrey, 37; Thomas, 116
 Caddocke, Hannah, 94
 Cadman, Margrat, 133
 Calcoote, Robert, 39
 Calcott, John, 75, 91
 Caldicott, Thomas, 91
 Caldwell, Robert, 108
 Calf, Mary, 128
 Calkin, Thomas, 112
 Calles, Martha, 133
 Calley, Edward, 131
 Callie, Richard, 10
 Calveley, James, 80; Lady, 62
 Calwell, Robert, 108
 Candland, William, 94
 Capenhurst, Arms of, 18
 Cappar, Philip, 99
 Capper, William, 85
 Cappur, John, 91
 Carden, Bridget, 78
 Carder, Richard, 116
 Cardin, Anne, 138; Mary, 135; Richard, 54
 Care, John, 32
 Carington, John, 39; Thomas, 32
 Carmon, Margreat, 94
 Carr, Anne, 135; John, 91
 Carrington, John, 114; Jeremy, 61
 Carsley, Hugh, 108
 Carter, Anne, 133; John, 90; Marie, 19; Mary, 135; Rebecca, 135; Richard, 116, 126, 139; Thomas, 81; William, 90, 116, 133
 Carterick, Margreat, 106
 Cartwright, Bishop, 50, 52
 Carnoate, Area of, 87, 95
 Cary, George, 105
 Castro, Alphonsus a., 41
 Catterall, Rev. Ralph, 34
 Catherall, Richard, 113; Thomas, 42; William, 64
 Catterall, Elizabeth, 3; Richard, 54
 Caulkin, Margaret, 54
 Caveley, Margaret, 94
 Cawdee, Sarah, 103
 Cawley, Elizabeth, 42; John, 42
 Cealey, Elizabeth, 118
 Celley, Ellin, 125; Mary, 116; Richard, 111
 Celsall, John, 75, 131; Widow, 131
 Celshall, Shouana, 135
 Cenderick, William, 133
 Challenger, Edmond, 78; Mary, 106
 Challenor, John, 28
 Chaloner, Thomas, 17
 Chamberlain, George, 74; Thomas, 74
 Chamberlane, Sarah, 62
 Chamberlin, Robert, 113
 Chambre, Charles, 112
 Chamberlin, Thomas, 128
 Chantler, Thomas, 81
 Chantrell, The Arms of, 18; John, 42; Robert, 42
 Chapel of St. Nicholas, Chester, 21
 Chapman, Murrell, 30; Richard, 30

Chapter Estates, Management of, 137
 Charleston, Rev. William, 29
 Charleton, Rev. Alan, 12, 29
 Charnock, Elizabeth, 70; Jane, 135; Samuel, 131; Thomas, 74
 Charnocke, Cecillie, 12; Thomas, 19
 Charter (Backford-Bostock), 112
 Charters, Cheshire, 117
 Chaterton, Martha, 139; Robert, 135
 Chatherall, Richard, 120
 Chatterton, Samuel, 77
 Cheese, Jeffrey, 75
 Chelkin, William, 112
 "Cheshire, The Antiquities of," 120
 Cheshire, Church Notes (R. Holme), 135; Clergy in, 1559, 11, 26, 33, 36, 38, 66; Sir John, 51; John, 81
 Chester. Arms of Richard, Earl of, 19; Deans of, 1, 3, 20; Ellin, 118; The Lord of, 17; Prudence, 113
 Chetham, John (Registrar), 46
 Chetwoode, Roger, 67
 Chew, Ellin, 37
 Cholmondeley, Charles, 61; Sir Hugh, 71
 Chrichley, Rafe, 62
 Chritchley, John, 56
 Church, Thomas, 72
 Churches, Cheshire, 17, 28, 29, 31, 39
 Churton, Ralph, 90; Thomas, 90, 108, 112; William, 108
 City Sword in Cathedral, 60, 61
 Clare, Thomas, jr., 56; William, 56
 Clark, Rev. William, 34
 Clarke, Ester, 114; Henry Lewis, 62; John, 35, 59, 100, 116; Margreat, 106, 106; Sam. (Minister), 20; Sarah, 140; Rev. T., 12, 30
 Clearke, Elizabeth, 47
 Clerok, Rev. William, 52
 Clerk, Robert, 99
 Clerke, Nicholas, 30; William, 30
 Clewy, Peter, 84
 Cliff, Rev. Randle, 30; (or Clyffe), Rev. Wm. Dean, 20, 26
 Clifton, Alice, 59
 Clive, George, 74
 Clough, Thomas, 54, 105; William, 78
 Clubb, Benjamin, 140; Joseph, 105
 Clubbe, Joseph, 94; Mary, 94
 Clutton, Thomas, 99
 Coaches, Introduction of, 125
 Coarse, John, 66
 Cobb, John, 56
 Cook, Richard, 37
 Cockes, Jane, 131
 Coddington, Edward, 100; William, 105
 Codwell, Elizabeth, 138
 Coif, The (Serjeants at Law), 101
 Coke, Rev. Henry, 34
 Cokes, Richard, 131
 Colley, John, 70; Samuel, 92; William, 99, 114, 135
 Collingwood, Rev. W., 12, 27, 30, 38
 Colly, Elizabeth, 54
 Colsall, Grace, 72
 Comberbach, Ales., 116; Edmonde, 10

Comberbatch, John, 94; Ralph, 103
 Concliff, Foster, 84
 Conghin, Peter, 74; Richard, 100
 Conie, John, 3
 Contadino, Austin, 106
 Conwy, Hugh, 57
 Coose, Elizabeth, 128
 Cook, Elinor, 3; Henry, 84; Jane, 81; Thomas, 61, 108
 Cooke, Elizabeth, 52; Ellen, 12, 123; Ester, 113; Frances, 10; John, 59; Margreat, 113; Richard, 48, 51; Robarte, 15; William, 69, 126
 Cookson, Isaac, 111
 Coonrick, Jane, 56
 Cooper (or Cowper), City Sheriff, 46, 47; John, 59; Margaret, 88
 Cope, John, 81
 Copland, Robert, 84
 Corne, Mary, 52
 Cosson, Samuel, 116
 Cotes, Bishop of Chester, 45, 48, 49
 Cotgreave, Robert, 105, 131
 Cottingham, Elizabeth, 39; Mary, 45; Theodore, 69; Thomas, 39, 128
 Cottgreave, John, 123
 Cotton, Ellin, 128; George, 106; Hannah, 133; Margaret, 78; Sir Richard, 20; Robert, 56; Sir Robert Salusbury, 61; Thomas, 69, 90
 Cottrell, George, 45
 Coulthurst, Thomas, 37, 42, 42
 Coulton, Elinor, 128
 Court of Cald, The, 23
 Coutkriff, Mary, 131
 Coventry, Thomas, 69
 Cowap, George, 135
 Cowburn, John, 103
 Cowdock, Robert, 139; Thomas, 139
 Cowdocke, Ales., 17; John, 3; Randle, 106; Robert, 3
 Cowley, Christian, 10; Mary, 69; Thomas, 138; William, 126
 Cowper, Rev. Henry, 34; John, 66; Samuel, 109; William, 20, 99
 Cowsnocke, Ellin, 15
 Coxon, Mary, 36
 Coyne, Katherin, 3
 Crabb, Robert, 66
 Crabball, Ales., 91
 Craine, William, 34
 Crane, Mary, 133; Richard, 88; Robert, 98; Thomas, 70; William, 81
 Craven, John, 94; Richard, 128
 Crew, Edward, 139
 Crews, John, 61; Family, The, 123
 Crewen, John, 109; Miles, 109
 Critchley, Lidiah, 45
 Crockett Ralph (Martyr), 71
 Crofoote, Anne, 128; Thomas, 126
 Crompton, John, 67; Peter, 59; Thomas, 61; William, 48
 Cromwell, Oliver, 20
 Crookes, Alice, 3
 Crosby, Robert, 128
 Cross, Daniel, 45; Mr., 55; Thomas, 67, 67
 Crosse, Anne, 103; Daniel, 91; Isaac, 70; Margreat, 91; Thomas, 116
 Crother, Anne, 139

- Croughton, Anne, 73; Edward, 116;
 Ellin, 92; John, 22; Mary, 64;
 Thomas, 105; William, 94
 Crowfoot, John, 111; William, 111
 Croxden, Rev. John, 33
 Croxon, James, 105; William, 91
 Crue, David Fitz Thomas de, 55;
 Sir Thomas, 88
 Crump, James, 94
 Crymes, Chatherine, 109
 Cudworth, Robert, 24
 Cullome, John, 139
 Cumberbach, Ellen, 56
 Cumberbach, Raph, 64
 Cumberbatch, John, 90
 Cumberbach, Roger, 105
 Cundill, William, 56
 Cunliffe, Mary, 33
 Cuper, Thomas, 133
 Cupitt, Jane, 15
 Curry, Margaret, 64; Thomas, 74
 Cuttonous, Ellin, 109
 Customs, Old, 76
 Cutler, Magdalen, 62
 Cyvaliook, Arms of Hugh, 18

 D.
 Daintith, Robert, 59
 Dalby, Thomas, 84, 112
 Dale, James, 59; Jane, 131; Rachall,
 130
 Dalton, Anne, 103
 Daney, Katherine, 62
 Dann, Anne, 128
 Danold, Mary, 62
 Danyell, Robert, 55
 D'Anyers (or Daniels), Family, 133
 Darlington, Jane, 59; Thomas, 94
 Darrall, Richard, 135
 Darrowe, Elizabeth, 6
 Darwell, Petter, 138
 Daubin, Thomas, 69
 Davenport, Anne, 78; Sir Hum-
 phrey, 101; Joseph, 52
 Davids, John, 108
 Davies, Ann, 2; Anne, 36, 59, 114;
 David, 2, 131; Deborah, 123;
 Dorroathy, 116; Edward, 113;
 Elizabeth, 19, 70; Grace, 85;
 Henry, 94; James, 116; John,
 2, 74, 97, 99; Johnathan, 103;
 Joseph, 66, 91; Margaret, 103;
 Marie, 32; Mary, 64, 106, 118;
 Mutton, 48; Peter, 113; Ralph,
 131; Richard, 2; Richart, 126;
 Thomas, 62, 91, 99; Tymothy,
 45; William, 61, 78, 94, 105, 120
 Davis, Catherin, 131; Christian,
 21; Edward, 138; Elizabeth, 15,
 75, 128; Henry, 100; Katherin,
 3; Martha, 133; Ralph, 130;
 Raphe, 15; Thomas, 10, 128,
 139; William, 128
 Davison, Rev. James, 12, 30
 Davy, John, 139
 Davye, Rev. Thomas, 12, 27, 30
 Dawson, Anne, 106; John, 112;
 Nath., 67; Roberte, 6
 Daxson, Edward, 72; William, 108
 Day, George, 73, 74; Josiah, 73, 80
 Dean, John, 56, 84, 94; Ralph, 135;
 Randle, 111; Thomas, 91;
 Timoth., 106
 Deane, Anne, 97; Bridget, 54;
 Elizabeth (widd.), 56; Sir John,
 77; Thomas, 78
 Deans of Chester, 1, 3, 17, 21, 26, 62
 Deanson, Joseph, 139
 Deaves, William, 66
 Defoe, Daniel, 125
 Delamere, Thomas, 84
 Delves, William, 139
 Denhall, Jane, 67
 Denise, Anne, 30
 Dennes, Jacob, 139
 Denson, Anne, 128; Ester, 106;
 John, 77, 84, 105, 133; Mary,
 85, 116, 126; Richard, 74; Rev.
 Robert, 61
 Dentith, John, 64
 Deo (Doe?) Thomas, 74
 Derby, Earls of, 28, 33, 38, 40, 46, 49,
 57; Roberte de, 51
 De Trafford, Dorothy, 71
 Devenport, of Devenporte, 143
 Dewsbury, Arabella, 33
 Dewsbury, Margery, 59; Robert,
 62; Thomas, 62
 Dicus, Randle, 114
 Dicken, John, 99
 Dickerson, John, 103
 Dickeson, William, 138
 Dickinson, John, 62
 Dicks, Peter, 56
 Dickson, Rev. T., 12, 31
 Dicous, Nicoulous, 133
 Dissenters, Disabilities of, 55
 Dittar, John, 99
 Dob, Margery, 59
 Dobb, Samuel, 106
 Dobby, Moses, 99
 Dockrell, Rev. John, 105
 Dod, George, 91, 93; Hugh, 37;
 John, 69, 93, 109, 112; Margreat,
 72; Peter, 112; Ralph, 100, 100,
 111, 113; Richard, 62; Robert,
 74; Samuel, 112; Thoms., 91;
 Thomasin, 37; William, 25, 93,
 100
 Dodd, Edward, 91, 126; Elizabeth,
 81, 113, 123; Hugh, 138; Isabell,
 113; Martha, 138; Richard,
 (Minister), 78; Richard, 131;
 Thomas, 118
 Domesday, Cheshire, 85, 90, 94, 95, 98
 Domvill Family, The, 98
 Done, Abram, 111; Jane, 15;
 John, 42, 56, 94; Robert, 105;
 William, 42
 Dooley, Benjamin, 94
 Dowden, Thomas, 133
 Downe (Done), Jeffraye, 70
 Downes, John, 128; Ralph, 111;
 William, 17
 Downham, Bishop William, 26
 Downiard, Richard, 94
 Downs, John, 106; Thomas, 111
 Drinkwater, William, 36
 Driving Tour in N. Wales, 106
 Duckenfeilde, Elizabeth, 3
 Ducks (F Duckworth), Rev. Charles,
 31; Rev. James, 12
 Dudley, Rev. Arthur, 12, 32
 Dudlow, Samuel, 44
 Dugdale, Margaret, 59
 Dumble, Isabell, 21
 Dumbell, Jane, 91, 94; Margaret,
 54
 Dun, Daniel, 74; John, 111;
 Joseph, 69
 Dunbabin, Peter, 118; Thomas, 44
 Dunbevin, Richard, 39
 Duncalf, John, 94
 Dunn, Joseph, 80
 Dunning of Kingsley, 42
 Dunsterville, Edward, 36; Lucy,
 36
 Dutton, John, 133
 Dutton, Alice, 39, 52; Anne, 15, 64,
 118; Rev. Edward, 91; Edward,
 99; Fulk (Mayor), 46; Gilbert,
 138; John, 62, 118; Jonathan,
 111, 135; Joseph, 105, 111, 112;
 Marmaduke, 70; Richard, 135;
 Robert, 105; Samuall, 51;
 Thomas, 99, 138, 138
 Dyason, Richard, 118
 Dyeson, Joseph, 98

 E.
 Eachus, Thomas, 91
 Earlam, George, 74
 Earwaker, J.P., 11
 Eaton, Alice, 3; Anne, 139;
 Elizabeth, 78; Ellen, 72; George,
 20, 54; Jane, 48; John, 91;
 Kenrick, 48; Mary, 85; Peter,
 50; Richard, 52
 Eavans, Jane, 56, 59; Mary, 32
 Eayton, Jane, 120
 Eccles, John, 77; Richard, 59
 Eccleston, William de, 51
 Edgar (King), 96
 Edge, John, 91, 111, 111; Margreat,
 72; Randle, 135; Thomas, 123
 Edgerton, Elizabeth, 64
 Edgley, Elizabeth, 64
 Edgworth, Martha, 128
 Edmonds, Edward, 123
 Edmondson (or Edmundson), Robert,
 77, 78
 Edwards, Chatherine, 118, 123;
 Elizabeth, 118; Ellen, 17; Sir
 Francis, Bt., 109; Hannah, 98;
 Henry, 69; Isabella, 139; Jane,
 126; Rev. John, 128; John, 84,
 98, 109, 139; Joseph, 69;
 Margreat, 72; Mary, 64; Ric.,
 59; Robert, 123; Simon (or
 Symon), 62, 128; Thomas, 109;
 William, 91, 139
 Edwy (King), 96
 Egerton, Lady Bridget Grey, 136;
 Hugh, 111; John, 112; Philip,
 23, 100; Richard, 91; Robert,
 130; Thomas, 91
 Elcock, Alexander, 52
 Elections, Parliamentary, 61, 66, 69,
 74, 77, 78, 84, 90, 91, 93, 94, 99,
 100, 104, 105, 106, 108, 109, 111,
 112, 113, 114, 116
 Eles, Anne, 133; Thomas, 129
 Eley, Bridget, 118
 Ellice, William, 120
 Elis, Frances, 126
 Elizabeth (Queen), 2, 3, 4, 8, 26, 57
 Ellum, Thomas, 75
 Ellis, Anne, 81; Elizabeth, 109;
 Jane, 15; Samuall, 78; Thomas,
 123
 Ellor, Elizabeth, 10
 Emigrants to America, Cheshire, 2,
 55
 Englerton (Inglefield), Thomas, 77
 Entersley, Ellen, 139
 Entry, Curious, St. Oswald's,
 Chester, 15
 Entwistle, Archdeacon, 102

Erby, William, 29
 Erunn, Jane, 126
 Essex, Earl of, 17
 Estom, Mary, 114
 Etchell's (or Hutchen), John, 108
 Evans, David, 81; Edward, 116;
 Elizabeth, 75; Hugh, 123; John,
 94; Sarah, 32; Thomas, 113;
 William, 139
 Evanson, Robert, 105; Timothy,
 108; Thomas, 105
 Evans, Elizabeth, 85; Shousana,
 126
 Evenson, Raph, 136
 • F.
 Fabius (Febyns), Dr., 43
 Fairclough, Ellen, 62; Thomas, 74
 Falconer, Stephen, 94
 Fanahaw, William, 131
 Farbuck (? Tarbuck), Lydia, 55, 56
 Farguson, James, 126
 Farington, Mary, 138
 Farnell, George, 126
 Farrall, John, 111; William, 78
 Farrington, Ann, 34; Randle, 64;
 Ruth, 34; Samuel, 98; Sarah, 92
 Fazaackerlay, Daniel, 42
 Fazererley, Elizabeth, 118
 Fearnhead, Thomas, 56
 Fell, Edgar, 56; Lydia, 3; Thomas,
 3
 Fernall, Francis, 75
 Fford, John (Minister), 20
 Filkin, Elizabeth, 19; John, 106;
 Margrat, 131; Samuel, 126;
 Thomas, 75, 91, 105
 Finch, Elizabeth, 126
 Finchett, Elizabeth, 123; Margrat,
 Mary, 116
 Fines on Roman Catholics, 60
 Finlow, William, 56
 Firgison, William, 69
 Fish, Elizabeth, 103
 Fisher, Edward, 42, 42; John, 105;
 Mary, 97; Mat., 84; Thomas,
 111; William, 36, 91
 Fitz-Herbert, John, 5
 Fitz-Hugh, Robert, 86, 88, 96
 Fitz-Nigel of Halton, 140; William,
 87
 Fitz-Osbern, Hugh, 85
 Fitzwick, Bartholemew, 62
 Flecher, Anne, 131; Elizabeth, 128;
 Jane, 126; Richard, 126
 Fleck, Joseph, 126, 128; William,
 91
 Flecke, Margrat, 138
 Fleete, John, 78, 81
 Fleming, Margaret, 45
 Fletcher, Richard, 106
 Fletcher, Anne, 15, 75; Charles, jr.,
 94; Elizabeth, 111, 120; John,
 52, 105, 112, 118; Judith, 123;
 Margaret, 22; Philicia, 114;
 Rebecca, 94; Robert, 18, 138;
 Thomas, 77; Rev. Thomas, 27;
 William, 45, 70, 99
 Flood (Lloyd), Bishop George, 59
 Flower, Mary, 103
 Floyd (Lloyd), Bishop George, 58
 Fogg, Dr. Arthur, D.D., 69
 Fogg, Arthur, 138
 Follings, Thomas, 50
 Followfield, Sarah, 3
 Formbie, Ruth, 70

Foulshurst, Arms of, 28
 Foulke, William, 21
 Foulkes, Edward, 99
 Fowden, Rev. Philip, 30
 Fowler, Rev. John, 105; John, 135
 Fowles, John, 66; Mr., 52
 Fox, George (Quaker), 53; Jane,
 59; John, 75, 113; Mary, 116;
 William, 108, 109, 109
 Foze, John (Martyrologist), 34
 Foxley, Thomas, 61, 108, 108
 Fradsham, Elizabeth, 133; John,
 135
 Frances, Chatharine, 116
 Francis, John, 78, 138; William,
 78
 Free School, 102
 Freeman, Thomas, 59
 French, Thomas, 120
 Frodsham, Ellen, 133; John, 66, 66
 Frogg, John, 39
 Fryer, George, 45; John, 98
 Fytton, Sir E., 12

G.

Galtor, James, 126
 Gaman, William, 131
 Gammull, William, 66
 Gamon, Jonathan, 74; Richard, 84
 Gamul, Thomas (Recorder), 63
 Gamull, Frances, 26; Sir Francis,
 21, 24, 25; Thomas, 21, 24, 25
 Ganwell, Alice, 39; Christian, 39
 Gandy, Elizabeth, 100
 Gaol, Old Chester, 32
 Gardiner, Robert, 67
 Gardner, Katherin, 17; Samuel, 111;
 Thomas, 17
 Garnor, Elinor, 135; Jane, 139
 Garrat, John, 62, 139; William, 34
 Garrett, Rev. Richard, 27, 30
 Garsden, George, 138
 Garside, James, 56
 Gartree, William, 78
 Gaskin (? Ann), 21
 Gay, Thomas, 69
 Gellibrand, Edward, 4
 Gellion, Elizabeth, 103
 Gernons, Arms of Randle, 18
 Gerrard, Samuel, 35
 Gerth, John, 131
 Geust, Ales., 78
 Gheast, Bishop, 3
 Gibbons, Edward, 64; Jane, 54;
 Margaret, 81; Thomas, 17
 Gibson, David, 3; Nathan, 2;
 Rev., 135; Thomas, 66
 Gifford, Mary, 139
 Gilbert, Thomas, 22
 Gilbert, Alice, 30
 Gill, Alice, 6; Elizabeth, 94;
 Francis, 111; Peter, 84;
 Richard, 15; Thomas, 56, 67
 Gillies, Thomas, 123
 Gilbert, Hannah, 52
 Glazier, Robert, 74
 Gleaton, Thomas, 72
 Gleave, Israel, 84; Thomas, 29
 Glegg, Alice, 36; John, 67; William,
 66, 67, 91
 Glegge, Gilbert, 23
 Glover, Ellen, 94; Rev. Humphrey,
 30; John, 12; Joseph, 52
 Godeman, Richard, 88
 Godfrey, William, 52, 54
 Godwyn Family, The, 117

Golborne, Jane, 37; John, 128
 Golden, Joseph, 91; Miriam, 64
 Golding, Ann, 25
 Goldinge, Joane, 118
 Goodacre, John, 74; Thomas, 61;
 William, 78
 Goodier, Hannah, 109
 Goodwin, Elizabeth, 28
 Googe, Elizabeth, 67
 Gorse, Sarah, 42
 Gorstlow, Rev. John, 27
 Gostage, Thomas, 105
 Gouer, Anne, 126
 Gouf, John, 136
 Gough, Anne, 131; Jane, 75; John,
 99; Mary, 135; William, 138
 Goughs, John, 6
 Goulborn, Elizabeth, 131; (? Pail-
 born), William, 91; Rope (?), 93
 Goulbourne, John, 75
 Goulden, Ellen, 64
 Goulding, Margrat, 133
 Goulson, Anne, 97; William, 135
 Grace, Thomas, 37
 Grammar School, Witton, 73, 74, 80
 Grange, Edmond, 52
 Gratchett, Owen, 84
 Gree, Katherine, 6
 Green, Edward, 66; Eleese, 133;
 Hugh, 91; John, 69, 94; Moses,
 94; Richard, 93; Rev. Thomas,
 84; Thomas, 100, 138; William,
 61, 84, 84
 Greene, Alexander, 15; Dorothy, 62;
 Esable (? Isabel), 118; Henry,
 39; Isabell, 15; Peter, 97;
 William, 39, 54
 Greenhalgh, Thomas, 62
 Gregg, Mary, 62; Thomas, 56
 Gregorrry, Jane, 126
 Gregory, Abram, 105; Preby,
 Edward, 27; George, 61;
 Joseph, 113; Robert, 69, 99
 Grice, Anne, 56; Jane, 21; John,
 66; Margaret, 51; Sir Rice
 Samuel, 84; William, 45, 51
 Griefith, Frances, 97
 Grifeth, Edman, 128; Edward, 133
 Griffith, Will., 33
 Griffith, Charles, 94; Joseph, 100;
 Margaret, 62; Mary, 78; Rev.
 Nath., 108; Peter, 69; Rhys ap.,
 57; Robert, 105; Thomas, 36, 99
 Griffiths, John, 61; Thomas, 69
 Griffyth, Barbara, 123; Jane, 109;
 William, 116
 Grindal, Archbishop, 3
 Grine, Ales, 126
 Groose, Thomas, 138
 Grosvenor, The Arms of, 141, 142;
 Lord, 32; Matilda (wd. of Sir
 T. Grosvenor), 18; Sir Richard,
 99; Robert, 99; Thomas, 99
 Grosvenours of Hulme, The, 140,
 142
 Gruffyth, John, 113
 Grundy, Samuel, 140
 Grundye, Hannah, 109; Richard, 94
 Guest, George, 140; John, 111;
 Thomas, 105
 Guteridge, Elizabeth, 138
 Gutteridge, Alice, 81
 Gwillim, Edward Lloyd, 106
 Gwin, Elizabeth, 32
 Gwynn, Dr. Owen, 123
 Gyle, Henry, 69

- H.**
 Haach, George, 138
 Haddfield, Rev. William, 73; William, 77
 Hairefinch, Anne, 116
 Hairfinch, Dorothy, 133
 Hale, Elizabeth, 109; Isaac, 67; John, 81
 Hales, William, 99
 Hall, Andrew, 128; Anne, 56; Hannah, 128; Henry, 85; Jane, 52; Mary, 75; Ralph, 91; Richard, 3; Robert, 59, 62; Sarah, 56; Shusannah, 97; Thomas, 81, 91
 Halliwell, Catherine, 78; Richard, 135
 Hallwood, Elizabeth, 78; John, 66; John, junr., 78; Martha, 128; Sarah, 112; Thomas, 84
 Hallywell, Mary, 138
 Halmarke, Peter, 34
 Halton, Anne, 72; Baron William of, 90
 Halwood, Edward, 138
 Hament, Petter, 139
 Hammon, Peter, 78
 Hammond, John, 67
 Hamnett, Richard, 97; Thomas, 78
 Hamnitt, John, 138; Richard, 128
 Hamond, Peter, 61
 Hampson, Thomas, 106
 Hampton, Daniel, 66; John, 91; Thomas, 111
 Hams of Dunham, The, 87
 Hancock, Thomas, 78
 Hancock, John, 70; Samuel, 67; Thomas, 130
 Hancock, Mary, 116; Thomas, 118
 Hand, John, 106
 Handcocke, Mary, 67
 Handley, John, 81
 Handson, John, 108
 Hankey, John, 97, 129
 Hankinson, Mary, 92
 Hanson, Dorothea, 42; John (Archdeacon), 27
 Harcourt, Robert, 100
 Hardford, Richard (Minister), 20
 Harding, Anne, 62; Randle, 93; William, 59
 Hare, Ralph, 99
 Harefinch, Robert, 72
 Harley, Richard, 105
 Harman, Edward, 36
 Harper, Elizabeth, 39; Rev. William, 108
 Harpur, Anne, 62; Ellin, 106, 106
 Harris, Elizabeth, 133
 Harrison, Anne, 78, 81; Edward, 64, 111, 128; Elizabeth, 109; Ellin, 106; Gwen, 6; Hugh, 99; James, 62; Job, 90; John, 69, 78, 99, 105; Joseph, 106; Mary, 78, 139; Richard, 105, 133; Robert, 61; Samuel, 111, 128; Dr. Thomas, 52; Thomas, 74, 88, 91
 Hartcliffe, Mary, 59
 Harvey, Christopher, 57
 Harwood, John, 108
 Haslow, William, 45
 Haslyntone, 70
 Hassall, Thomas, 108
 Hasting, William, 78
 Hastings, Thomas, 78
 Hatch, James, 72
 Haton, Anne, 126
 Hatton, The Arms of, 137; Sir Christopher, 8; Elizabeth, 3; John, 66; Lord, 8; Mary, 116, 126; Thomas, 56, 105, 128; William, 105
 Hattons of Helsby, The, 7
 Haughton, John, 91
 Hawkins, Edward, 74
 Haycock, Ann, 2; Jonathan, 2
 Haydock (Haddock) Family, The, 120
 Hayes, Jane, 6; John, 35, 84; Robert, 66; Samuel, 66, 138; Thomas, 112; William, 84
 Hays, Martha, 3; Richard, 103; Sarah, 3
 Hayward, Margret, 126
 Haywood, Robert, 112
 Heald, Anne, 94; Robert, 59
 Healey, John, 39
 Heans, William, 99
 Heap, Edward, 69
 Heath, Robert, 94, 108; Thomas, 59
 Heather, Robert, 20
 Heatley, Arthur, 108; Thomas, 100
 Heaward, Frances, 75; Mary, 123; Robert, 114
 Heawood, Margret, 70
 Heefield, John, 85
 Heefield, Margret, 136
 Heighfield, William, 114
 Helbs, William, 59
 Hellesby, or Helsby, Family, 53, 89, 100, 101, 102, 109, 110, 111, 112, 142, 143; William, 71
 Helley, William, 112
 Helsby, Joseph, 2; Randle, 89
 Helsbye, or Hellesby, Randle, 70
 Hely, Will., 70
 Henbury, William, 99
 Henshall, Martha, 75
 Henshaw, Thomas, 80
 Henson, Thomas, 94
 Henthorne, Sam., 123
 Herald, Marie, 39
 Heraldic Devices, Bidston, 104
 Hese, Margery, 126
 Hesketh, James, 111; Thomas, 66
 Heskith, Mary, 140; Robert, 39
 Hewett, Thomas, 106; William, 21
 Hewood, Ester, 126
 Hey, James, 62
 Heys, Jacob, 74; Henry, 67; Margaret, 64
 Heylin, Rev. John, 36
 Heywood, Hannah, 103
 Hiccock, Francis, 96; Thomas, 20
 Hickcock, Edward, 133
 Hickocke, Elizabeth, 98; Jane, 120
 Hickcock, Thomas, 35
 Hicks, Edward, 91
 Hickson, Elizabeth, 118; William, 54
 Hicocke, John, 75
 Higginson, Elizabeth, 78; Martha, 98; Richard, 3
 Higginson, Hugh, 111; William, 111
 Highway, John, 91
 Hignet, Robert, 62
 Hignett, Daniel, 129; Ralph, 109; Richard, 64, 94; Robert, 42
 Higeon, John, 61; Randle, 56
 Hildish, Thomas, 54
 Hill, Anne, 118, 135, 139
 Hill-Cliffe Chapel, 43, 44, 47, 49
 Hill, Elizabeth, 64; George, 37; James, 118; Mary, 94; Raph, 106; Robert, 67; Rowland, 118; Shusanna, 128; Thomas, 111, 126; Rev. W., 12, 32, 38
 Hilton, Edward, 84; Raphe, 54; William, 77
 Hinces, Sera, 126
 Hincek, Edward, 22
 Hind, Alexander, 42
 Hinde, Anne, 62; Margery, 75
 Hine, Catherine, 25
 Hinkes, Alice, 135; Elizabeth, 103; Joseph, 81; Mary, 94
 Hinton, John, 77; William, 62
 Hirst, Jeffrey, 38
 Hitchen, Mary, 109
 Hixson, John, 85; Thomas, 56
 Hobson, James, 72
 Hockenhull, Richard, 52, 54
 Hockskin, John, 45
 Hodgkin, Jane, 138
 Hodgkin, Richard, 111
 Hodgkins, Mary, 130
 Hodgkins, John, 111; Thomas, 105
 Hodgson, Thomas, 97
 Hodgskin, Margreat, 111
 Hodskin, Ales., 129
 Hodson, John, 131; Samuel, 99; William, 61
 Hoghton, Sir Henry Bold, 58
 Holand, Margrat, 128
 Holcomb, Henry, 77
 Holcroft, Henry, 56
 Holford, Sir George, 5; (or Acton). Thomas (Martyr), 71
 Holis, Ralph, 126
 Holland, The Family of, 53; Charles, 50; John, 3, 3, 70, 78; Joshua, 108; Thomas, 50
 Hollin, Mary, 133
 Hollingshead, J., 107
 Holliwell, John, 109
 Holm, William, 114
 Holme, Elizabeth, 39; Randle (I.), 17, 28; Randle (II.), 39, 39; Randle (III.), 39; Randle (III.), Marriage of, 64
 Holmes, Alice, 133; Catherine, 72
 Holwood, John, 126
 Hoole, Hannah, 91; Robert, 128; Sarah, 10; Thomas, 51
 Hooton, The Arms of, 18
 Hope, Susannah, 100
 Hopkin, Mary, 118
 Hopley, Rev. John, 100; John, 64, 88; William, 21, 94, 108
 Hopwood, Rev. Richard, 20
 Hornebie, Margret, 32
 Horton, William, 108
 Hostage, Katherin, 140
 Hostick, John, 39
 Hotchkin, Ralph, 135
 Hotchskin, Hugh, 45
 Hough, George, 78; Jane, 75; Mary, 70; Thomas, 56
 Houghe, Francis or Frances, 15
 Houghton, Sir Richard, 17
 Houlst, Grace, 123; Thomas, 72
 Hounphrey, John, 3, 22
 Howell, Elizabeth, 100
 Howell, Alice, 59; Anne, 75; John, 67, 91; Mary, 78

Howson, Dean, 21
 Hoyle, Margrat, 128
 Hucksley, Catherine, 131
 Hudson, Richard, 70
 Hues, Sarah, 126; Peter, 106
 Huett, Elizabeth, 56
 Huges, Thomas, 128
 Hugh Cyveliok, Arms of, 18
 Hugh Lupus, Arms of, 19
 Hugh Lupus, 86, 88, 95
 Hugh de Mara, 87
 Huitt, Elce, 135
 Hughes, Anne, 139; Edward, 62; Elizabeth, 94; Elnor, 85; Hugh, 100; John, 120; Mary, 59; Richard, 78; Thomas, F.S.A., 8; William, 32
 Hughes, Elizabeth, 130; Grifeth, 136; John, 33, 66; Margery, 135; Peter, 109; Richard, 33; Thomas, 99, 139; William (Alderman), 99
 Hughson, Frances, 62
 Hull, Frances, 116
 Hulton, Elizabeth, 118; Ellin, 118; John, 25, 126; Mary, 100, 126; Ralph, 135
 Humphreys, Humphrey, 37; John, 59; Peter, 113; Thomas (Notary), 28, 30, 33, 34, 37; William, 67
 Humston, Robert, 100
 Humstone, John, 90
 Hunt, Anne, 39; Jane, 81; John, 70, 81; Richard, 39; Thomas, 85, 91
 Hunter, Jane, 12
 Huntington, Elizabeth, 33; Hugh, 61; Jane, 120; Rowland, 33; Samuel, 84; William, 123
 Hunter, Margreat, 109
 Hurleston, William, 140
 Hurston, John, 48
 Hurst, Charles, 111; Jeffrey, 49; Nathaniel, 111
 Hurstage, Daniel, 126
 Husband, Lawrence, 69
 Huse, Doritie, 15; Jane, 10; John, 12, 97; Margaret, 15
 Hutchen, John, 112; Thomas, 108
 Hutchins, Thomas, 57
 Hutchinson, Hugh, 51
 Huxley, John, 105
 Hyde or Hide, Area of a, 87, 95
 Hyde, Rev. Nicolas, 36; Robert, 53
 Hynd, Robert, 120
 Hyne, Ellun, 22; Roberte, 10
 Hypocant, Roman, 21

I.

Imprisonment of a Dean of Chester, 17, 20
 Ince, David, 30; Edward, 105; Elizabeth, 37; Ellin, 116; Katherine, 32; Marie, 37; Randle, 113; Sarah, 138; Shusannah, 94; William, 56, 94; William (Alderman), 29, 30, 32, 33, 36, 45; William, junr, 30, 32, 39
 Ingam, Silvester, 56
 Inns of Court, 101
 Inscriptions of Bath, Monumental, 33
 Ireland, John, 37, 105; Joseph, 77; Rev. Robert, 30; Thomas, 75

J.

Jackson, Anne, 135; Daniel, 61; Elizabeth, 135; Elnor, 81; Ephraim, 3; John, 42, 113; Katherine, 42; Lawrence, 74; Mary, 126, 133; Rev. Peter, 27; Peter, 74; Prissila, 118; Richard, 91, 130; Roger, 126; Samuel, 61; Thomas, 69, 98; William, 91, 103, 103
 James, John, 99
 Janion, Hannah, 131; Thomas, 91
 Jannion, Hannah, 94
 Janny Family, The, 81
 Jarratt, Gilbert, 84; Thomas, 105
 Jason, John, 118
 Jaxson, John, 106; Mary, 75
 Jefferys, Emma, 80
 Jeffreys, Katherine, 47
 Jeffs, John, 39
 Jelion, Anne, 126
 Jeniones, Anne, 138
 Jenions, Samuel, 138
 Jenkins, Thomas, 108
 Jenkinson, Hannah, 56
 Jennings, Joseph, 84, 84
 Jiles, Ralph, 105
 Joanes, Ales., 114; Anne, 111, 113; Catherine, 100; David, 98; Dorothy, 85; Elizabeth, 94; Ellin, 116; Hugh, 103; Humphrey, 118; John, 113, 123; Margreat, 100, 123; Petter, 128; Richard, 109, 118, 123; Robert, 114; Thomas, 94, 114, 126, 128; William, 116, 123
 Joans, Anne, 103
 Jodrell, John Bower, 33
 John, Meredith ap., 57
 Johnes, Gearard, 15; Jane, 17; Thomas, 10, 39; William, 6
 Johnson, Ales, 123; Alice, 10, 22; Ambrose, 91, 99; Anne, 94; Arthur, 66; Elizabeth, 126; George, 133; John, 54, 80, 81, 84, 85, *88, 100, *106, 111, 116, 123, 139; Mary, 118, 123; Mathew, 75; Obadiah, 74; Peter, 61; Richard, 75, 112; Robert, 75; Samuel, 84; Sara, 133; Thomas, 61, 67, 70; Urian, 105; William, 35, 69, 84, 133
 Joinson, John, 91; William, 61
 Jonas, William, 130
 Jones, Ann, 75; Catherin, 131; Charles, 94; Rev. David, 52, 54; Davitt, 133; Dorothy, 131, 139; Edward, 84, 112; Elin, 139; Elinor, 140; Elizabeth, 22; Gabriel, 90; Gwenn, 72; Henry, 105; Jane, 126; John, 66, 72, 81, 126, 135, 136; Margret, 138; Mary, 126, 128, 133, 133, 138, 139; Owen, 90; Peter (or Gilbert), 61; Randle, 111; Reeces, 133; Robarte, 3; Robert, 69, 74, 77; Roger, 77; Sarah, 133, 133; Thomas, 66, 77, 91, 91, 94, 99, 105, 108, 113, 126, 133; William, 35, 70, 84, 138
 Jonnes, Grace, 64; Katherine, 56; Mary, 59, 62, 118; Richard, 62; Rose, 62

*See notes on John Johnson, pp 88 and 106

Jonson, Ciseoley, 70
 Jordan, Charles, 106
 Jordane, Garratt, 78
 Joynson, Dorrathy, 72; Elizabeth, 139; Jane, 39; Thomas, 113

K.

Kalkin, Martha, 12
 Kay, Margreat, 123
 Kaye, Catherin, 128
 Kelley, John, 70
 Kellsall, Richard, 105, 114
 Kelly, Richard, 64
 Kelsall, Ales., 97; Anthony, 103; John, 42, 70; Peter, 67; Samuel, 111; Thomas, 113; William, 34
 Kelslaw, Elizabeth, 130
 Kemp, Thomas, 74
 Kendrick, John, 36; Martha, 116
 Kenion, Ales., 139; Margaret, 70
 Kennion, William, 34
 Kenyon, Elizabeth, 3
 Kenrick, Mary, 113
 Kent (P Cent), Alice, 81
 Kent, Margaret, 59
 Kenworthy, James, 44
 Kenyon, —, 51
 Kerfoote, John, 135
 Kettle, Ralph, 93; Thomas, 61
 Key, Elizabeth, 135; Richard, 113
 Keye, Rev. Lawrence, 33
 Keys, William, 108
 Kilsha, Joseph, 111
 King, Elizabeth, 39; George II., 114; James I., 63; James II., 42, 50, 52; Jane, 52; Bishop John, 4; Katherine, 56; Martha, 59; Richard, 70; Rob., 138; Thomas, 52; William, 39
 Kings, Elizabeth, 6; John, 98, 109; William (1645), 22, 109
 Kingsley of Kingsley, 141
 Kinniston, Catherine, 116
 Kinsay, Rev. Robert, 32
 Kinsey, William, 111
 Kirckham, Elizabeth, 72
 Kirfoote, Ellen, 118; John, 106
 Kirford, John, 105
 Kirkes, Hannah, 103; Liddia, 106; William, 81
 Kitchius, Richard, 39
 Knight, James, 135
 Knight, Jane, 128; Robert, 128
 Knighthood (temp. Henry VIII.), 104
 Knightly, Rev. John, 29
 Knights of Hugh Lupus, 95, 96
 Knowles, Anne, 78; Elizabeth, 75; John, 126; Margrat, 116, 126; Sarah, 94; Thomas, 75
 Kynsey, Rev. Robert, 12

L.

Lache (?), John, 56
 Lacy, Baron of Halton, 101
 Laik, Thomas, 70
 Lake, Thomas, 138
 Lamb, John, 91
 Lancaster, Rev. Nathaniel, 91; Thomas, 3
 Lancelott, Ales., 78
 Lancelot, John, 70
 Lancelyn, Arms of, 18
 Land, Symon, 62
 Langford, George, 84; Rev. John, 108; Joshua, 84

- Langley, Robert, 37; Tho. (Minister), 20
 Lancelot, Elizabeth, 128
 Lanton, Thomas, 133
 Large, William, 126
 Larton, John, 61; Thomas, 66
 Lathom Family, The, 90
 Lawd, Izaakk, 70
 Lawrence, Harbert, 90
 Lawrranson, Richard, 116
 Lea, Elizabeth, 39; Rev. Robert, 91
 Leach, Israel, 67
 Leadbeater, Frances, 85; Mary, 59; Peter, 91
 Leake, Robert, 139
 Leche, Henry, 74
 Ledon, John, 76
 Ledsham, George, 3
 Ledson, Rev. Richard, 27; William, 99
 Lee, Anne, 62; Hannah, 133; John, 77, 108, 108, 111; Mary, 56, 62; Rev. Peter, 90; Samuel, 74, 131; Thomas, 118, 128; Rev. W., 12; (or Leigh), Rev. William, 32
 Leadsley (?), Thomas, 6
 Leach, Jeremiah, 31, 35; Jerimie, 56; John, 112; Joseph, 126; Samuel, 35; William, 91
 Leeke, Stephen, 81
 Leen, John, 78
 Leetch, Martha, 139
 Leghs of Lyme, Family of, 133, 134
 Leicester, Earl of, 4; Sir John Fleming, 81; Peter, 56; Sir Peter, 73; (or Leicester), Alderman Richard, 32, 34; Richard, 47
 Leich, Elizabeth, 70
 Leigh, Garrard, 94; John, 67; Mary, 48; Rev. Peter, 32; William, 139
 Leighton, Thomas, 99
 Leivesley (?), Elizabeth, 45
 Leiksonbie (?), Edward, 10
 Le Massey, John, 55
 Lenorde, Ann, 22; William, 12
 Lepington, Rev. John, 30
 Lewis, Alice, 62; Elizabeth, 21, 113; Ellenor, 94; Evan, 133; Hugh, 37; John, 91, 105, 113, 114, 123; Mary, 81, 109; Richard, 72, 91; Sarah, 81, 116; Thomas, 81
 Lewkener, Sir Richard, 53
 Ley, John (Minister), 20; Margrat, 126
 Leycester of Toft, 51
 Lighbourne, Elinor, 54
 Lightbone, William, 62
 Lightbound, William, 72
 Lightfoot, Anne, 51; Margret, 34; Mary, 81; Richard, 34; Thomas, 34; William, 61
 Lightfoote, Charles, 75, 128; Elizabeth, 120; Mary, 59, 114; Richard, 56; William, 20
 Linaere, Thomas, 84
 Linard, Thomas, 105
 Linch, George, 74
 Lindop, John, 112; Samuel, 112
 Linford, Peter, 105
 Lingott, Samuel, 99
 Linnacre, Henry, 84
 Linnall, Frances, 105
 Linney, Hannah, 59
 Linnicor, Roger, 75
 Linniker, William, 109
 Linsdell, Richard, 133
 Lion, Ralph, 78
 Littfote, Richard, 55
 Litherland, Rev. John, 20; John, 88
 Little, Henry, 69
 Littler, Rev. Robert, 80; William, 123
 Liverock, Edward, 126
 Lloyd Family, The, 65; Marriages of Anne, 65; Will of Anne, 65; David (Mayor), 57; David, 65; Edward, 106; Elizabeth, 88, 123; Bishop George, 57, 58, 59, 60, 62, 63, 143; Humphrey ap. David, 93; Marke, 42; Martha, 106; Thomas, 94; William, 84
 Looker, Margaret, 98
 Lookier, John, 29; Richard, 29
 Loeb, George, 123; William, 78
 Loker, Elizabeth, 30
 Longe, Elinor, 109; Ichabod, 118
 Longevity in Cheshire, 107
 Loont of Land, A, 80
 Lord, Ellenor, 12
 Lorrison, Elizabeth, 103
 Loton, John, 128
 Lotton, Randle, 91
 Loughton, Thomas, 128
 Loukin, Thomas, 3
 Love Letters in XVII Century, 6, 127, 131, 132, 136, 137
 Low, John, 94; Joshua, 56; Lucis, 131; Margrat, 133
 Lowe, Rev. Arthur, 12, 32; Dority, 103; Elizabeth, 67; George, 73; John, 90; Peter, 84; William, 90
 Loyd, Elin, 135; Elizabeth, 62; Jane, 126; Joseph, 138; Mary, 123, 136
 Loyde, Elizabeth, 133
 Lummas, Elizabeth, 116; Richard, 78
 Lunte, Joseph, 94
 Lupus, Arms of Hugh, 19; Hugh, 86, 88, 95
 Luran, Elizabeth, 128
 Lymme Family, The, 98
- M
- Machell, Marie, 17
 Macklin, Thomas, 77
 Madackes, Margaret, 128
 Madacks, Richard, 131
 Maddar, Thomas, 91
 Maddock Family, The, 51; Alles., 75; Jonathan, 84; Richard, 108; Robert, 70; Roger, 77; Thomas, 59
 Maddocke, Jane, 98; Paule, 103; Samuel, 113
 Maddocks, John, 105; Joseph, 62; Raphe, 62; Richard, 45; Thomas, 74, 111
 Madog, David ap., 51
 Magines, Thomas, 128
 Maine, Cuthbert, 66
 Maisterson Family, The, 51; William, 114, 115
 Mainwaring Family, The, 51; Elizabeth, 5; George, 5, 61; James, 61
 Malbank (Malbedeng), William, 90, 95, 96, 98
 Malbone, George, 70
 Malborne, Grifeth, 139
 Maleverer, Sir Richard, 52
 Mallor, Elinor, 139
 Malpas, Arms of, 28
 Malts (? Meols), Henry, 61
 Maning, Anore, 45
 Manley, Mary, 94
 Mannering, Edward, 103
 Manor, Elizabeth, 140
 Marbery, Mary, 85
 Marbuery, John, 136
 Marchante, Thomas Spearin, 75
 Margery, Dame (Birkenhead), 117
 Maron, Ellen, 138
 Marriages at St. Oswald's (see Register)
 Marsden, Rev. Samuel, 33
 Marsh, Ann, 59; Elizabeth, 67, 113; George (Martyr), 34, 37, 40, 43, 45, 49; John, 109; Mary, 118; Samuel, 111
 Marshall, John, 81; Thomas, 66, 81
 Martin, John, 66, 74; Robert, 62; Thomas, 84; William, 81
 Martinscraft, Mary, 123; Thomas, 123
 Martlew, Anne, 136
 Martyrs at Chester, Roman Catholic, 12, 71
 Mason, Ales., 78; Henry, 35; Jane, 128; John, 61, 100; Samuel, 61; Thomas, 70, 72
 Massey (or Massie) Family, 96, 109, 110; Anne, 131; Frances, 70; George, 13; John, 73, 77; Mary, 71; Peers, 73; Peter, 113; Richard, 48, 74; William, 25
 Massie, Alice, 34; John, 54, 75, 85; Ralph, 75, 81
 Masson, Susanna, 131
 Mather, David, 105; Mary, 138; Richard, 17; Sibbill, 3
 Mathers, John, 69
 Mathew, Simon, 61
 Mathewes, Davitt, 133
 Mathews, Mary, 62; Sarah, 75
 Mathues, Margrat, 126
 Matthews, Joseph, 61; Thomas, 91
 Mawhood, George, 24
 Maxfild, William, 126
 Maycock, John, 59, 90
 Mayers, Mary, 130
 Maylor, William, 96
 Maynwaring, Roger, 5
 Mayor, The Title of, 41
 Mayors of Chester, 93
 Meachell, Elizabeth, 88
 Meacock, Henry, 90; John, 131
 Meacocke, Anne, 125; Elizabeth, 97; Rebecca, 85
 Meakin, Elizabeth, 88; Hannah, 116
 Meador, John, 138
 Meason, Joseph, 67
 Meere Murder, The, 127
 Meoles, Margaret, 116; Thomas, 139
 Mercer, Mary, 88; Shusanah, 126; Thomas, 36
 Meredith, Anne, 139; Catherine, 139
 Meredith, Jos., 113; Randle, 99; William, 133
 Merriek, —, 56; Elinor, 72

Mersey, Old Valley of the, 21
 Meschines, Arms of Randle de, 18
 Meyer, Rev. Henry, 77
 Meyrick, Bishop John (Sodor), 57
 Michell, Richard, 70
 Midcalf, Samuel, 111
 Middlehurst, Thomas, 99
 Middleton, John, 105
 Miles, Randle, 111; Thomas, 111
 Millington, Ales., 140; William, 30, 33
 Miller, Robert, 34; Thomas, 61
 Millington (or Mellenton) Arms of,
 135; Anne, 111; Ellen, 62;
 Francis, 17; John, 61, 128;
 Martha, 114; Philip, 91; Robert,
 50; Thomas, 75
 Milner, Daniell, 54
 Mills, Margery, 118
 Milner, Elizabeth, 62, 64; Ellin,
 17; Thomas, 139
 Minshall, John, 3, 91; Martha, 3;
 Richard (Alderman), 45; Thomas,
 3, 62, 94; Uriah, 138; Will., 54
 Minshowe, William, 20
 Minshull Family, The, 97, 119, 120,
 121, 130; Blanch, 54; Edward,
 106; George, 66; John, 99;
 John (Alderman), 105; Randall,
 106; Samuel, 91 ●
 Mirkall, Ellin, 22
 Mitchell, Margaret, 139
 Moarse, Debborah, 3
 Moles (Meles), John, 20
 Molinex, Sir Richard, 17
 Molley, Thomas, 139
 Molliley, Charles, 67
 Molyneux, Edward, 74; John, 69
 Montforte, Elizabeth, 12
 Monumental Inscriptions, Bidston,
 117
 Monumental Oak, The, 90
 Moor, Frances, 103
 Moore, Abbygall, 97; Elizabeth,
 138; George, 62; John, 52;
 Mathew, 139
 Moores, Anne, 70, 111; Jane, 67;
 Josia, 140; Mary, 91; Thomas, 52
 Moors, John, 66; Randle, 135
 More, William, 88
 Mores, John, 90; William, 20
 Moreton, — (Ch. Justice of Chester),
 19; Joseph, 75; Mary, 114;
 Thomas, 109, 139
 Morgen, Jane, 17
 Morrey, Rev. Hugh, 27, 30
 Morris, Jane, 75; George (or John),
 91; George, 135; Mary, 59;
 Richard, 100; Thomas, 92, 100;
 William, 42
 Morst (?), John, 112
 Mort, John, 80; Johnadab, 80
 Morte, Anne, 116; Mary, 75
 Mortan, Ellanor, 39; John, 39;
 W., 12
 Moss, James, 72; Thomas, 94, 99
 Moose, Rev. Peter, 32; Peter, 75;
 Thomas, 81; William, 139
 Mossen, John, 94
 Moston, Sage, 12
 Mothershead, Thomas, 126
 Mottershaw, James, 90
 Mottershead, James, 91
 Mouldsworth, Thomas, 73
 Moulson, John, 108; Ralph, 91;
 Robert, 108, 116; Sara, 128;
 Thomas, 108

Mowson, Hugh, 39; John, 39
 Moyles, Ales., 131
 Much, Margery, 67; Margret, 51
 Muchell, Jane, 75
 Mulboon, Grifeth, 139
 Mulin, Ales., 129
 Mullenex, Robert, 118
 Mullenuxe, Margaret, 54
 Mullett, Thomas (Minister), 85
 Mulliley, Thomas, 69
 Multon, Elizabeth, 128
 Murder in the XV. Century, A, 127
 Murry, George, 138
 Muskit, Elizabeth, 131
 Mynshull, Arms of, 18
 Myres, Jer., 28

N.

Nangle, Sir Richard, 52
 Nangreave, Joseph, 69
 Nantwich, Political Riot at, 114, 115
 Nathaniell, John, 91
 Navigation Act, Weaver, 114
 Naylor, Christian, 56; John, 81
 Nedeham, William, 5
 Needham, Cornelius, 103; Eliza-
 beth, 103
 Neild, Daniell, 106; Henry, 94;
 Mary, 62; Richard, 59
 Nelde, Henry, 133
 Neston Parish Register, 103
 Neston Ships, 124
 Nevett, Emm., 85
 Nevill, Robert, 91
 Nevitt, John, 94
 Newall, Joshua, 84
 Newbiggyng, Rev. Adam, 5
 Newhall, Joseph, 109; Lennard,
 109
 Newman, Elizabeth, 52
 Newport, Peter, 75
 Newporte, William, 94
 Newsam, Thomas, 70
 Newton, Elizabeth, 70; William, 85
 Nicholas, Chapel and Parsonage of
 St., 21
 Nicholes, Margreat, 106
 Nicholls, Aaron, 77; John, 111;
 Thomas, 69
 Nichols, John, 59
 Nicholson, Hugh, 139
 Nickalds, Margreat, 72, 103
 Nickeson, Elizabeth, 126
 Nickol, Anthony, 62
 Nickson, Sarah, 140
 Nicson, Raphe, 15
 Nield, John, 52
 Niede, William, 52
 Nigel, Baron of Halton, 41, 42
 Nightingale, Joseph, 133
 Nilde, Alice, 133
 Nixson, Ralph, 91; William, 91
 Nonconformists in Cheshire, Early,
 43, 47, 49
 Nonconformists, 60
 Norburie, Will., 42
 Norbury, Nath., 99
 Norley, John, 55
 Norris, Robert, 66
 Nunnery, St. Mary's, 116

O.

Oakes, John, 135
 Oarton, Jenks, 108
 Oates, John (*alias* Conways), 3
 Odon, John, 61

Ofenley, Margery, 75
 Ogden, Mary, 59
 Ogles, Edward, 81
 Okell, Elizabeth, 45; Jesse, 97;
 Robert, 114
 Okill, Joseph, 116
 Olier, Elizabeth, 56
 Olliver, Mary, 116
 Olyver, Rev. J., 12, 33
 Oretton, Mary, 54
 Orffer, William, 81
 Orme, —, 90
 Ormes, Jane, 113; John, 72;
 Thomas, 116; William, 116
 Orrett, Stanley, 77
 Osborne, Edward, 128
 Orton, Catherine, 128; Tho., 22
 Owens, Elizabeth, 126
 Outerhead, John, 91; William, 105
 Oulton, Elizabeth, 59
 Outerhead, Timothy, 94
 Overton, John, 108; Margreat, 123
 Owen, Anne, 81; John, 21; Joseph,
 61; Mildred, 59; Thomas, 42
 Owens, Jane, 59; Mary, 91
 Osborne, Elizabeth, 22

P.

Pace-Egging at Thurstaston, 76
 Pace, Joane, 12
 Packet Service at Parkgate, 123, 125
 Page, Alice, 62; John, 99
 Pailborn (? Goulborn), William, 91
 Painter, Margaret, 78
 Palin, Anne, 81; Elizabeth, 116;
 John, 105; Thomas, 90, 90, 100;
 William, 90
 Pallin, William, 48
 Paine, Jane, 128
 Paine, Anne, 133; Mary, 126
 Panton, Foulke, 94; Jane, 52;
 Martha, 139; Thomas, 126
 Parigeges, Anne, 128
 Park, Henry, 93; Thomas, 56
 Parke Family, The, 55
 Parker, Archbishop, 2; Catherine,
 136; Sir John, 51; Joseph, 3;
 Mary, 123, 130; Robert, 39;
 Robert Townley, 58
 Parkes, Josia, 139
 Parks, Mary, 138
 Parliamentary Elections (v.
 Elections)
 Parliamentary Poll-Book, 1727, 104
 Parr, Henry, 131; William, 64
 Parry, Edward, 85; Henry, 118,
 125; Margrat, 133; Peter, 77;
 Thomas, 94
 Parrye, Alice, 3
 Parsefull, Anne, 138
 Parsons, Mary, 139; Thomas, 105
 Parteredg, Martha, 133
 Parterged, William, 128
 Partington, George, 53; Thomas,
 99
 Parton, Anne, 91
 Pass, Mary, 135
 Paston Letters, The, 102
 Pate, John, 94; Thomas, 94;
 William, 109
 Patte, Ellin, 138
 Paughton, William, 100
 Paynter, Marie, 3
 Peacock, John, 112; Robert, 91;
 Samuel, 69
 Pears, Anne, 136

- Pearson, Bartholemew, 78; Raph, 42
 Peartree, Rev. William, 32
 Peck, Christopher, 103
 Pecke, Giles, 139; Martha, 139
 Peckeringe, Samuel, 118
 Pearce, Elizabeth, 44
 Peeke, Thomas, 6
 Peekcook, John, 133
 Peeres, Katherin, 10; Margaret, 100
 Peers, Anne, 64; Daniel, 77; Robert, 91; Samuel, 91; Thomas, 69
 Pearson, John, 3
 Peires, Martha, 126
 Peirson, John, 93
 Pemberton (?), The Tomb of, 29; George, 12, 62; Hannah, 72; John, 54; Joseph, 70, 109; Katherine, 56; Samuel, 97; Thomas, 19, 30, 37, 100; William, 61, 85
 Penocott, John, 91
 Pendleton, Thomas, 84
 Penketh, Marie, 42; Mary, 62
 Penkitt, Anne, 128; Rich., 139
 Penkstone, Peter, 108
 Penn, William (The Quaker), 50
 Penny, Elizabeth, 75
 Percival, Mary, 34; Archdeacon Robert, 27
 Percivall, Elizabeth, 109; John, 97; Magdalen, 54
 Pergamcy, John, 109; William, 109
 Perke, Gyles, 22
 Perkins, Julian (fam.), 85
 Perrie, Elinor, 6
 Perry, John, 66; Lidia, 135
 Person, Daniell, 109
 Petition of Burton, Wirral, 19
 Petres, Frere (Friar), 70
 Pever, Mary, 94
 Peyling, John, 105
 Pheasant, Thomas, 74, 123
 Philcock, Margaret, 97
 Phillips, Jacob, 91; William, 70
 Phillkin, Mary, 106; Phillip, 56
 Phillips, Mary, 54
 Phillips, Sarah, 139; Thomas, 106
 Pick, William, 84
 Pickance, Daniel, 73, 80; John, 69
 Picke, John, 10
 Pickerin, Jonathan, 139
 Pickering, Richard, 56
 Pickerren, Mary, 111
 Pickmore, Sarah, 123
 Pickstock, Anne, 59
 Pickstane, James, 73
 Piers, Archbishop John, 1, 2, 3
 Pigott, Robert, 109
 Pillinton, Dorothie, 12
 Pimlow, Anne, 133
 Pincerna, Richard, 85, 86
 Pinder, Peter, 45
 Piner, Dorothy, 128
 Pinkstone, James, 77
 Place, The, near Greasby, 41
 Plague at Burton, Incident in the, 36
 Plague in Cheshire, The, 100
 Plague in Chester, The, 63
 Plante, Rev. Robert, 12, 34
 Plat, Elizabeth, 59; Margaret, 13
 Plate, Mary, 130
 Platt, Anne, 97, 139; George, 100; Randle, 139; Thomas, 39; William, 109
 Plessington, Rev. William (? John), 13, 16
 Plimley, William, 39
 Plimstone, Anne, 113
 Plumpton, Frances, 114; William, 85
 Plymley, Thomas, 126
 Pointon, Aaron, 91; Joseph, 91; Moses, 91
 Pole, Cardinal, 45; Alice de la, 5; Isabella de la, 5; John de la, 5
 Pollit, Frances, 70
 Pool, Thomas, 135
 Poole of Poole, Arms of, 18; (Pulle) Ameline de, 55; Clare, 52; Francis, 74; Rev. Sir Henry, 32; Rev. Hugh, 61; Sir James, Bart., 16; Pardon for Murder of, 53; Richard de, 55; of Poole, Thomas, 25
 Pooley, Jean, 2
 Porter, Daniel, 78; John, 67; Rev. Thomas, 105
 Poslett, James, 139
 Posnett, Thomas, 88
 Posnet, Joseph, 118
 Postinwait, James, 108
 Potter, Andrew, 74; Anne, 114; Doritie, 21; Edward, 106; Thomas, 67
 Pottes, Anne, 126
 Potts, Henry, 81
 Poulson, Richard, 42
 Poveall, John, 93
 Povey, William, 113
 Powell, Alice, 126; Anne, 70; Elizabeth, 126; Katherine, 12, 62; William, 90
 Pownall, Elizabeth, 113; Thomas, 61
 Praers, Philip de, 98
 Pratchett, Thomas, 108
 Prece, Joseph, 99
 Prenton of Prenton, Arms of, 28; George, 59; John, 61; Thomas, 61
 Prescott, Jane, 109; William, 103
 Preston, Margaret, 81; Samuel, 84
 Price, Anne, 44; Henry, 69; Jane, 62; John, 100, 123, 135; Joseph, 140; Margaret, 103; Peter, 72; Thomas, 62, 67; William, 85
 Prices, Margery, 126
 Pricket, William, 126
 Prickett, Arther, 6; Margery, 78; Mary, 135
 Prickley, Peter, 56
 Prince, Elizabeth, 133; John, 111, 111
 Prinnee, Anne, 111
 Pritchett, James, 109; Thomas, 78
 Probe (?), Hugh, 92
 Probin, John, 42; Marie, 42
 Probye, Samuel, 106
 Puckle, Captain, 36
 Puddrough, Robarte, 15
 Pue, Thomas, 75
 Pughe, Mary, 17; William, 12
 Puleston, Thomas, 111
 Pulford, Elinor, 56; Hugh, 56; Mary, 139; Peter, 90, 140; Robert, 74; Thomas, 56; William, 78, 94
 Pull, Revd. Ranulph, 19
 Pullett, Thomas, 75
 Punnes, Samuel, 112
 Puritans, The, 60
 Pye, Robert, 74
 Pywell, Revd. Joseph, 43

Q

 Quakerism, 53
 Quakers, 2, 55, 121, 130
 Queen Margaret (Henry VI.), 17
 Queen Mary, 104
 Queens, John, 97; Katherine, 15, 62
 Queere the Voter's Name, 91*
 Queile, Catherine, 62
 Quicke, George, 123
 Quintree, Mary, 106

* See Note on p. 91.

R

 Rachdale, Jane, 85
 Radford, Robert, 32; Samuel, 32
 Radley, Richard, 36, 39, 42
 Rainford, James, 84
 Ralphson, Ales, 81
 Ramsdale, William, 99
 Randle III. (Blundeville), Arms of, 18
 Randle II. (Gernouns), Arms of, 18
 Randle I. (de Meschines), Arms of, 18
 Randle I. (de Meschines), 42
 Randle, Thomas, 113
 Randles, Thomas, 113
 Ransland, Thomas, 56
 Ranulph, Diminutives of, 101, 102
 Raphe, Phillip, 45
 Reason, Sarah, 129
 Ratcliffe, Anne, 62
 Ratcliff, Daniel, 105; Thomas, 133
 Ratcliffe, John, 45
 Rathbone, Daniel, 66; Thomas, 61, 105
 Ratcliffe, Elinor, 94
 Raulason, Joseph, 116
 Ravenscroft, Frances, 100; Jane, 64; Preby. Roger, 60; Thomas, 64
 Rawlinson, Hannah, 56; Ralph, 113
 Rawson, Dorothy, 59
 Rea, John, 74
 Reade, John, 111
 Realye, John, 72
 Recusants, The, 60
 Redhead, Revd. Dr. T. F., 23
 Redding, Grace, 35; John, 35
 Reddish, —, 48
 Reece, Anne, 140; Chatherine, 75; John, 103; Mary, 128; Thomas, 62
 Reed, Richard, 139
 Register of Marriages at St. Oswald's, Chester, 3, 6, 10, 12, 15, 17, 19, 21, 22, 25, 26, 28, 30, 32, 34, 36, 42, 44, 45, 47, 51, 52, 54, 56, 59, 62, 64, 67, 70, 72, 75, 78, 81, 85, 91, 92, 94, 97, 98, 100, 103, 111, 113, 114, 116, 118, 120, 123, 125, 126, 128, 129, 130, 131, 133, 135, 136, 138, 139, 140
 Reilton, John, 126
 Reley, William, 128
 Rench, Anne, 81; Elizabeth, 78
 Rennesy, John, 78
 Rennikers, Hugh, 94
 Renshall, Jonathan, 128; Richard, 59

Rephson, Mary, 135
 Reumson (? Urmsen), Daniel, 69
 Rice, Sir —, 52; John, 69
 Rite (? Grice), Samuel, 84
 Richard ap Robert, 17; Earl of
 Chester, Arms of, 18; Joseph,
 123
 Richardson, Anne, 52; Dorothy,
 45; Ellen, 10; Frances, 51;
 Henry, 56, 72; Isaac, 56; Rev.
 James, 112; Katherine, 56;
 Mary, 72, 94; Richard, 78, 105;
 Thomas, 69, 75
 Richerson, Elin, 135
 Ridder, Anne, 75
 Riddgate, Elin, 75
 Rider, Anne, 100; Eaton, 84;
 Lucie, 81; Peter, 70; William,
 74, 92
 Ridgate, John, 61
 Ridge, Robert, 69
 Ridgway, Ellen, 56; John, 85;
 Joseph, 111
 Ridley, John, 94
 Rigbey, Richard, 126
 Rigbie, Elinor, 123; Henrie, 17
 Rigby, Anne, 48
 Rillande, Thomas, 10
 Rile, Rev. Charles, 33
 Riley, Rev. Robert, 29
 Rimer, Elizabeth, 135
 Rimmer, Richard, 69; Thomas, 139
 Roades, Richard, 85
 Roberts, Anne, 131; Jane, 133;
 Margaret, 100; Mary, 139;
 Rodderick, 15; William, 135
 Robertes, John, 15
 Robbidge, John, 138
 Robbin, Anne, 75
 Robinson, Margaret, 85, 118;
 Randle, 118; Thomas, 126;
 William, 75, 75
 Robert of Rhuddlan, 86, 95, 96, 98;
 Roberts, Edward, 64; Jane, 123
 John, 84; Lucie, 75; Mary, 125,
 131; Samuel, 118; William, 75
 Robin, Hannah, 138
 Robinson, Benjamin, 77; Elizabeth,
 133; George, 139; Henry, 28;
 James, 84; John, 30, 66, 84;
 Rev. John, 34; Joseph, 84;
 Kath., 64; Katren, 128; Mary,
 131, 133; Richard, 91, 131;
 Robert, 84; Thomas, 45, 61, 67,
 69, 84; William, 77, 84, 105, 131
 Robison, Robert, 133
 Rooke, Hannah, 100
 Roe, Roger, 56
 Rogers, Jane, 126; John, 84;
 Rev. Robert, 32
 Rogerson, William, 99
 Rolleston, Henry, 126
 Roman Catholics, Fines on, 60
 Roman Catholic Martyrs at Chester,
 12
 Roper, Rev. H., 12, 34
 Roson, John, 3
 Rothwell, Briggitt, 133
 Rother, Mrs., 70
 Rowe, John, 105; William, 94
 Rowland, Anne, 140; Edward, 81;
 Hugh, 131; John, 44, 72, 105,
 140; Richard, 133; Rowland,
 62; William, 67, 108
 Rowlin, Jane, 97; Rowland, 70
 Rowlinson, Thomas, 61; William, 44

Boycroft, John, 75
 Royle, Jacob, 135
 Royle, Anne, 75; Marigrat, 139;
 Samuel, 106
 Russell, Catherine, 75
 Ruter, John, 138
 Rutory, Mary, 135
 Rutter Family, The, 51
 Rutter, Alice, 52, 54; Catherine,
 135; Hanah, 39; Hugh, 33; John,
 74; Ralph, 39; Richard, 94;
 Thomas, 42
 Rycroft, Richard, 12
 Ryder, Alice, 54
 Rydgate, William, 62
 Ryland, John, 43, 44
 Rylands, Lydia, 70
 Rymmer, William, 123
 S.
 Sabran, Rev. Lewis, 42, 50, 52
 Sadler, Chatherine, 94; John, 99
 Sale, Ester, 103; James, 12, 39;
 Marie, 3
 Salesbury, Ales., 128
 Sallet, Susannah, 30
 Salthouse, Elin, 135
 Sanders, Arthur, 135; Elizabeth,
 44; Thomas, 94
 Sandland, Anne, 100; Thomas, 106
 Sands, Thomas, 97
 Sandys, Archbishop Edwin, 4
 Santhy, John, 26
 Sason, Joane, 103
 Saul, John, 3
 Saunders, Rev. Lawrence, 38
 Savage, Sir John, 93
 Savages of Clifton, The, 133
 Sawatt, John, 56
 Soagroat, Benjamin, 130
 Scambler, E., 12
 Scamler, James, 64
 Scaplin, John, 126
 Scarisbrick Family, The, 51;
 Charles, 51
 School, Audlem Free Grammar, 21,
 24
 Soocles, Ales., 123
 Soofsefeld (sic.), Elin, 70
 Scot, Thomas, 138
 Scoote, Alice, 138
 Scott, Bishop Cuthbert, 26; George,
 109; Richard, 131
 Scrope, Arms of, 142
 Seaborne, Bishop William, 142
 Sedden, John, 118
 Seddon, John, 45
 Seditious Paper at Chester, 72
 Sefen, Elizabeth, 130; John, 139;
 William, 126
 Sefton, Frances, 75; Robert, 56;
 Roger, 27
 Selby, Elinor, 128; Martha, 135;
 Nathanall, 128
 Sellar, Daniel, 99
 Sellers, Samuel, 37, 111
 Sellers, Samuel, 103
 Selabie, Elizabeth, 15; Elizabeth,
 junr., 15
 Selaby, William, 44
 Sere, John, 106
 Seventeenth Century Love Letters,
 6
 Shannon and Chesapeake Action,
 68
 Sharburne, Anne, 100

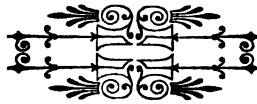
Shard, Robert, 112
 Sharman, John, 64
 Sharp, Preby. Peter, 60; Thomas,
 61
 Sharpe, Azarias, 131; Dorothy, 97;
 Elizabeth, 118; Ezeriah, 103;
 Isaak, 131; Rev. Thomas, 27
 Shaw, John, 91; Sarah, 100;
 William, 139
 Sheele, Charles, 118
 Sheen, Daniel, 99; John, 91, 91,
 138
 Shelly, John, 64
 Shenton, Ales, 3
 Sheppard, Richard, 114
 Sheppard (or Shepherd), Rev.
 Simon, 12, 34
 Sherburn, Thomas, 135
 Sheriffs of Chester, 92, 93
 Sherlock, Thomas, 69
 Sherrington, William, 113
 Sherwyn, Richard, 24
 Shone, Elizabeth, 85, 139; George,
 111; Joseph, 105; Mary, 103;
 Owen, 67; Susanna, 56; William,
 106, 112
 Shore, Owen, 112; Thomas, 106
 Shrewsbury, Earl of, 4
 Shrigley, Dorothy, 62; Roger, 116
 Shrowbridge, Anne, 12
 Shufflesworth, Barton, 77
 Shute, John, 71; Rev. Thomas, 63
 Siddall, Joseph, 52; William, 116
 Silvester of Storeton, 143
 Simcock, James, 91; Richard, 35,
 56; Robert, 35; Thomas, 74
 Simcooke, Jane, 78
 Simme, Elizabeth, 62
 Simmons, Anne, 138
 Simons, Jane, 6; John, 131
 Simpson, Ellen, 131; George, 91;
 Joseph, 118
 Simeson, Thomas, 39, 39
 Singleton, William, 52, 62
 Skalsbricke, Edward, 10; Kath.
 erine, 19
 Skelon, Thomas, 139
 Skillington, George, 6
 Skrimshaw, Margaret, 81
 Slatter, Emmie, 81; Sarah, 111
 Smalley, John, 15
 Smallwood, Matthew, 48; Samuel,
 45
 Smith, Anne, 10, 138; Charles, 123;
 Daniel, 94, 105, 111; Debora,
 135; Elizabeth, 6, 78, 85, 139;
 Jane, 15, 130; John, 52, 56, 75,
 84, 85, 103, 112, 114; Katherine,
 56; Margaret, 15, 85, 97; Mar-
 gerie, 21; Martha, 126; Mary,
 34, 54, 118; Randle, 75; Richard,
 74, 100, 105, 118, 133; Robert,
 59; Thomas, 19, 72, 85; Sir
 Thomas Knight, 25; William,
 78, 78, 78, 105; (? Milner)
 William, 139
 Smouth, Elin, 131
 Smyth, Arthur, 70; Rev. T., 12, 34;
 Sneyd, Dr. Ralph, 27
 Snipe, Rev. Richard, 34
 Solie, Sarah, 39
 Somersfield, Mary, 3
 Somerset, Lady Bridgett, 103;
 Crouch, 70
 Sones, Katerin, 128
 Southern, James, 67

- Spanish Armada, The, 4
 Spann, John, 84
 Spark, Alces, 135; John, 74, 91; Robert, 67
 Sparke, John, 37; Margaret, 56
 Sparrow, John, 105
 S.P.C.K., The, 102
 Speakman, Thomas, 64
 Speed, Elinor, 140; John, 130; Richard, 131; William, 99
 Speede, Katherine, 126
 Spencer, Ane, 21; Jane, 37; John, 105; Peter, 105; Richard, 103; Thomas, 21, 61
 Spenser, Edmond, Opinion on, 136
 Sproson, John, 50
 Sproston, Jane, 17; Richard (Alderman), 37; Thomas, 42
 Spurstow, Ann, 52, 54
 Squire, Garvais, 45
 Standbridge, Shusanah, 75
 Standbrige, Mary, 59
 Standish, Mr., 17; Robert, 22
 Stanford, Thomas, 69
 Stanley, Arms of, 18
 Stanley Family, The, 63
 Stanley, Ann, 32, 54; Elin, 136; George, 5; Sir George, 104; Lady Isabella Dorothea, 33; James, 74, 77; Joan, 53; Sir John, 57; John, 77; Lady Mary, 33; Richard, 77
 Stanley of Hooton, The, 33, 143
 Stanniell, Elizabeth, 75
 Stanton, Charles, 140; Friar, 14
 Starkey, Hannah, 138; Henry (Martyr), 72; Katherine, 70; Lawrence, 62; Richard, 70
 Stasie, William, 78
 Stawson, William, 91
 Steel, Joseph, 94; William, 94
 Stephenson, John, 94
 Stevenson, John, 126; Sarah, 64
 Stoakes, John, 91
 Stoat, Richard, 78
 Stockton, Elizabeth, 72
 Stoke, John de, 55
 Storer, Henry, 62
 Storey, John, 91
 Storry, Benjamin, 138
 Strange, Katherin, 128; Sarah, 94
 Street, Elizabeth, 81
 Streete, Richard, 17
 Stretford, Ralph, 33
 Strette, Mary, 106
 Stringer, Francis, 100; Hugh, 100; John, 48, 100; Martha, 64; Peter, 45
 Strittle, Charles, 97; Jane, 97
 Strong, William, 69
 Strotton, John, 100
 Stubbs, Alcoe, 62
 Suddall, Rev. H., 34
 Suderes, Randle, 126
 Sudlow, Joseph, 91
 Sudwood, John, 133
 Sugar, Robert, 20
 Summerfield, Anne, 118; Sarah, 113
 Sumner, Jane, 91; Mary, 123
 Supremacy, Oath of, 26
 Suthern, William, 25
 Sutton, Francis, 74; John, 35; Margaret, 35, 54; William, 91
 Swain, Charles, 91
 Swane, Elin, 139
 Swarbrick, Laur., 69
 Swayne, Rev. R., 12, 34
 Swift, Anne, 126
 Swift's Sister, Mr., 70
 Swindall, William, 93
 Swine Market, Northwich, 80
 Swinley, Charles, 75; Elizabeth, 135
 Swinton, Hannah, 78
 Sword in Cathedral, City, 60
 Sworton, Mary, 98
 T.
 Tams, Sarah, 131
 Tanner, Bradford, 77
 Tapley, Liddia, 106; Thomas, 91
 Tarbock, John, 84; Lydia, 55, 56
 Tasker, Robert, 94
 Tassye, Rev. Thomas, 12, 27, 34
 Tatlow, Alice, 54
 Tatton, William, 105
 Tayler, Margrat, 128
 Taylor, Anne, 78; Daniell, 94; Elizabeth, 75, 114, 116; Evan, 78; Henry, 69; Jane, 78; John, 17, 44, 45, 67, 84, 139; Josua, 97; Mary, 56; Peter, 108, 116, 131, 135; Rebecka, 70; Rebecka, 75; Richard, 139; Robert, 77; Samuel, 78; Sarah, 54; Thomas, 19, 59, 61, 105; Rev. Thomas, 32; William, 35, 114
 Tellett, Joseph, 131; William, 61
 Telley, John, 139
 Tempest, A Cheshire, 30, 35
 Templar, Robert, 22
 Therlsfall, William, 72
 Thernall, Randle, 99
 Thickness, Ralph, 108
 Thies (P Tyler), Thomas, 20
 Thomas, Ales., 36; Elizabeth, 85; Isaac, 128; J., 55; John, 32; Peers, 69; William, 111
 Thomason, John, 74; Robert, 106; Thoms., 99
 Thompson, Edward, 105
 Thorneycroft Family, The, 85
 Thorp, Isaac, 84
 Thorpe, Anne, 81; Sam, 111
 Tickett, Anne, 64
 Tickle, Sarah, 75
 Till, John, 2
 Tillam, Mr., 50
 Tilston, William, 19
 Tilstone, John, 91, 94; Raph, 91; Thomas, 99
 Timmis, Thomas, 94
 Tindsley, Anne, 114
 Tirpin, Anne, 126
 Tlube, Thomas, 128
 Todd, John, 118
 Tollemache, Lord, 23
 Tomason, Jane, 133; Tho. 138
 Tomeson, Jane, 139
 Tomelson, Mary, 135; Thomas, 135
 Tomison, Mary, 126
 Tomkin, Ralph, 105; William, 105
 Tomkins, Richard, 100, 105
 Tomleson, John, 50
 Tomlinson, Anne, 48; Elizabeth, 51, 56; John, 94, 108; Margaret, 64; Richard, 94; Thomas, 94
 Tommason, George, 100
 Tompson, David, 116
 Tomson, Phillip, 70
 Tongue, Thomas, 69
 Topography and History, 8, 10, 15
 Torbock of Torbock, 8, 102, 120, 130
 Torbock, Mary, 53
 Tottie, Ane, 6; Godfrey, 6, 16; John, 30
 Totty, Elizabeth, 128; Rev. Henry, 27; Henry, 66; John, 61; Joseph, 61; Mary, 131
 Touchett, Thomas, 85
 Tousey, Thomas, 128
 Towers, Jane, 39; Sarah, 88
 Townsend, Richard, 45
 Trafford Family, The, 117
 Trafford, Alis, 48; Rev. Henry, 19
 Travers, James, 36
 Travis, Anne, 62
 Treaver, Margaret, 85
 Trevis, George, 94
 Trewman, John, 39
 Trigg, William, 61, 138
 Trollock, Thomas, 48
 Trollooke, John, 12
 Troughton, William, 6
 Tuder, Peter, 74
 Tunnah, Joseph, 138; Mary, 138; Randle, 67
 Turkinson (P Jenkinson), James, 74
 Turner, Francis, 43; Rev. John, 35; John, 43
 Turton, Rev. William, 108
 Tuson, William, 116
 Twemloe, Richard, 114
 Twemlow, William, 81
 Twisse, Marie, 39
 Twist, Ralph, 133; Randle, 133
 Tyers, William, 140
 Tyraut, Henry, 74
 Tyson, John, 74
 U.
 Uerin, Thomas, 140
 Upton, Thomas (Minister), 20
 Urmsan, Bridget, 37; Samuel, 73; Thomas, 73
 Urmstone, John, 69
 V.
 Vain, Martha, 111
 Valentine, Alce, 138
 Vale Royal, Abbot of, 5
 Varia (Notes), 51
 Varnon, Jane, 97
 Vaudrey, Thomas, 67
 Vaughan, Bishop, 60; Joseph, 108
 Vaux, Frances, 67
 Vawdrey Family, The, 71; Deputy Chamberlain, 46
 Venabell, Lady, 70
 Venables, Mary, 128
 Venables, Elizabeth, 111; George, 73; Gilbert, 84, 140; Joseph, 81; Margrat, 128; Peter, 73
 Vernon, Elizabeth, 59; George, (Lord), 73; John, 59; Mary, 62, 103; Mode, 37; The Hon. Mrs., 80; Rafe (or Randle), 70; Richard de, 85, 89; Sam, 123; Thomas, 64; William, 78
 Vick, William, 128
 Vigers, John, 56
 Vonghan, Sarah, 139
 W.
 Wade, Jane, 56; John, 84
 Wadson, Francis, 109
 Wain, John, 105

- Waine, Mary, 54, 139
Wainwright, Thomas, 44
Wakefield, Thomas, 72
Walker, Ales or Alles, 72, 120;
Alice, 42; Anne, 126; Rev. J.,
12; Rev. James, 36; John, 125;
Joseph, 84; Margrat, 135; Mary,
62; Phillip, 6; Richard, 35;
Rev. Richard, 12; Rev. Richard
(Dean), 26, 36; Thomas, 59, 100
Wall, Edward, 126; Rev. William
(Preby.), 27, 46
Wallasey, 95
Walley, Charles, 111; John, 78;
Mary, 59, 80; Thomas, 108
Walmsley, Charles, 62
Walah, Jane, 19
Walshman, Jane, 6; Peeter, 15
Walton, Ales, 67; Elin, 135; Ever-
hart, 126; Hugh, 3, 36; Samuel,
84; Thomas, 103
Wamsley, Edward, 100
Wanne, Jonathan, 128
Wappentak, 23
Warburton, 43; Chamberlan, 17;
Matilda de, 71; Richard de, 71
Ward, Margaret (Martyr), 72;
Ralph, 91; Roger, 49
Warden, Mary, 81
Warford Chapel, 43
Warmingham, Isaack, 126
Warmingam, Grace, 25
Warmingham, John, 123
Warmingham, Martha, 133; Mary,
126; Thomas, 125
Warmisham, Richard, 15; Thomas,
15
Warmund, The name of, 90
Warmundestrou, 90, 95
Warning, Richard, 70; Samuel, 74
Warring, Richard, 70
Warrington, Edmond, 133; Isaac,
77; John, 84, 126
Warton, Margaret, 59; Robert, 67;
Samuel, 67
Washington, Samuel, 78; Thomas,
67
Wast, Thomas, 128
Watmore, Dorothy, 54
Watmough, James (Minister), 20;
Thomas, 61
Wate, Sarah, 75; Thomas, 75
Watson, Francis, 90; John, 99
Watt, John, 77; Puleston, 77
Watts, William, 35
Wayd, William, 120
Wayne, Robert, 59
Waynwright, Tho., 10
Weaver, Uriah, 106
Webb, Richard, 59
Webster, Anne, 64; Charles, 66;
Elizabeth, 111; Hugh, 66, 93;
Isabelle, 139; John, 69;
Thomas, 74, 112
Wedders, William, 135
Weever, Margrat, 131
Welchman, Thomas, 69
Welde, Daniel, 123
Weldin James, 131
Wells, Mr., 61
Welshman, Jane, 30; Mary, 126;
Sarah, 135; William, 25, 103
Werden, Robert, 48
Wesley, Charles, 83
Wesley, Rev. John, 78, 79, 82, 83
West, Elizabeth, 138
Weston, Thomas, 39
Wetherall, Elin, 126
Wettenhall, David, 73; Gabriel,
80; (Watmough) Joseph, 77
Wettenhalls, The, 51
Wettnall, Roger, 103; William, 133
Whalley, Ales, 126
Wharton, Thomas, 66; William, 61
Wheler, Edward, 133
Which, Mary, 126
Whicherly, William, 81
Whicingham, Renald, 128
Whicksett, Dorcous, 135
Whishaw, James, 91
Whitall, Thomas, 70
Whitbie, Anne, 3
Whitbridge, Margaret, 19
Whitby, John, 59; Richard, 74
White, Elizabeth, 114; John, 78
Whiteby, John, 81
Whitefield, George, 83
Whitehall, Elizabeth, 70; William,
78
Whitehead, John, 100; Mathew,
113, 118
Whitell, Rev. Richard, 31
Whitelow, Thomas, 94
Whiteoffs, Thomas, 105
Whitfield, Thomas, 61, 98
Whitford, Geoffrey de, 51
Whithead, James, 66; Richard, 128
Whitle, Mary, 140
Whitley, George, 35; Peter, 67
Whitling, Elin, 78
Whitlowe, Robert, 84
Whitmore, John, junr., 29
Whitney's Emblems, 129, 130
Whitby, John, 97
Whitter, John (Minister), 75; John,
81
Whittle, Mary, 98
Whytheade, Thomas, 15
Wicherley, William, 130
Wickstead, Daniel, 105; William,
91, 108
Widdens, Peter, 66; Richard, 34;
Thomas, 103
Widens, Margreat, 72
Wright, Thomas, 78
Wilbraham, Elizabeth, 133; Mag-
dalen, 118; Randall, 25; Raph, 100
Wilbrahams, The, 51
Wilcock, Samuel, 135
Wilcocks, Ales, 78
Wilcox, Robert (Martyr), 72
Wildig, John, 128
Wildman, Richard, 56
Wilkinson, Amee, 106; Anne, 65;
James, 74; John, 77, 84, 111;
Mary, 138; Ral, 77; William, 69,
74
William the Conqueror, 41
Williams, Ales, 3; Catherine, 88,
139; Chatherine, 72; Edward, 62,
78, 135; Elizabeth, 62, 94, 111;
Elin, 106; Jane, 12; John, 23,
33, 61, 85, 91, 103, 112, 118, 126,
135; Joseph, 111; Magdalene,
131; Margreat, 75; Mary, 91,
139, 139; Maurice, 64; P. 55;
Peter, 67, 106; Rebecka, 103;
Richard, 104, 139; Richard,
(? Gariner), 139; Robert, 54;
Rev. Roger, 34; Steven, 62;
Thomas, 15, 74, 85; William,
113, 139
Williamson, Edward, 109, 111;
Ellinor, 106
Willenson, Mary, 139
Williamson, James, 74, 93; Joseph,
112; Mary, 113; Robert, 78
Willinson, John, 126; Margrat, 138
Willoughbie, William, 75
Willoughby, Ester, 114
Willowby, Tho., 48
Willson, Elizabeth, 85; Margerie 6;
Thomas, 131; Will, 47
Willy, Hannah, 138
Wilmes, John, 92
Wilmisley (or Wilmalow), George
Chaner., 26, 46
Wilson, Arther, 3; Ben, 84; David,
2; Elizabeth, 64; George, 69;
John, 47, 51, 72, 74; Joseph, 74,
74; Margaret, 69, 62; Mary,
103; Richard, 74; Robert, 56;
Roger, 20; Rev. Preby. Thomas,
27; Thomas, 74; William, 78, 84
Family, The, 117
Winkley, Martha, 70
Windser, Mary, 126
Winne, Elizabeth, 70
Winser, Mary, 128
Winsoe, Annie, 52
Winstanley, Margrat, 129
Wintaley, Thomas, 97
Wirrall, Amy, 34; Peter, 34
Wiswell, Elin, 139
Witherton, Hu'phrey, 72
Witton Grammar School Docu-
ments, 73, 76, 77, 80
Wodday, John de, 65
Wolstenholme, Henry, 69; James,
senr., 70; James, junr., 70;
John, 67; Thomas, 69
Wood, George, 123; Haneh, 44;
John, 84, 90; Rev. Matthew,
31; Robert, 13
Woodarte, Anne, 98
Woodcock, Jain, 105; Thomas, 105
Woodcocks, Henry, 78
Woode, Rev. Math., 12, 36; Richard,
37, 78, 81, 90, 100
Woodes, Danele, 20
Woodfeine, James, 47; John, 48
Woodfin, Elizabeth, 75
Woodhey, William, 108
Woodhouse, Margreat, 123
Woodkooke, Anne, 12
Woodlands, Anne, 72
Woods, Elizabeth, 131; Lettice, 94;
Robert, 61
Woodward, George, 59; Humphrey,
118; Rev. Hugh, 33; Rev. John,
30; Mary, 116; Thomas, 138;
Woodworth, Anne, 100; John, 118
Margrat, 126
Woodye, Rev. J., 12
Woollam, Thomas, 64
Woolley, Elizabeth, 94; Jane, 109;
John, 108;
Woolrich, Hopley, 111
Woorke, Richard, 21
Worbye, Anne, 103
Worrall, Elizabeth, 131, 131; Hugh,
66; Jane, 33; John, 3; Richard,
84
Worsley, Rebecka, 135
Worthington Family, The, 51;
Francis, 103; John, 109
Wotton, Thomas, 5
Wrenshall, Jacob, 120; Joseph, 77

Wrenshall, William, 85	Wynn, Margrat, 128	Yearwood, Timmothy, 75
Wright, Ales, 72; Charles, 94; Edward, 103; Elizabeth, 64, 138; Hannah, 123; Isaac, 84; John, 3, 91; Margaret, 67, 97; Patience, 3; Richard, 100; Sam, 116; Sarah, 113; Thomas, 39, 109; Rev. William, 27; William, 91, 97, 98, 136	Wynne, Thomas, 99, 99, 139	Yeates, Margrat, 126
Wyatt, Edward, 135	Wyrall (P Worrall), Alderman Rich- ard, 92	Yeats, Margaret, 10
Wybram (? Wilbraham) Rev. W., 12, 36, 38	Wythines, Rev. Dr. (Dean of Battle), 44	Yonge, Catherin, 126; Henrie, 3
Wyche, Aquiloe, 111	Wythmor (Whitmore), Arms of Johes de, 18	York, Archbishop, of 57, 58
Wyn, John, 48	Y.	Youde, Jonathan, 70; Thomas, 67
Wyneslow, Rev. Ralph, 12, 36	Yannes, Anne, 78	Youdes, William, 91
	Yardley, William, 92	Young, Edward, 74; John, 67, 70, 78; Joseph, 67; Joshua, 74; Mary, 138; Robert, 66; Thomas, 78, 84; William, 70
	Yates, 51; Ellin, 75; Joane, 51	Younge, Hannah, 85; Margaret, 29
	'Yeden,' Meaning of, 76	Yoxon, Ellen, 37; John, 37; Joseph, 61
	Yearley, Mary, 139	Yoxton, John, 61

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INDEX OF PLACES.

A
 Abbey Court, Chester, 45, 90
 Abretune (? Offerton), 88
 Acton, 64, 88, 90, 100
 Acton Grange, 35
 Agden, 73, 90
 Alburgham, 86
 Aldcroft, 59
 Alderley, 43
 Aldersey, 90
 Aldford, 12, 36, 54, 81, 90
 Aldredlie, 89
 Alliner (? Denbigh), 94
 Alsager, 85
 Altrincham, 6
 Alvanley, 7, 30, 31, 35, 64
 America, 2
 Anglessea, 51
 Antrobus, 12, 98
 Appleton, 121
 Arrow or Arrows, 61, 96, 98
 Ashton, 59, 75, 88
 Ashton-upon-Mersey, 34
 Astbury, 12, 85
 Aston, 56, 71
 Aston (Eddisbury), 90
 Aston (Salop), 84
 Atherton, 94
 Atiscross Hundred, 86, 95, 98
 Audlem, 21, 24, 25, 84

B
 Babbington (Bebbington), 86
 Bache, 96
 Backford, 12, 21, 27, 30, 47, 54, 61, 77, 94, 96, 97, 109, 110, 111
 Baddiley, 12, 33, 93
 Baguley, 93
 Bangor, 27
 Bangor (Iscoyd or Monachorum), 29, 62, 81
 Barkley, 6
 Barne, 97
 Barnston, 61, 64
 Barrow, 34, 37, 59, 62, 75, 81, 88, 89, 92, 94
 Barthomley, 12, 32
 Bartington, 96
 Barton-on-the-Hill, 71, 90
 Bath, 33, 127
 Battle, 44
 Bebbington or Bebbington, 18, 23, 27, 37, 61, 64, 96
 Bedstone (? Bidstone), 84
 Beeston, 39
 Belgrave, 91
 Bettsfield, 87
 Bickerton, 47, 91, 94
 Bickley, 91
 Biddlestock, 91
 Bidston, 28, 39, 95, 117
 Birkenhead, 96
 Birkenhead Priory, 135
 Bishop Downham, 63
 Bishopthorpe, 4
 Bistre (Biscopestreu), 86
 Blackburn, 62
 Blacon Point, 21, 74
 Blakenhall, 94

Blimstone (Plemondstall), 76
 Boobellau (Bucklow) Hundred, 87, 98
 Bold, Warrington, 58
 Boughton, 37, 85, 87, 91
 Boughton (Spittle), 46
 Bowden, 17, 94, 135
 Bradley, 91
 Brereton, 12, 34
 Bretton, 100
 Bridgemere, 54
 Brimstage, 96
 Brinnington, 94, 98
 Bromborough, 61, 79, 84, 95
 Bromfield, Denbigh, 85
 Bronghall (Salop), 90
 Broughton (Lancs.), 41
 Brown Low, 64
 Broxton, 91, 93
 Broxton Hundred, 87, 88
 Bruge (Handbridge), 87
 Brumhard (Bromborough), 94
 Buckley, 93, 94
 Budworth, 3, 75, 94
 Budworth (Little), 54, 70, 89, 103
 Buerston, 74, 93
 Bunbury (Bumberie), 62, 75, 81
 Burton (Tarvin), 95
 Burton (Wirral), 19, 20, 36, 61, 62, 74, 78, 89, 96
 Burton Head, 63
 Burwardale, 93

C
 Calcott, 94
 Caldley, 61
 Caldry, 23
 Calumtine (Calverley), 85, 89
 Calverley, 85
 Cambridge, St. John's College, 123
 Capenhurst, 30, 39, 66
 Capesthorpe, 59
 Carden, 94
 Castle Town, 99
 Cattenhall Hall, 53
 Cauthall, 98
 Cestre (Chester) Hundred, 87
 Chalton, 66, 94
 Cheadle, 12, 29
 Cheaveley, 45
 Cheshire, 85
 Chester, 34, 37, 39, 59, 72, 73, 74, 77, 79, 80, 82, 84, 86, 87, 90, 91, 92, 94, 98, 121, 122
 Chester, Bishop Lloyd's House, 143
 " Bishopric Estates, 187, 188
 " Castle, 71
 " Cathedral, 12, 17, 20, 21, 46, 57, 60, 61
 " Holy Trinity, 18, 47, 48
 " King's School, 57
 " Northgate Prison, 46
 " Old Gaol, 32
 " Roman Catholic Martyrs at, 12
 " Saracen's Head, 76
 " St. Martin's, 56
 " St. Mary's, 5, 12, 31, 32
 " St. Mary's Nunnery, 116
 " St. Michael's, 32, 45
 " St. Nicholas' Chapel, 21

Chester St.
 138, 139, 140
 St. Peter's, 33, 51, 56, 60
 Chidlow, 99
 Childer Thornton, 36, 77, 78, 96
 Cholmondeley, 94
 Cholmonston Green, 97
 Chorley, 64, 94, 99
 Chorlton, 92, 98
 Chornton, 99
 Chowley, 96, 99
 Christleton (Christlington), 12, 27, 30, 54, 81, 87, 91, 94, 98
 Church Coppenhall, 59
 Church Langton, 38
 Churton, 48, 92, 99
 Claughton, 96
 Claverton, 86, 99
 Clifton, 133
 Clive, 89
 Clutton, 99
 Coale Coates, 62
 Coole, 89
 Coddington, 39, 42, 54, 72, 85, 90, 99
 Coldbeck, 3
 Congleton, 85
 Coppenhall, 70
 Coppull, 3
 Cotton (Cotton), 55
 Cotton, 99
 Crabball, 66
 Cranage, 91
 Crewe, 99
 Croughton, 66, 72, 99
 Crow Lane, 62
 Cuddington, 92, 99
 Cnerdon, 58

D
 Darsbury, 133, 134
 Darnhall, 51
 Davenham, 12, 34
 Davenhead (Davenham), 85
 Dean, near Bolton, 37
 Dee, River, 21, 88, 121
 Delamere, 51
 Delamere Forest, 89, 134, 141
 Denhall Collieries, 63, 64
 Denham, 74
 Depenbeck (Malpas), 88
 Diddleston, 56, 62, 75, 78, 86
 Done, 89
 Drayton, Salop, 77
 Dublin, 3, 52, 82, 83
 Dundeston (Broxton) Hundred, 86, 87, 89, 95, 103
 Dunham, 45, 56, 59, 78
 Dunleary, 82
 Durham, See of, 4
 Dutton, 56

E

Eastham, 18, 20, 27, 51, 66, 75, 85, 91, 95
 Easton, 97
 Eaton, 86, 99
 Eaton Hall, 32
 Eccleston, 12, 51, 78, 86, 91, 99
 Eddisbury Hundred, 89
 Edelane (p Ewloe or Hadlow), 85, 95
 Edge, 100
 Edgerton, 100
 Edriture (p Bretton), 86
 Egerton, 93
 Elaezier (Alsager), 85
 Ellison, 93
 Elton, 97
 Estem (Eastham), 78
 Estham (Eastham), Earl's Portion, 95
 Hamo de Masci, 95
 Hugh de Mara, 95
 Mundret, 95
 Robert Fitz-Hugh, 95
 Robt. or Wm. Vernon, 95
 Wm. Malbedena (Malbank), 95

Escoyde, 99
 Ewloe, 52
 Exestan or Extan, 88

F

Farndon, 62, 105
 Farne (Farndon), 78
 Fearnhead, 56
 Fillingham, Lincs., 2
 Fleet St., London, 7
 Flintshire (Atiscross Hundred), 86
 Flockers Brook, 105
 Foulk Stapleford, 105
 Frandley (p Frankby), 2, 3, 12
 Frankby, 66, 98
 Frodsham, 7, 32, 52, 53, 59, 62, 64, 72, 75, 78, 94

G

Garatang (The Dimples), 13, 16
 Gawsworth, 12, 17, 32
 Geaton, 66, 84
 Golborn Bellow, 105
 Golborn David, 105
 Goosetrey, 12, 34
 Gowy, River, 89, 94
 Grange, 67
 Grapnall, 75
 Grappenhall, 12, 56
 Greasby (or Graisbury) 41, 42, 67, 83
 Great Budworth, 43, 56
 Great Saughall, 54
 Grene, 5
 Gresford, 72
 Guilden Sutton, 75, 78, 84, 94, 105
 Gwersilt, 91

H

Hadlow (Edelane), 85, 95
 Halsall, 62, 90
 Halton or Haulton, 41, 42, 51, 52, 90, 91, 105
 Hamerton, Yorks., 37
 Hamestan (Macclesfield) Hundred, 86, 88, 89
 Hampton, 91, 105
 Handley, 42, 91, 91, 105
 Hanley, 59
 Hanmore, 62

Hardshaw (Hartshawe), 121
 Hargrave, 105
 Harrow, 84
 Hartell, 88
 Harthill, 91, 94, 105
 Hartington, 5
 Hartshaw, Lancs., 3, 55, 56
 Haughton, 91
 Hawarden, 32
 Heariden (p Hawarden), 75
 Helsby, 7, 53, 70, 78
 Henbury, 33
 Henbury (p Hametsberie), 88, 91
 Heswall, 54, 57, 62, 67, 72, 81, 96
 High Lake (p Hoylake), 67, 84
 Hinksey, South, 1
 Hockenhall, 59
 Hodeshlid (Horseley), 96
 Hoghton Tower, 58
 Holland, Up and Down, 53
 Holme, 62
 Holt, Denbigh, 77
 Holywell, 50, 51
 Hoole, 39, 96, 105
 Hooton, 33, 53, 63, 67
 Horsepulle, 55
 Horton, 52, 105
 Hospital of St. John, 88
 Hulme in Allstock, 140
 Hulse, 84
 Huntington, 91, 96, 105
 Hupton (Upton), 96
 Huxley, 105
 Huyton, 8

I

Ince, 12, 34, 39, 75
 Irby, 67, 96, 98
 Ireland, 59, 83

K

Kelsall, 42, 62, 89
 Kenardeslie, 89
 Kendall, Westmoreland, 2, 3
 Kettle Bar, Little, 106
 Kiddingington, 59, 91, 106
 Kinderton, 42, 89, 90, 140
 Kingsley, 7, 8, 36, 42, 51
 Kinnerton, 55, 59, 106
 Kirby, 84
 Knardley in Prescot (p Knowsley), 64
 Knocktorum, 42, 96
 Knottesford (Knutsford), 5
 Knutsford, Nether, 53

L

Lach, 106
 Laindon, Essex, 2
 Lambeth, 3
 Lancaster, 37, 42
 Landechene (Manor), 98
 Landican, 67, 77, 96, 98
 Larton, Wirral, 73, 74, 80, 106
 Lea, 62
 Leche, 86
 Ledsam or Ledsham, 33, 67, 70
 Lee (Overleigh and Netherleigh), 87
 Leighton, 67
 Lichfield, 26
 Limme or Lymm, 45, 79, 87
 Lincoln's Inn, 101
 Liscard, 69, 77, 84
 Lister, 69
 Littleton, 106

Liverpool, 21, 43, 47, 70, 82, 84, 124
 Llanellan-yn-Rhos, 57
 Llanmost, 63
 London, Fleet St., 7
 Londonderry, 45
 Long Green, 62
 Lostock (Granam or Gralam), 85
 Lyme, 94, 133

M

Macclesfield, 88
 Macclesfield (Hamestan) Hundred, 11
 Malbank, 98
 Malpas, 12, 32, 64, 72, 86, 88, 91, 94, 97, 108
 Mandley, 59, 91
 Manley, 62
 Marbury, 94, 108
 Mare (p Mere), 75
 Marlston, 86
 Marshes, 108
 Marston-cum-Lache, 108
 Masfen, 106
 Mashwell, 108
 Maxfeld (Macclesfield), Forest of, 143
 Meols, 69
 Mersey, Old Course of the, 21, 112
 Mickle Trafford, 34, 54
 Middlewich, 42, 94
 Mildestreich (Middlewich) Hundred, 89
 Mildestreich (Sandbach), 87, 89
 Minshall, 51, 56, 62
 Moberley, 12, 30, 32
 Mollington, 62, 69
 Mollington, Great, 34
 Moore, 35, 59
 Moreton or Morton, 39, 69, 84, 95
 Moson (Mostyn), 42, 96
 Moss prope Malpas, 108
 Mostyn, 108
 Mouldsworth, 52
 Mutlow, 89

N

Nantwich or Namptwich, 2, 5, 47, 51, 55, 64, 72, 75, 85, 91
 Ness or Nesse, 59, 69, 75
 Nesson (Neston), 78, 97
 Neston, 23, 27, 28, 33, 54, 59, 67, 69, 74, 82, 84, 103
 Neston, Denhall Collieries, 63
 Neston, Little, 39
 Neston, Port of, 121, 122, 123, 124
 Netherton, 39, 62
 Newhall, 93
 Newton, 87, 108
 Newton, Frodsham, 2, 3, 33, 47, 53, 56
 Newton-cum-Larton, 74
 Noctorum (Knocktorum), 42, 96
 Norbury, 64
 Norley, 39
 Northampton, 92
 Northop, 62
 Northwich, 12, 64, 73, 74, 76, 80, 87, 89
 Norton, 90
 Norwordine (Northenden), 87, 88
 Norwich, 65
 Nuthurst, 46
 Nutsford (Knutsford), 78

O
 Oocleston, 89
 Odford (Aldford), 81
 Offa's Dyke, 86, 88
 Offerton (Abretune), 88
 Oldcastle, 108
 Ollerton, 86
 Ormskirk, 42, 51, 90
 Over, 6, 42, 62, 64
 Overchurch, 28
 Overlay (Overleigh), 78
 Overton, 32, 108
 Ouche, Abbey of St. Evroul, 95
 Oulton, 109
 Oxford, 1, 3
 Oxton, 95, 98

P
 Palace, Bishop Lloyd's, 57, 65, 143
 Parkgate, 64, 70, 78, 79, 80, 82, 83, 84
 Penketh, 59
 Penkridge, 96
 Pensby, 96, 98
 Peover, 51
 Peover Eye, 87
 Peover, Nether, 5
 Philadelphia (U.S.), 53, 56
 Picton, 42, 56, 74, 109
 Place Mollan, 70
 Plimstall, 12, 36
 Plimstowe (Plemondstall), 54, 75, 81, 94, 97
 Plimyard, 74
 Poole, 74, 78
 Poole by Hooton, 95
 Poolton-cum-Seacum, 74, 109
 Potitone (Puddington), 86
 Prenton, 39, 74
 Prescot, 40, 81
 Preston on the Hill, 45, 62
 Puddington, 13, 35, 74
 Pulcroft, 55
 Pulford, 75, 78, 86, 109
 Pulford Brook, 88
 Pulton, 86
 Pwlhel, 62

Q
 Quainton, Aylesbury, 1
 Quistie, 8
 Quistybirches (Kisstybirches), 137

R
 Baby, 78, 84
 Redcliff, 87
 Reddish, Manchester, 70
 Rhuddallt, Ruabon, 2
 Rhuddlan (Rodelent or Roelent), 86
 Ridland, 59
 Risaeton (pt. Eddisbury Hundred), 86, 89
 Rochester, 2
 Roelan (pt. Eddisbury Hundred), 86, 89
 Rostherne (Rostorne), 78, 87
 Rostgough or Rologough, 52, 54
 Rowshotewick (Woodbank), 96
 Rowton, 109
 Ruloe in Crowton, 89
 Runcorn (Runkorne), 51, 75, 90
 Rushton, 86, 89
 Rydegh, 55

S
 St. Helens, 121
 Sact, 111
 Sale, 59
 Salford, Lancs., Hundred of, 87
 Salhall (p Bidston), 96
 Salisbury, 2, 3
 Salter's Hough, 74
 Sandbach, 51, 89
 Saughall, 74, 96
 Saughall Massie, 95
 Saughton (p Saughton), 45, 78, 81, 111
 Scalesing, Lincs., 93
 Seacombe, 74
 Shackerley, 38, 49
 Shackland, Great, 3
 Shipbrook, 89, 90
 Shochlach (Shocklach), 33, 111
 Shotwick, 3, 5, 59, 65, 74
 Smithills or Smethills, Bolton, 40, 49
 Somerford, 86
 Soreton (p Storeton), 85
 Spittle, 74
 Spurstow, 62
 Stafford, 2
 Stanford, 39
 Stanney (Stanway), 4, 32, 37, 42, 74, 78
 Stapleford, 62, 72
 Steinbrough, 62
 Stockham, 90
 Stockport, 12, 32, 115
 Stoke, 34, 55, 72, 74, 81, 85, 91, 97, 120
 Stoke, Staff., 42
 Stoke, Staff., 78
 Storeton, 42, 77
 Stretton (Stretton), 56, 111
 Strickland, Great, 3
 Sudstone, 94
 Sutton, Eddisbury, 90
 Sutton, Frodsham, 78
 Sutton, Little, Wirral, 85
 Sutton, Middlewich, 89
 Sutton, Wirral, 72, 74, 81
 Swettenham, 12, 34

T
 Tarporley, 12, 29, 59, 62, 75, 93, 94
 Tarvin, 12, 37, 47, 52, 72, 74, 75, 81, 94, 97
 Tattenhall, 12, 36, 56, 91, 111
 Thelwall, 87
 Thingwall, 84, 85, 98, 99
 Thornton, 30, 37, 72, 75, 78, 81, 94, 98
 Thornton Heys, 78
 Thornton Hough, 78, 81
 Thornton-le-Moors, 62, 63, 86
 Thurstaston, 27, 29, 68, 76
 Thurstaston (p Thor's Stone), 75, 84
 Thurstington (p Thurstaston), 78, 81
 Tilstone, 112
 Timperley, 94
 Tintwisle, 88
 Toft, 51
 Torbock, 119, 121
 Trafford, 42
 Tranmere (Tronmere), 37, 74, 84, 96
 Tuckington, 112
 Tuiguelle (Thingwall), 85, 96
 Tunendrone (pt. Bucklow Hundred), 90

U
 Tushingham, 112
 Ulure, 89
 Upton, 4, 5, 70, 74, 79, 84, 95, 96, 99, 112
 Upton Hall, 28, 29
 Upton, Rushton, 103, 113
 Utkinton, 59

W
 Waberton, 54
 Wallasey, 12, 21, 27, 34, 64, 84
 Wallasey Pool, 17, 29
 Walsall, 30
 Walton, Liverpool, 88
 Warford, 44
 Warmundestreu, 89, 90
 Warrington, 47, 71
 Watt's Dyke, 86
 Waverham, 91
 Waverton (Warton), 78, 97, 112
 Weaver, Manor, 89
 Weaver, River, 89
 Weaverham, 39, 89, 91, 98
 Wepre, 86
 Werneth, 88
 Wervin, 39, 74, 91, 113
 Westchester (Chester), 60
 West Derby, 51, 87, 90
 West Kirby, 12, 26, 27, 36, 84, 95
 Westminster, 74, 90
 Weston, 7, 42, 90
 Weston, Upper, Somerset, 33
 Weston, Wybunbury, 52
 Wharvingham (Warmingham), 78
 Whichough, 113
 Whitby (Whiddie), 39, 72, 84, 95
 Whitby Locks, 21
 Whitby Abbey, Yorks., 71
 Whitechurch, Salop, 33, 79, 91, 94
 Whitegate, 29
 Whitford, Flint, 51, 84
 Wichbanke, 42
 Wich Malbank, 90, 96
 Widnes (Widdens), 51
 Wigan, 62
 Wigland, 113
 Wilaneston, 86, 94
 Willaston, 84, 95
 Willisie (Wallasey), 85
 Wilmslow, 17, 29
 Wimbles Trafford, 54
 Wimboldestley, 89
 Wincham, 87
 Windsor Castle, 127
 Wirral, 26, 27, 61, 63, 73, 80, 94
 Wirral, Forest of, 143
 Wirswall, 113
 Witten Grammar School, 73, 74, 76, 80
 Wolverhampton, 2
 Woodbank (Rough Shotwick), 96
 Woodchurch, 5, 27, 28, 29, 81, 84, 96, 98
 Woodchurch (p Woodchurch), 74
 Woodhouse, Frodsham, 54
 Worthenbury, 87
 Worwell (Wirral), 14
 Wybunbury, 12, 31

Y
 Yeardsley, 92
 York, Archbishopric of, 4

Br 3792.4

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AND J. BROWNEILL.

"OH, LET ME TEACH YOU HOW TO KNIT AGAIN
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ERRATA.

For "W. H. Bennett" read "J. H. E. Bennett" in Nos. 625, 626,
629, 635, 641, and 648.

On page 59, col. 2, line 25, delete "how."

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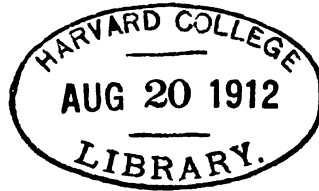
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(IV - VI.)

TABLE OF CONTENTS.

Acton Curfew Bell, 7, 14
 " Ailsto," 27
 Aldford Bridge, 44, 70
 Ambassador at Rome and the See of Chester, 30
 Anthem Bell, 21, 30, 55, 77, 100
 Antonine Itinerary and Cheshire, 7, 15, 33
 Apprenticeship Indenture, 37
 Arms and Quarterings, 125
 Ashton or Aston? 128
 Backford, 28
 Baddiley Church Monuments, 70
 Beach Flatts, &c., 56, 62
 Bebington Rectory, 111, 121
 Bordland Tithes, 38
 Bovates, 81
 Brerewood, John, 38
 Britland and Helsby Letter, 50, 58, 68
 Bruen, John, 10, 19, 28, 41, 52, 62, 75, 85, 98, 108, 119, 133
 Bulkeley, Katherine (Abbess of Godstow), 53
 Bulkeley, Richard, 104
 Bunbury (Sir Thomas) Charities, 45
 Burton, 121
 Burton Point, Skeletons at, 3
 Bushell, My Lady, 79, 90
 " Calvintone," 12, 102
 Carucates or Ploughlands? 115
 " Cedde," 87
 Chelford, Curates of, 115
 Chemist's Bill (1750), 54
 Chester Castle Governors, 26
 " Cathedral Dignitaries, 6
 " " Tower Piers, 77, 127
 " Hearth Tax, 57, 59
 " Inns, 82
 " Moneyers, 72
 " Norman Earls of, 7, 23
 " Ordinations, 90, 93
 " Original Parish of, 16
 " St. John's Hospital, 14
 " St. Oswald's Church (old), 127
 " " Fabric & Furniture (1575 to 1625), 75, 78, 83, 85, 87, 90, 94, 99, 100, 103, 107, 110, 118, 123, 126,
 " " Bells, 20; 123, 126
 " " Churchyard, 84

Chester St. Oswald's Collections, 66, 71, 74
 " " Inventories, 27, 135
 " " Missing Register, 114
 " " Parish Boundaries, 34, 37, 39, 45, 47, 52, 59, 81
 " " Thicknesse Lease, 131
 " St. Peter's Church, 29, 84, 128
 " St. Werburgh's Monastery, Altars in, 46, 64
 " " Charter, 114
 " " Colony from, 101
 " Trades and Professions, 121
 " Under Hugh Lupus, 26
 " Volunteers and Militia, 13
 " Will (early), 110
 Christmas Watch, 133
 Cloy, &c., 33
 Cotgrave, George (Will of), 132
 Cotgrave, Randall, 25, 34, 88
 Cotgrave Family, 39, 47, 65, 66, 88, 117, 122
 Counter, The, 10
 Crane, Rev T. (verses by), 97
 Croughton Rates, 51
 Darnhall School, 105
 Deanery Hidages, 95, 125
 Delamere Forest Murder, 26
 Domesday Notes, 54, 56, 61, 64, 67, 69, 72, 76, 79, 81, 84, 87, 90, 92, 94, 95, 100, 102, 105, 108, 110, 113, 115, 118, 121, 124, 125, 130, 132, 135
 Earl's Eye, Chester, 13, 18
 Eastham and Landican, 125
 Ecclesiastical Notes, 86
 Falconer and Wilbraham, 6
 Finchett and Finchett's Gutters, 70
 Fishes Royal, 5
 Floodcott and its Trees, 69, 114
 Forges (old) in Cheshire, 67
 Frith as a Place-name, 28, 49, 92
 Frodsham Charities, 92
 " Church Roll, 79
 " Free School, 50
 Halghton and Willington, 33
 Hatton of Frodsham, Letter, 34
 Hawarden Bood, 108
 Helsby and Bostock, 135

Henry VIII.'s Ecclesiastical Commissioners, 13, 20	Randle (Earl) at Queen Eleanor's Coronation, 63
Hilbre Island, 9, 21	Rostherne, 94
„ Cell, 43	St. John's Hospital— <i>See Chester</i>
„ Monk's Will, 2	St. Oswald's— <i>See Chester</i>
„ Salt Works, 5	St. Peter's— <i>See Chester</i>
Horn's Mill, 66	St. Werburgh's— <i>See Chester</i>
Inns (old) at Chester, 82	Saughall Road, 44, 49, 56, 61
Kelham and Cotgrave, 66	Schools (old), 25, 32, 50, 105
Kenrick of Chester, 41	Shotwick Ford, 67
Leigh, Dr. Thomas, 13	Skeletons found at Burton Point, 3
Listing, &c., 97	Snell of Ufton, 101
Lothburn at Nantwich, 38	“Stanley,” 64
Macclesfield, 3, 9, 32	Stone Bridge in Mollington Lane, 81 (<i>also see Chester St. Oswald's Boundaries</i>)
„ Dedication of Church, 46	Tenants' Names in Domesday Book, 113, 118, 124, 130, 135
Malpas Rectories, 13	Thicknesse Lease of St. Oswald's Dues, 131
Marital Connections of Lancashire and Cheshire, 128, 130	Tombstone Evidences, 121
Marsh, George, 89	Trades and Professions in Chester (1619), 121
Measured Manors in Domesday Book, 56, 67, 76	Turbary and Firebote, 103
Monasteries, Surrender of, 36	“Ulure,” 132
Moneys of Chester, 72	Vale Royal Charter, 86
Moulson or Moulton, 14, 21	Verses Wanted, 12
Neild's Orchard, 23	Wallasey Doings in 1422, 43
Neston, Panic in, 113	Weather Lore, 126
Nixon and His Prophecies, 1, 3, 11, 23, 46, 89	West Kirby, Rectory of, 31, 43
Ordinations at Chester, 90, 93	„ Will of a Rector of, 12
Penkridge, 33	White, Rev. Eben, 77
Peover (Nether), 79	Willaston by Nantwich, 92
Pigott Family, 100, 116	Wills, 2, 12, 32, 45, 93, 110, 117, 123, 132
Radcliffe of Chester, 5	Wirral Forest Laws, 64
	Wirral Rental of Lord Derby, 23, 36, 44, 49
	Yannes Family 7



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VOLUME IV.

JANUARY 1, 1902.

NOTES.

[549] NIXON'S PROPHECIES.

Who was Nixon? and What meaning can be attached to his Prophecies? are questions not yet satisfactorily answered. It is well known that some inquirers have come to the conclusion that there never was any Robert Nixon the prophet, and that the prophecies assigned to him are unintelligible nonsense. It is not here intended to do more than offer a few criticisms on the documents as they stand in Mr. Axon's very complete edition, but there are no doubt readers of the "Sheaf" able and willing to throw light on some at least of the multitude of debatable points.

As to Nixon's history three independent accounts are presented. The first is Oldmixon's, who in the short preface to his edition (the first printed) of 1714 says that "in the reign of James I. there lived a fool whose name was Nixon," and that "Thomas Cholmondeley of Vale Royal [d. 1652] took him into his house, where he lived when he composed this prophecy." Oldmixon's account was derived, but in a very roundabout manner, from the Cholmondeley family and is consistent with the prophecies themselves, which mention Vale Royal House and regard the birth of an heir thereto as a highly important matter, as no

doubt it was locally. It is perhaps scarcely necessary to remind the reader that Vale Royal House had no existence till after the destruction of the monastery in 1538.

The next account is by a certain W. E., and is dated, "Nantwich, March 24, 1714." The writer professes to have been moved to compose his narrative by reading Oldmixon's recent edition of the prophecies, and it takes the form of a letter to their editor—"Sir, I have read your Cheshire prophecies, &c." He goes on to say that he had met one man, "old Woodman of Copnal," who remembered having seen Nixon and described him as "a short, squab fellow," once a plough boy to "Farmer Crowton of Swanlow." Such a story implies that Nixon lived in the Vale Royal district in the first half of the seventeenth century. Can W. E. be identified? It appears from Mr. Axon's bibliography that his letter was prefixed to the London edition of 1719.

The third account seems to have been first published at Chester in an undated edition. Perhaps some possessor of the book may be able, by comparing type and paper with other Chester publications, to fix the time of its composition; the only internal evidence is the statement that "a few years ago (since the above was written) Mr. E— of O— was killed by a fall from his horse at his own gate as he was returning from hunting." Did any Egerton of Oulton thus come by his death? The account itself professes to be the record of

inquiries made by a traveller in the Delamere Forest district, and while it embodies some of the stories given by the two former writers it differs from them completely in placing Nixon in the time of Richard III. and Henry VII.; it goes so far as to fix the date of his birth, viz. "at Whitsuntide, 1467," and it tells the story of his waving his whip from side to side, saying "Now, Richard! now Harry!" on the day the battle of Bosworth Field was being fought. But Mr. Axon in his "Cheshire Gleanings" shews that this was also told of a Wiltshire peasant, so that its appearance in Nixon's story is suspicious, as is the exact date for the prophet's birth. Moreover the allusions to Vale Royal House in the prophecies—important as localising their author—are inconsistent with this early date, and if there be any foundation for the naming of Hampton Court as the royal residence to which Nixon was, so much against his will, conveyed that would be equally inconsistent with Henry VII.'s time, though it would do very well for James I.'s.

Of the three accounts the second, independent of the first and yet agreeing with it, seems the most probable; it is also consistent with itself, for the king's hunting excursion to Theobald's would be characteristic enough of James I. This place remained a royal residence till the outbreak of the Civil War. The advocates of the earlier date give prophecies originating before the destruction of the monasteries and referring to that event and assign them to Nixon, but fail to see that such prophecies most naturally fall in the reign of Henry VIII. and cannot be the utterances of a boy who was starved to death at the beginning of Henry VII.'s reign.

On the other hand it is said that the name of Robert Nixon does not occur in the registers of Over or Whitegate, dating from 1558 and 1565 respectively, and that the opposition of the dates assigned to him by the rival accounts is of itself sufficient to discredit both of them, quite apart from scepticism on the possibility of prophetic powers. Yet Nixon was certainly a local name; there are wills at Chester of Ralph Nixon (or Nickson) of Marton proved in 1616, Roger Nixon of Swanlow in 1616, Elizabeth Nixon of Over in 1636, John Nixon of Whitegate in 1674, and Robert Nixon of Castle Northwich in 1680. Perhaps therefore it would be well not to be incredulous about the reality of the prophet, even though the earliest account of him was not published till a hundred years after his death. "Bridge House" is said to be

the same as Bark house farm in Whitegate; Luddington Hill is to the north-east of Tarporley; Wanslow lane may be an error of transcription for Swanlow lane; and perhaps the other local names, such as Sandyford, Nogginshire mill, and so on, may be identified. To bring Nixon into closer relation with his surroundings is to make his legend so much the more credible, and, adapting his words, "set Nixon in a right way."

(To be continued.)

[550] THE WILL OF A MONK OF HILBREE ISLAND.

Any information which throws light on the curious little cell of monks connected with St. Werburgh's Abbey in Chester, which existed on Hilbree Island before the Dissolution of the Monasteries is valuable, so the following will from Somerset House is perhaps worthy of a place in your column.

From some interesting depositions printed in Vol. I. (Series III.) of the "Sheaf" (p. 6) it appears that before the dissolution of the Monasteries two monks, a Prior and a Brother, used to occupy the Monastic Cell on Hilbree. The Rev. Robert Wigan, an abstract of whose will is here printed, was probably the last Prior, as Dom Robert Harden seems to have been the last Monk, and to have been drafted on to West Kirby Parish Church as a curate or chantry priest at the time of the dissolution.

Dom Robert Wigan apparently continued to live on the island, and if one may draw conclusions from such trifling details as the mention of "a mortar and pestell" and "my great mortar"—it is possible that he eked out a living by doctoring and—as he refers to "the redd heyfar that goeth upon the ilond"—by farming on a small scale.

"My bote of Pyckerd," was probably a boat in which he had an interest, which traded so far afield as Picardy. "Sir Thomas Newbold" was a curate at West Kirby, while "Sir Arthur Swifte" was the incumbent of Bidston at this time, who had himself probably been a monk of the Priory of Birkenhead.

It would be interesting to know what "my greate counter" may have been, which he left to "Mr. Roland Stanley, Esquier," of Hooton.—Yours truly,

Birkenhead.

GENEALOGIST.

Prerogative Court of Canterbury. 28 Oode.

The 2nd day of August, 1550, I Sir ROBERT WIGGAN of Hilbre in co. Chester, Clerk.

My body to be buried in the Church of St. Bride in West Kirkby.

To my sister Agnes Strete a bed, &c., on condition that she give one brass pot, &c., to Alice Davie.

To Edward Smarley my part of "my bote of Pyckard called the Michaell of Hilbre" with all the profits thereof, also a bed, &c.

To Emma Smarley a brass pot, &c.

To Alice Davy the "redd heyfar that goeth upon the flood."

To Sir Thomas Newbold the longest of my say jackets.

The residue of my goods to my nephew John Wyggan whom I make ex'or.

I will that Edward Smarley shall have the ambling filly and 20s. which John Lytle owes me.

To Emma Smarley my "side gowne" which remains with William Davye in Chester, and a mortar and pestell which Sir Arthur Swyfte has in his keeping.

To Alice Davy my great mortar.

To Ellyn Gobbyn my black cloak.

To Sir Thomas Newbolt my black "flegge gowne."

To Thomas Collyns [? Collye] 2 calves, &c.

To "Mr. Roland Stanley Esquier, my greute Counter."

Witnesses: Roland Stanley, Esq., Sr. Thomas Newbolt, priest, Thos. Glastor [? Glasior], Rob. Ley, Thos. Collys [? Collye], and Edward Smarley.

Proved 28 Nov. 1550.

QUERIES.

[551] THE PLACE NAME MACCOLESFIELD.

Can any readers suggest an explanation of the meaning of the place name Maccolesfield? I have never been satisfied with Canon Isaac Taylor's derivation from words meaning "the great field." The form of the word in Domesday Book is *Maclesfeld*, which is rather suggestive of a genitive case. Mr. Earwaker in his "East Cheshire," Vol. II., p. 458, points out that the form *Maxfeld* did not come into use until the 16th century.—Yours, &c.,

M. H. S.

Liverpool.

[552] SKELETONS FOUND AT BURTON POINT.

In Sulley's "History of the Hundred of Wirral" (p. 170) is an account of the discovery of 29 skeletons at Burton Point made about the year 1875. They are described as having been found "near" Burton Point in Wirral, and it is stated they were lying east and west, a fact which pointed to Christian burial. It is further stated that they were examined by a Dr. Russell, of Neston, who came to the conclusion that they were the skeletons of persons who had been drowned, "possibly the crew of a vessel wrecked at the Rocks."

It would be very interesting if any of your readers could throw some light on this find and give some further particulars. It is extremely unlikely—it may be remarked in passing—that if they were the bodies of shipwrecked sailors, buried within the Christian era, they would be interred at this spot on unconsecrated ground, when the parish church of Burton, with its hallowed acre, lay within a quarter of a mile.—Yours, &c.,

ENQUIRER.

JANUARY 8, 1902.

NOTES.

[553] NIXON'S PROPHECIES, II.

(Continued from 549.)

Coming to the Prophecies it is remarkable that just as two different periods are assigned to the author of them so they belong, if internal evidence may be trusted, to the two periods of civil war in England, the Wars of the Roses and the quarrel between Charles I. and his Parliament. As an example take one of the prophecies, which admits of this double interpretation:

Between a rick and two trees

A famous battle shall be;

London streets shall run with blood

And at last shall sink;

So that it be fulfilled—

"Lincoln was, London is, and York shall be

The finest city of the three."

The "rick and two trees" may be Warwick, Coventry, and Daventry, and then Edge Hill (Oct. 23, 1642) will be the battle intended. Had Charles I. won the day, he would have marched to London and stamped out the Rebellion in its headquarters. He failed, however, and so the prophecy—perhaps it would be

better to call it an anticipation—was not fulfilled. Or the county of Hertford may be intended, having Rickmansworth and Elstree on the southern border and the hundred of Edwinstree on the north-east; and then the battle would be the second fought at St. Alban's (Feb. 17, 1461) when Queen Margaret gained the day and the Londoners were in mortal fear of the sacking and destruction of their city. In this case the lines would voice the hopes of the Lancastrian Army as it marched south from York. The "famous battle" was fought and won at the spot indicated, but beyond this the anticipation or forecast was not realised: "An immediate march on the capital would have decided the contest, but the conquerors paused to sully their victory by a series of bloody executions," giving Edward (IV.) time to march into London, where he was of course eagerly welcomed by the citizens (Green). The last two lines are an older prophecy, and obviously from a northern source.

Again we have the following:

The bear that hath been long tied to a stake
Shall shake his chains
That every man may hear,
And shall cause much debate.

The bull and the red rose
Shall stand in strife
That shall turn England to much woe
And cause many a man to lose his life.

The first line at once suggests the "bear and ragged staff" of the Earl of Warwick, the great King-maker, whose badge it became along with the title. The bull was another badge of the same nobleman, as being a Nevill; the red rose being of course the House of Lancaster. Here we seem to have not prophecy but partisan doggerel dating without doubt from the Wars of the Roses. The use of emblems or badges is still common—the lion, the bear, and the eagle being constantly used as symbols of England, Russia, and the United States—and the above would be well understood when they were first circulated. Mr. Gairdner in his edition of the "Paston Letters" prints some verses written about 1449 in which various badges stand for the nobles who displayed them:—"The Root is dead, the Swan is gone," &c. The difficulty is that many of the badges were used by several families; the bull, e.g., being one of Edward IV.'s, as well as the Nevills', as in the seal in Helsby's Ormerod i. 47. The eagle seems to have been a third badge of the King-maker, as Earl of Salisbury; at least the bull and the

eagle are shewn together on his heraldic portrait as given in Green's "Short History" (illustrated edition p. 556), and he may therefore be the "wary eagle" of another of the prophecies; while the "bitter boar" may be Courtenay, Earl of Devonshire, or Richard III., the "hog" of the famous couplet

The Rat, the Cat, and Lovel the dog
Rule all England under the Hog.

Thus some at least of the prophecies are carried back to a period earlier than the earliest date assigned to Nixon's birth, and others will in like manner find their true historical position when such terms as "the wolf," the "dark (or grey) dragon," the "white hind" (all, perhaps, Yorkist badges), and the "red lion" or "rampant lion in silver set," and "the bastard duke" (Beaufort, Duke of Somerset?) shall have been identified. The closing lines of the Prophecy—

Then rise up, Richard son of Richard,
And bless the happy reign.
Thrice happy he who sees this time to come
When England shall know rest and peace again—

must belong to the same unhappy age, whether we interpret "Richard son of Richard" as Richard Nevill Earl of Warwick, son of Richard Earl of Salisbury, or as Richard Duke of York (slain at Wakefield, Dec. 30, 1460), son of Richard Earl of Cambridge. The line "There will be a winter council, a careful Christmas, and a bloody Lent" may be no more than a summary of the events of 1460-61; Parliament met in October and sat on during perhaps a part of November arranging for the succession of the Duke of York after the death of Henry VI., a matter which was decided in principle on October 25; at Christmas time Yorkists and Lancastrians were face to face with each other in the north, the battle of Wakefield taking place on December 30; and this was followed by Mortimer's Cross (Feb. 2, the day after Septuagesima Sunday), St. Albans (Feb. 17, Shrove Tuesday), Ferrybridge (March 27), and Towton (March 29, Palm Sunday).

Such verses as the above are party cries, analogous to the prophecies and forecasts familiar to ourselves at election times, designed to animate the adherents of one side or the other by hinting the plans and prospects of success of the leaders. Others seem to be riddles, the key to which may be irretrievably lost, e.g. :—

Between seven, eight, and nine
In England wonders shall be seen;
Between nine and thirteen
All sorrow shall be done—

and the arithmetical puzzle—one that would have delighted "Lewis Carroll"—"There will be three gates to London," &c.

But if a large portion of the prophecies are much older than the time of James I. some of them, and specially these with local allusions, may be Nixon's, and a few may be even later. Thus the threat—

Beware of a chance to the lord of Oulton
Lest he should be hanged at his own door—

may very well belong to the Civil War of the 17th century, and shew the feeling of the Roundheads towards a Malignant leader. Those who so decorously arranged that "the Earl of Derby should be tried at Chester and executed at Bolton" might deal much more summarily with a country squire. It appears, moreover, from Mr. Axon's essay (already mentioned) in "Cheshire Gleanings" that there is a more certain means than internal evidence by which some of the older pieces can be separated from the mass, for he says that several are contained in the "Whole Prophesie of Scotland, England, and some parts of France and Denmark" published in 1603. Any one who has the opportunity would therefore render an acceptable service by making a detailed comparison and publishing the result.

At present all that seems clear is that the Prophecies attributed to Nixon are a mixture; a large proportion belonging to the 15th century, while others, and these local, may be as late as the middle of the 17th. The chaplain or steward of Thomas Cholmondeley of Vale Royal must have used a liberal discretion in his task of taking down Nixon's utterances, having united with these a number of the almost forgotten "cries" of the Wars of the Roses, as if acting on the maxim that "history repeats itself," the old troubles being a prophecy of the coming ones.

J. B.

[554] SALT WORKS ON HILBREE, 1694.

Referring to the note on Hilbree which appeared in the "Sheaf" last week I think most of your readers will agree with the writer that it is well to place on record any stray references to this interesting island. I accordingly send you the following extract from "The Palatine Note-Book" (Vol. II., p. 225). It would be interesting to know in what "newspaper of 1694 5" the advertisement appeared—also its exact date. It appears from Picton's

"Liverpool" that Alexander Norris was Mayor of Liverpool from November, 1694, until some time prior to October, 1695, when he was ejected from the mayoralty for his conduct at a Parliamentary election. He appears to have died in 1700.

E. K. writes in "The Palatine Note-Book":—"I find the following advertisement in a newspaper of 1694 5: 'Whereas a Salt Work is newly Erected at Hilbree Island near Highlake [Hoylake]. All Merchants or Masters of Ships who hath a mind to buy any Salt may repair to Mr. Richard Seddon at the said Island or to Alexander Norris, Esq., present Mayor of Liverpool, who will use them reasonably for the same.'"

A. P.

Liverpool.

QUERY.

[555] THE RADCLIFFES OF CHESTER.

Can any of your readers throw any light on the origin of this family in Chester? The first mention I find of the family is in the statement that John Radcliffe was Sheriff in 1590. The same name occurs as Mayor in 1601. Are they supposed to have been related to the Radcliffes of Lancashire, or can they have been a local family deriving their name from Redcliffe, the district in which St. John's Church stands?—Yours,

GENEALOGIST.

Liverpool.

JANUARY 15, 1902.

NOTES.

[556] FISHES ROYAL.

About a fortnight ago the newspapers reported that a whale had been driven ashore near Goole, and claimed by the Crown as a "fish royal." The whale and sturgeon are those commonly known by this title, and from early times they were, when caught on or near the shores of England, regarded as the King's property and reckoned as part of the revenue. The following document shews that Queen Elizabeth was determined to uphold the Crown rights in this respect. It is a translation of an entry on the Recognizance Roll of the former Exchequer of Chester, from Michaelmas 37 Elizabeth to Michaelmas 38 Elizabeth, now in the Public Record Office:—

18 Sept., 1596.—COMMISSION TO ENQUIRE OF
FISHES ROYAL.

The Queen, &c. To our beloved Peter Warburton, Serjeant-at-law, and Hugh Beston, Esquire, our Receiver-General in the parts of North Wales, greeting. Whereas according to the custom of our County Palatine of Chester (from time of the contrary whereof the memory of man is not) hitherto obtained and used, all Fishes Royal—to wit, Whales, Sturgeons, and "Thorlehed"—taken in the water or shore of the sea in our said county of Chester belong to us and our progenitors in right of our said County Palatine of Chester; which when they shall have been caught, shall be taken to our Castle of Chester for a fee to be paid to the captor, according to the custom of the country, that therewith he might be able to buy for his own use estovers and victuals. And because it hath been given to us to understand that, for certain years now last past divers Sturgeons and other Fishes Royal caught in the water and shore of the sea in our said county of Chester have in no wise been taken to our Castle aforesaid, but have been unjustly detained and concealed, against the custom aforesaid, and to the contempt and disherison of us, and because we will not that such contempts and trespasses be unpunished we have assigned you to inquire, as well by the oath of good and lawful men of our Hundreds of Wirrall, Edesbery and Bucklowe, dwelling upon the coast of the sea and the rivers of Dee and Mersey in the county aforesaid, by whom the truth of the thing may better be known, as by the examination of witnesses, and by all other ways, means and manners, concerning all Whales, Sturgeons, and other Fishes Royal, caught or found in the water or shore of the sea or of the rivers in our said County of Chester, and by what person or persons, and of what price, &c., &c., &c.

The "thorlehed" is no doubt the porpoise, and so called from the blow-hole in its head. This must also have been a "fish royal." In Walford's "Old and New London" it is said that at Putney in the eighteenth century "one or two sturgeons were generally taken in the course of a year, and occasionally a porpoise, which together with the sturgeons were claimed by the Lord Mayor. The fishermen were bound to deliver them as soon as caught to the water-bailiff. For a porpoise they received a reward of 15s., and a guinea for a sturgeon" (vi., 499).

[557] FALCONER AND WILBRAHAM.

In Over Weston Churchyard, near Bath, I espied the other day the following inscriptions on an altar-tomb surrounded by lance-headed railings, and situated opposite an elegant new cross about 50 paces from the south-west door of the church:—

"Beneath are the Remains of
WILLIAM FALCONER, M.D., F.R.S.
Son of William Falconer, Esqre.
Recorder of Chester,
and of Elizabeth his wife, d. of
Randle Wilbraham, Esqre. of Namwich, Cheshire,
Born Feby. 28 (N.S.) 1744,
died Aug. 31, 1824.
HENRIETTA his wife d. of
Thomas Edmunds, Esqre. of Worsborough Hall,
Yorks.
B. March 22, 1739. D. Sepr. 10, 1803.
THOMAS FALCONER, Clerk, A.M. & M.D.
only child of the above,
once Fellow of Corpus Christi Coll. Oxford,
B. Decr. 24, 1771. D. Feby. 19, 1839.
and of four children of him and
FRANCES his wife d. of
Lieut. Col. Robert Raith,
namely
Elizabeth,
B. Jan. 1, 1803. D. Novr. 30, 1803.
Mary Wilbraham,
B. Decr. 13, 1811. D. Jan. 4, 1813.
George
B. Feby. 12, 1808. D. Octr. 26, 1817.
Elizabeth
B. Jan. 21, 1804. D. April 30, 1821.
Also to Frances,
relict of the above Revd. T. Falconer,
who died July 14th, 1841
aged 72."*

X.

[558] CHESTER CATHEDRAL DIGNITARIES
IN 1572-3.

The following list of archdeacons and canons is taken from a fragment of parchment utilised as the cover for a book of the diocesan registrar's accounts. The book was kept by Henry Pennant, deputy of Randle Cotgrave the registrar, and begins in 1575, but the list of dignitaries on the cover belongs to an earlier time, about January, 1572-3, when the deanery was vacant by the resignation of John Piers; it appears that Wall died in 1574 and Lane became canon in 1570. Hurleston is not given in Ormerod as at that time Archdeacon

* Henrietta Edmunds seems to have been the first wife of Dr. Wm. Falconer, and ancestress of all the issue named beneath. His mother was of the Nantwich-Townsend branch of the Wilbrahams (see the pedigree in Ormerod ii., 138, and i., 321). The old name, Namwich, should have been "Nampwich," or "Namtwich," on the tombstone. The Falconers were, I think, of Scotland, but may have been modern settlers there. They were a peeraged family, under the titular name of Kintore.

of Richmond, but Christopher Goodman, who, however, was probably expelled about 1571 for his political opinions.

NOMINA DIGNITATUM.

Dignitas Decanatus vacat

(Mr.) Robertus Rogerson Arch'dus Cestren.
(Sacre theologie bacc.)

(Mr.) Johannes Hurleston Arch'dus Richmond.
Canonici praebandarii.

Willelmus Wall (egr., erased) (sacre theol.
professor)

Edwardus Holforde (sacerdos)

Thomas Herle (sacre theol. bacc.)

Thomas Dunne (artium? mr.)

Johannes Nutter (olericus, vice-decanus)

Johannes Lane (artium mr.)

The words printed between parentheses are
contemporary notes. J. B.

[559] THE NORMAN EARLS OF CHESTER.

Some information about a collateral branch of the family is given in the Rev. A. G. Loftie's history of Calder Abbey, Cumberland (1892). The origin of this abbey is traced to a Ranulph Mustin, or le Meschin (i.e., junior), who gave lands in 1134 or earlier. The founder is otherwise described as "Lord of Egremont" and "Ranulph first Earl of Chester of that name" (Dugdale's "Baronage.") Mr. Loftie (pp. 46—51) examines these statements and comes to the conclusion that the founder was really Ranulph, one of the two sons of William (also called le Meschin), brother of Ranulph le Meschin, earl of Chester. To this William the barony of Coupland (within which are Egremont Castle, the seat of the lord, and Calder) was granted by Henry I. in 1120, on the resignation of the earldom of Cumberland by Earl Ranulph or Randle I. The statement of Dugdale that this Ranulph, son of William, died in his father's lifetime is shewn to be inaccurate (see the pedigree in Ormerod i., 49).

QUERIES.

[560] YANNES FAMILY OF LEES, CROMPTON
AND DIDSBUY, CO. LANC., AND STALWY
AND KNUTSFORD, CO. CESTR.

I shall be glad to hear whether any of your correspondents can conclusively identify the Mr. Yannes who preached at Didsbury Chapel in 1673 [vide Churchwardens' Accounts] with the following mentioned on page 114, Vol ii., 3rd Series of "The Cheshire Sheaf":—

Admissions to St. John's College, Cambridge, Jan.
1629 to July, 1665.

114. William Yeannes of Staley, s. of Hugh Y.,
drover, bred at Manchester, Adm: pensioner,
March 11, 1664 a. 19.

The above William would probably be the brother of Hugh Yannes who married Anne, eldest daughter of Othiwell Andrew of Lees. [H. Y. of Lees will dated 14 May 1700. Proved at Chester 16 Nov. 1700].

W. A. T.

[561] THE CURFEW BELL.

It may be of interest to your readers to be informed of the following facts; and I shall be very grateful if any of them can answer my questions relative thereto.

On April 26, 1886, it was carried unanimously at a vestry meeting (attended by 13 persons) held at Acton Church, Nantwich, that the ringing of the curfew be discontinued for the present. This was owing to lack of funds, the cost being something under £25 a year. At a recent meeting of the churchwardens and sidesmen it was decided, that the income of the church being now able to bear it, the ancient custom be revived; a break of 15 years being nothing in the history of a church 800 years old. On New Year's Day, therefore, the tenor bell was rung, in accordance with ancient custom, for five minutes, and the day of the month sounded immediately afterwards on the small bell.

I have been told that the poem "The Curfew shall not ring to-night" is connected with Acton Church. Is this the case?

What other churches in Cheshire maintain the custom?

Noting with much satisfaction that the "Sheaf" has been likewise revived.—Yours, &c.,

HERBERT MOORE.

Acton Vicarage, Jan. 2.

JANUARY 22, 1902.

NOTES.

[562] CHESHIRE IN THE ANTONINE ITINERARY.

The Roman roads through Cheshire, as recorded in the Antonine Itinerary, have been discussed by Mr. Thompson Watkin in his "Roman Cheshire" (1885) and by Canon Raven in the "Antiquary" (Feb., 1901), but the result is scarcely satisfactory and therefore it is permissible to suggest another solution of the difficulties to be overcome. The Itinerary is

supposed to have been composed about A.D. 140—some authorities put it 200 years later—and modified from time to time as new routes were opened out. The second route (iter ii.) begins in Dumfriesshire, and passes through Carlisle, York, Chester, and London to the port of Richborough near Sandwich, then the principal point of embarkation to the continent, a zigzag journey of about 500 miles. The heading is—"Route from the Roman Wall to Richborough; 481 miles," but the texts, varying slightly in the mileage from station to station, shew totals of from 498 to 505 miles—Roman miles, of course, which were slightly less (14:13) than the English statute measure. There is thus an error of about 20 miles somewhere in the route. At first sight it might appear that the two initial stages, occupying 24 miles, supplied the solution, for they are *beyond* the Wall, which passed through Carlisle, whereas the heading is "*From the Wall*." This, however, will not answer, for though these two stages beyond Carlisle may be later insertions, and not counted in the 481 miles, there is an omission of quite 20 miles in the route from York to Manchester. The distance between these places is in a straight line 65 or 66 Roman miles, while the route gives three stages amounting in all to 47 miles only. From Manchester the route proceeds—

[Manucium] Condate	18m.
Deva (leg. xx., victrix)	20
Bovio	10
Mediolano	20
Rutunio	12
Uriconio	11
Uxacona	11
Pennocrucio	12
Etoesto	12

For comparison a section of the southward route through Ribchester and Manchester may be added (iter x.)—

[Mancunium] Condate	18m.
Mediolano	18

The Roman road from Manchester to Chester leads through Northwich, and near Lostock Gralam is crossed by the north to south road through Warrington and Middlewich; the point of crossing is just about 18 miles from Manchester and 20 from Chester, so that it answers to the Condate (nominative case unknown, perhaps Condâe) of the Itinerary. Kinderton, six miles away, probably preserves the name Condate, which may have designated a district rather than a town or small wayside post. The distance from the same crossing to Chesterton near Newcastle - under - Lyme,

identified as Mediolanum by Mr. Watkin, is nearly 19 Roman miles, and therefore closely agrees with the "about 18 miles" of Iter x. Of the other places named Deva is of course Chester, Uriconium is represented by Wroxeter, Uxacona by Woodhouse near Wombridge. Pennocrucium by Penkridge, and Etoesto by Chesterfield and Wall to the south of Lichfield.

The difficulty arises in the journey from Chester to Wroxeter. Measuring in a straight line these are about 40 miles apart, but as will be seen the Itinerary gives 53 miles, shewing that there is some error in the text or that a very wide detour must have been made. Two solutions in the main have been proposed. The older one supposes the Mediolanum of Iter ii. to be a different place from the Mediolanum of Iter x., and traces the route along the Dee and Severn, placing Bovium near Bangor-on-Dee; the mileage recorded is thus easily accounted for. The later one supposes Mediolanum to represent the same place (Chesterton) in both routes, as it is about 30 miles from Chester, Bovium being near Beeston, and then has a difficulty to account for the mileage between Mediolanum and Uriconium by way of Rutunium (on the Roden, near Bury Walls), for the distance is over 30 miles in a direct line, whereas only 23 are allowed. Thus the discrepancy between the mileage of the whole route from the Roman Wall to Richborough and that recorded in the heading is increased instead of diminished. But may not the difficulty be overcome in another way? Just as the two stages beyond the Wall may be a later insertion, so the eccentricities of the route from Chester to the junction with Watling Street may be due to imperfect editing, one route (say) from Chester through Chesterton and Stone to Penkridge or to Wall (Lichfield) having been confused with another through Malpas and Whitchurch to Wroxeter, so that fragments of both are given. A comparison in parallel columns will make this clear:—

Original Route (as suggested).	Alternative (suggested).	Current Text (confused?).
Deva	Deva	Deva
Bovio m. 10	— (2) ... m. 20	Bovio m. 10
Mediolano ... 20	Rutunio..... 12	Mediolano .. 20
— (1) 13	Uriconio ... 11	Rutunio..... 12
Pennocrucio 18	Uxacona ... 11	Uriconio ... 11
	Pennocrucio 12	Uxacona ... 11
		Pennocrucio 12
	61	66
		76

(1) Supposed station at Stone.

(2) Supposed station at Wirswall.

The route by Etocetum (Wall) would be about five miles shorter than that by Pennocrucium, and then a larger allowance could be made for the missing stage between York and Manchester. If this suggestion be accepted the mileage in the heading of the route will be justified, as thus:—

From Carlisle to York (omitting the 24 miles beyond the Roman Wall)	108 to 111
From York to Chester (adding 20 miles for the missing stage between York and Manchester)	105
From Chester to London (either by Chesterton and Stone to Penkridge or Wall, or by Malpas to Wroxeter, and along Watling-street)	187 to 197
From London to Richborough	74
	<hr/> 474 to 487

the 481 miles of the heading being a mean. In this case there will of course be an absolute break between the Mediolanum and Rutunium of the ordinary text; the latter place will be at the ford over the Roden at Bessford, and the preceding station (unnamed), 12 miles distant, will be near Wirswall on the boundary of Cheshire and Shropshire, this in its turn being 20 miles from Chester. The confusion may have arisen through this 20 miles and the 20 miles belonging to Mediolanum. In other cases (e.g. *Iter xiii.*) the mileage of the heading provides a useful check on the mileage obtained by adding together the distances between the stations.

Q. E. D.

P.S.—There is an essay by Mr. Shrubsole defending the theory of a single Mediolanum in the Transactions of the Historic Society of Lancashire and Cheshire for 1890.

[563] THE ISLAND CALLED HILBRE.

(See No. 550.)

"Genealogist" in his notes on the will of Dom Robert Wigan, a monk of Hilbre, speaks of "Hilbre Island." Surely contributors to your column should know by this time that the use of the word island in this connection is erroneous or, rather, redundant.

Mr. Harrison in his "Place-names of the Liverpool District" (p. 88) points this out in his note on the word. He writes as follows:—"HILBRE (Island). It is really superfluous to add 'Island' after Hilbre, which contains the old word for 'island' in itself. The ancient

name was *Hildburgheye*, i.e., 'the isle of *Hildburga*' and O. Nor. *ey*, 'island.'" In a footnote Mr. Harrison adds: "As an instance of what can be done in quite modern times in the way of wilfully corrupting land-names, it may be mentioned that in Bacon's Geological Map of England and Wales (1891) this island is called *Elborough*!"—Yours,
F. S.
Hoylake.

REPLIES.

[564] THE PLACE-NAME MACCLESFIELD.

(See No. 551.)

Anent the meaning of place-names it is a positive delight to find any querist who believes—as "M.H.S." evidently does—in common-sense. Fully one half of the derivations one meets with is made ridiculous by the simple fact that those who attempt them will not accept the obvious and philologically probable, but must needs struggle after the far-fetched and impossible; for, as the highest living authority—Dr. Skeat, of Cambridge—wisely observes in his delightful book *A Student's Pastime*, "one of the queerest crazes in English etymology is the love of paradox, which is often carried to such an extent that it is considered mean, if not despicable, to accept an etymology that is obvious." Now, taking the Domesday orthography *Maclesfeld*—which, contrary to many Domesday spellings, is identical with the Old English form—as our standard, "M.H.S." is perfectly right in imagining its former half to be a genitive, the ordinary contracted genitive of Old English masculine nouns in -en or -el, as, for instance, *thegen*, genitive *thegens*, thane; *engel*, genitive *engles*, angel; *Macel*, genitive *Macles*, the proper name of some Early English settler, who, following a custom common to every age and clime, was among those who "call their lands after their own names,"—a custom old in the Psalmist's time yet still employed daily by our own fellow-countrymen in Greater Britain when they name the lands around their newly-acquired homesteads Brown's Clearing, Lee's Drift, Robert's Field, Fraser Township, or what not. And the latter half of the name Maclesfeld is just the Old English form of "field," but meaning a small tract of countryside rather than a field in the modern sense (which latter, in Old English, was *æcer*).

The obvious meaning, then, of the word Macclesfield is simply "that piece of country-side which an Early English settler named *Macel* or *Maccel* acquired, settled upon, and called his own."

"Nearly every phonetic law has been violated in the growth and decay of local names," once wrote to me my late lamented friend Professor Max Müller, and probably in eighty out of every hundred English place-names his words are a truism. But I think Macclesfield is a happy exception, and, let me remark, to derive the former half of the name from the Old English *micel*, great,—as Canon Isaac Taylor has done—is philologically absurd. The change of vowel-sound would be a mutation most unusual, and the introduction of the "s" a thing practically impossible. More than that, too, *micel acer*, not *micel feld*, would be the more usual Old English equivalent of the modern words "great field."

I have not before me Dr. Henry Sweet's monumental work *Oldest English Texts* (Early English Text Society: 1885) but I would venture to refer "M. H. S." thereto, since it is not unlikely that the names *Macel* and *Macclesfield* are touched upon therein. He will, at any rate, there find a wealth of reliable information, anent Old English place-names of Cheshire and elsewhere, given by a modern Old-English-scholar of the highest reputation.

ALFRED MOORE.

Northbourne, Deal.

[Searle's "Onomasticon Anglo-Saxonicum" (1897) gives no *Macel* or *Mæcel*, but has several *Mucels*. One of these was King Alfred's father-in-law; two others were Dukes of Mercia (c. 850); while another was Bishop of Hereford about the same time.—ED.]

[565] THE COUNTER.

(See No. 550.)

In Murray's "New English Dictionary" a large amount of space is devoted to the word "counter," but only one of the meanings seems applicable to the "great counter" mentioned in the Hilbre Monk's will—that of abacus or counting-board, suggested as an explanation of the second use of the word in a quotation from Chaucer (1369):—

Thogh Argus the noble counter
Sete to rekene in hys counter

Deihs Blaunche, 436.

Brewer's "Dictionary of Phrase and Fable" gives two quotations from Shakespeare. The Clown in *The Winter's Tale* (IV. ii.) says, "Fifteen hundred shorn . . . what comes the work to? I cannot do't without counters;" and Iago in *Othello* (I. i., 20, 31) has, "Forsooth, a great arithmetician . . . this counter-caster, He in good time must his lieutenant be."—Yours, &c., A. B. C.

JANUARY 29, 1902.

NOTES.

[566]

JOHN BRUEN.

The following biography of John Bruen, of Bruen Stapleford, near Chester, is reprinted with but slight omissions from that given by Samuel Clark in his "Marrow of Ecclesiastical History" (ed. 1675). A short account of this model Puritan is given in Ormerod (Helsby's edition, ii. 320, &c.), where it is further stated that the basis of it was furnished by William Hinde, sometime chaplain to James Lord Strange (afterwards Earl of Derby) in a tract printed in 1641, the original MS. of which is in the possession of the Chetham Society. It gives a contemporary view of Cheshire society at the opening of the seventeenth century, and is therefore valuable apart from any interest attaching to John Bruen himself.

His Parentage.—John Bruen, of Bruen Stapleford, in the County Palatine of Chester, esquire, was born an. 1560, and was the son of a worthy gentleman, descended of worshipful ancestors. His father was first married to a sister of Sir John Done of the house of Utkinton, from whom the Lord withheld the fruit of the womb as He did some time from Rachel; but after her decease he took to wife the daughter of Thomas Holford of Holford, esquire, by whom the Lord gave him fourteen children, sons and daughters, among whom this John Bruen was the first born of the male children, the beginning of his father's strength and heir of his family. Many of his brethren and sisters were holy men and women, especially that rare gentlewoman Mistress Katherine Bretterg, whose life is set down in this book.

His Education.—His parents brought him up civilly and (as the times were) religiously also; and the Lord preserved him in his childhood and youth from the poison of Popish superstition and the contagion of those common groes sins which for want of the light and life

of the ministry of the Gospel reigned in those parts, as if He had a purpose to reserve him as a vessel of honour and for His own house, and so by little and little to prepare him for his mistress' use and service.

Seeds of Grace.—When he was about seven years old his father for some offence rebuked him sharply and corrected him soundly; which he being much grieved at, seeking relief he took a prayer-book which he had learned, and going into his father's chapel, read in it, and prayed as well as he could, and it pleased the Lord to comfort him with inexpressible joys. The next day he went to the same place but found not the like comfort. Probably the seeds of grace were then sown, which, until they were further increased by knowledge and judgment, watered by the Word and warmed by the Spirit, lay hid under the corruptions of nature and lusts of youth as under clods of earth, for a time; but afterwards broke forth in the fruits of an effectual calling and conversion in due season.

Conversion.—This young gentleman, wanting a schoolmaster at home, was by his father sent to his uncle's (Master Dutton of Dutton), where he was bred up at a school under one Master James Roe for about three years' space; in which time something he got for grammar learning, a little (it may be) for civil education, but nothing at all for nurture and information in true religion. Anno Christi 1574 he was by his father sent to Oxford where he first received the love of the truth in any knowledge and understanding, being then about seventeen years old. He lived in Alban's Hall as a gentleman commoner, and was familiar with one John Brerewood, his countryman, an alderman's son at Chester. This Brerewood observing in him some Popish practices and opinions, as the forbearing of meats and drinks for religion and conscience' sake upon Fridays and other days, and the forbidding of marriage to ministers as unlawful by the Pope's canons and constitutions, &c., he set upon him by Scripture arguments to convince and reform him; whereupon this young gentleman through God's mercy was so wrought upon that as himself wrote it down in his book—"This (saith he) when I saw and considered that it was a doctrine of devils, taught and delivered by seducing spirite and such as speak lies through hypocrisy, I was then inflamed with zeal against the profane beast of Rome and all Popery, both persons and things, with all their monuments, rites and ceremonies," &c. Thus did the Lord

inflame the heart of this young gentleman with burning coals of His Word and Spirit, which He raised and reached out unto him from the heart and by the mouth of his companion and friend, that the dross of Popish errors was consumed and his soul so healed that the treasure of God's Word was ever after better esteemed and entertained by him.

Marriage.—Anno Christi 1580, his provident father sent for him home otherwise to dispose of him, considering that he was the firstborn of his strength, the choicest plant of his stock; and so he provided for him the daughter of one Mr. Hardware (a worthy and wise gentleman) to whom he was married with the consent of parents and in the fear of God, and lived very comfortably with her for seventeen years, seeing his sons and daughters as olive plants round about his table. Then, being in the prime of his youth, he spent too much time in hawking, hunting, and such carnal delights.

Humiliation.—But Anno 1587 his father dying, he began to be much perplexed both in mind and estate; some sorrows and fears, thoughts and cares began to stir and work in him and the Lord hereby began to work for his more effectual calling and conversion. And this He did both by the rebukes of His Word and checks of His Spirit, convincing his judgment and changing his heart from the love of baser to a delight in better things; whereupon he began to search his heart and try his ways and to call himself to an account for his former courses, and weighing them in the balance of the sanctuary he found them to be but vanity and vexation of spirit. And albeit the pangs of his conversion and pains of his new birth were not so violent as in some others of God's children, or as were Paul's, Constantine's, or Luther's, yet were his passions and affections at this time not much unlike to St. Austin's at the time of his conversion.

[The biographer then gives his conception of the parallel between the two conversions.]

(To be continued.)

[567] NIXON'S PROPHECIES.

(See Nos. 549 and 553.)

In a letter to a correspondent Mr. W. E. A. Axon says that among the works which the student of these utterances should consult are the early editions of "Mother Shipton," "The Ancient Scottish Prophecies" in one of the Maitland Club books, "Thomas of Ercildoune" in one of the Early

English Text Society's volumes, and "Notes and Queries," 4th S., iv., 81. In the Transactions of the Lancashire and Cheshire Antiquarian Society, vol. vii., p. 130, may be found an account of an "Irish Analogue of Nixon's Prophecy." This last is all that Mr. Axon has written on the subject since issuing his "Nixon," of which there are two editions, each containing matter not in the other.

The passage above referred to in "Notes and Queries" (Oct. 21, 1865) is a transcript of an ancient metrical prophecy made by the late Professor Lumby of Cambridge from Harl. MS. 1717. It begins "Quen the kokke in the northe byggis his nest." Nixon has the phrase "cock of the north," and many other coincidences with words—but with the words only, not in the meaning—in the lines that follow, more especially in a double reference to "Sondyforth." Thus this poem has "At Sondyforth the forsothe upon the southe side," while Nixon has "On the south side of Sandford." It also abounds with references to badges and nicknames—the lion, the dreadful dragon, a bull and a bastard, a bridle horse and a bear, the boar, an eagle and an antelope—just in the style of Nixon.—Ed.

QUERIES.

[568] WHERE WAS CALVINTONE?

In the Domesday Book record of Cheshire two manors are assigned to Richard the Earl's Butler—Pontone and Calvintone (or Calvintone). The former is certainly Poulton in Pulford parish, but the latter is not identified. This is a case in which the clerk has forgotten to fill in the name of the hundred; the last one mentioned being Warmundestrou (or Nantwich) whereas Pontone is in Dudestan (or Broxton). It would be natural to expect Calvintone, which immediately follows Pontone, to be in the same hundred, but if the compiler just at this point became somewhat drowsy or inattentive, or if his rolls were confused, he may have omitted two names of hundreds just as easily as one. Thus we are without the assistance in identifying this manor, which knowledge of the hundred would have afforded. Is there any trace of the name Calvintone anywhere in Cheshire, or in the detached part of Flintshire (English Maelor) which formerly belonged to the county?

STAR.

[569] ● VERSES WANTED

At the end of Henry Pennant's account book (see No. 558) a number of the leaves have been worn away, leaving in some cases less than half

the page. On the very last page, the most worn of all, of course, the registrar's clerk filled up the space with a copy of verses, the remains of which read thus:—

... all hom ...
 ... y land alone
 ... from thy mothers wombe
 ... glorious glittering throne
 ... redemes thee from the tombe
 ... that hold our leif in line
 ... downe they spring (?) from his
 ... it ever may untwine
 ... en are above the skie
 ... mine eternal welthe
 ... this put (?) perfect proefe
 ... e the secret stepp of chaunces stelthe
 ... as when most it seemes aloofe
 ... ie let no man put his trust
 ... ire that heave hap hath past
 ... stin (?) ... myngleth as she lust
 ... pretendeth nought to last
 ... procure
 ... live (line?) in liking lust
 ... thou art unsure
 ... are but dust
 ... highe estate
 ... all
 ... f his date

Lines at the beginning and ending may be lost. Perhaps some reader of the "Sheaf" acquainted with Elizabethan verse may be able to give a complete copy of the verses; or if it should turn out that they are Pennant's own musings, in his intervals of leisure while on duty at the registrar's office, the effort to restore the missing words will afford an interesting literary exercise.

J. B.

FEBRUARY 5, 1902.

NOTES.

[570] THE WILL OF AN EARLY RECTOR OF WEST KIRBY.

Following the will of Robert Wigan, monk of Hilbree, it may interest your readers to see an earlier will of a member of the same family. The Rev. William Wigan, evidently a brother of this Robert Wigan, was appointed Rector of West Kirby (according to Ormerod ii, 487) on the 13th July, 1525, at the presentation of John Birkenhead and William Street, junior. It will be recollected that Robert Wigan in his will speaks of Agnes Street, "my sister." William Wigan does not appear to have lived long to enjoy his rectory at West Kirby as the following will is proved within fifteen months of his presentation to the living. I should think it

very doubtful whether he was ever resident at West Kirby. Dan Robert Hawarden was a curate at West Kirby as late as 1548. The name Dan Thomas Newton, one of the witnesses, is possibly a mis-copy for Dan Thomas Newbolt, a chantry priest of West Kirby, who was also there in 1548.

Birkenhead.

GENEALOGIST.

Prerogative Court of Canterbury. 10 Porch.

The 8th day of September, 1526, I WILLIAM WIGGAN, Clerk, parson of West Kirkby in Wirall.

My body to be buried within the Monastery of St. Werburgh.

I will that one trental of masses, and five masses of Five Wounds be said for me.

I will that every Church that I am parson or vicar of have 10s. towards the building and maintaining thereof.

I give to Richard Mesham all my lands and tenements in Windescover of whatsoever value.

I make my "brother Dan Robert Hawarden, my brother Sir Robert Wiggan," clerk, and Robert Wethen, exors., and I wish them to dispose of my goods in my chamber at Dartfort or elsewhere.

Witnesses: Dan Thomas Newton, William Hilton, William Spone, Richard Mesham.

Proved 1 Oct., 1526.

[571] CHESTER VOLUNTEERS AND MILITIA IN 1782.

In the conclusion of a letter from the late Rev. Thomas Crane (Antiquary) to Sir John Chetwode, Baronet, it is thus written:—"Upon the receipt of Lord Shelburn's letter, this city (Chester) has proposed to raise three companies of hired Militia and two companies of Volunteers. My opinion is that this mode of raising men will not be put into execution for reasons of State." (Date of letter May, 1782.)

WILLIAM H. BRADFORD.

[572] DR. THOMAS LEIGH.

Dr. Thomas Leigh, one of the agents employed by Thomas Cromwell to visit and report upon the condition of the monasteries with the view of finding excuses for their suppression, "was descended, it has lately been discovered, from Sir William Legh, a younger brother of Robert Legh of Adlington in Cheshire. Sir William by his marriage with Margaret, daughter and heiress of William Multon of Isel in Cumberland, became the founder of the family of Legh of Isel. In the reign of Henry VIII. John Legh received from the King a confirmation of the grant of the manor that had been originally given to Thomas de Multon by Henry III. A letter from John Legh, written in 1532, to

Henry's minister, Sir Thomas, afterwards Lord Cromwell and Earl of Essex, shews this relationship, for in it he thanks him for his goodness to his cousins, Dr. Thomas and Dr. Rowland Leigh; the latter was afterwards Bishop of Lichfield and Coventry. . . . Dr. Leigh was also connected with the Leghs of Middleton in Yorkshire, as they were a younger branch of the Leghs of Baguley in Cheshire, who were sprung from the Leghs of Isel." (A. G. Loftie: "Calder Abbey," pp. 88, 89.)

QUERIES.

[573] THE EARL'S EYE, CHESTER.

Can any of the readers of the "Sheaf" inform me why the meadow at Chester, opposite the Grosvenor Park, is called the Earl's Eye? D.

[574] THE MALPAS RECTORIES.

The following account of the origin of this double rectory is given in an old gazetteer (c. 1835) as the traditional one:—

King James, travelling incog., stopped at the house now called the Red Lion Inn, where he met with some of the most respectable inhabitants, including the rector and curate, who were accustomed to spend their evenings there. The King by his familiar jocularly so pleased the company that the curate proposed that they should confer some token of their gratification upon the stranger prior to his departure, and intimated the propriety of exempting him from sharing in the evening's expenses. All agreed to the proposal: except the rector, who insisted that "every tub should stand on its own staves"; which convinced the monarch that there were more liberal rectors in the kingdom than the incumbent of Malpas; and immediately throwing off his disguise he avowed himself their King, declaring that henceforth the curate should also be a rector, enjoying equal emoluments and privileges. The chair in which the monarch sat is preserved and is (or lately was) in the hall of the Red Lion, exhibiting a curious specimen of the chair-making of those days; the Scottish coronation chair in Westminster Abbey does not excel it, either in strength or beauty.

The story is of course erroneous as it stands, for the double rectory of Malpas goes back to the 13th century at least; but it may have some basis in fact. If so, what is the genuine version, and to what church or place does it apply? And what has become of the chair which was used as evidence for the story?

A. B. C.

REPLY.

[575] ACTON-BY-NANTWICH AND ITS CURFEW.
(See No. 561.)

Like Grey's "Elegy" and the Churchyard of Stoke Poges, the connection between place and poem is often disputed, and a successful set of verses—if anonymous as to locality—is pretty certain to have its local setting claimed by rival spots. But I venture to fancy that my namesake, Mr. Moore, the Vicar of Acton, is not wrong in connecting the poem "The Curfew shall not ring to-night" with his own church, since, some years ago, I remember seeing an early - printed copy of that poem at the top of which had been inscribed "These verses refer to a church in Cheshire"; while at its foot—and written, I think, in another hand—were the words "Yes; Acton-by-Nantwich." I am aware that this proof is of little value, but it is at least "circumstantial evidence," and as such I submit it.

ALFRED MOORE.

Northbourne, Deal.

FEBRUARY 12, 1902.

NOTES.

[576] AN EARLY GRANT FROM THE PRIOR
AND CONVENT OF ST. JOHN'S HOSPITAL,
CHESTER.

In the first volume of the present series of the "Sheaf" (p. 1), particulars appeared of an early charter of this Hospital, and I now send you another which has recently been discovered among a collection of Cheshire charters. The occurrence of grants from this house is so uncommon that I make no apology for asking you to print the abstract rather fully. Attached to the deed is a fine impression of the Convent seal, exactly as described in the article in the "Sheaf" mentioned above, including the lamb and cross within a circle, held in the Saint's right hand, as shewn in Canon Morris's book ("Plantagenet Chester," p. 154). Fortunately the inscription is better preserved in this impression and reads as follows:—SIGILL SANCTI IOH [ANNIS] HOPIT: CES[TRIE].—between the last two words the circle containing the lamb is intruded. The letters supplied in brackets are suggested to fill up defects in the impression.

A reference to the Coucher Book of Whalley, p. 578, shews this same charter, which is followed on p. 580 by a confirmation of a subse-

quent grant of the same land made by William de Backford, dated 1240. It is clear therefore that this charter must be earlier than 1240, probably, however, only a year or two.

An interesting point raised by this deed is the identity of "William de Backford son of Adam the Parson." He appears to have been a member of the family of Garston of Garston, co. Lanc.

HOLLY.

To all sons of the Holy Mother Church to whom these presents may come Brother Roger, then Prior of the Hospital of St. John of Chester without the Northgate, and the Brethren there serving God send greeting in the Lord. Know all men that we by the common counsel and consent of our chapter have given and conceded and by this our present charter confirmed to William de Baefort, son of Adam the Parson, and his heirs our land which we have by the gift of Sir Adam de Gerstan for his homage and service—to wit the messuage of Edric son of Auel and the croft appertaining thereto and one croft in which are five acres which extend unto the lord's meadow and the moiety of the fishery which is between the fishery of Robert son of Turstan and the fishery of Thurb. To have and to hold etc., rendering annually twelve pence in silver at St. Martin.

Witnesses, Adam de Gerstan, Adam de Aynull' (probably Aynull[vesdale]), Alande Mooso, Richard de Liuerpul, Henry de Thorint[on], Richard de Bikerstat, Adam the clerk of Baefort, and many others.

[Contemporary endorsement] Charter of the Prior of the Hospital of Chester concerning the land of Gerstan made to W. de Baeforde.

[577] MOULSON ALIAS MOULTON.

The name of a very interesting Cheshire family, Moulton of Moulton, obscured in its earlier, feudal, generations by heiresses, and eventually corrupted to Moulson, receives, so far, good illustration from a similar corruption of the surnames (by the elision of the "t," and, in one case, substitution of "s") of perhaps many other families, including, in Cheshire, the early Snelstons of Snelston, long pronounced and spelled "Snelson"; also including the surname of the Lancashire family of Nelston of Nelston (Neilstown), a hamlet in the township and manor of Mawdesley, near Rufford and Ormskirk. This was corrupted to "Nelson," from which little old manor sprang the line of the Nelsons, of whom one was the paternal great-grandfather of Lord Nelson of the Nile, who there is much reason to believe migrated direct from Nelston or Nelson to Norfolk. All these sort of corruptions seem to have occurred mostly in the reign of Eliza-

beth—at all events they were generally, with all other names, for the first time, apparently, written phonetically in her reign. So with the Moulsons—though there is no regular pedigree; but, such orthography, in this instance, first occurs at too early a date for it generally. For it is given as the orthography of the 15th century, so far as I can remember.

The first of the surname that occurs in any pedigree appears in a Rosengrave one at Aldersey Hall, in 1574-5. It is by one of the Chaloners, of Chester, herald-painters, etc., predecessors, and also contemporaries of the two earlier Randle Holmes. "Jacob Chaloner, of London," settled there in the time of "Wm. Segar, Garter," who "examined" his many genealogies. By his pedigrees of the Rosengraves and Hargraves of Hargrave, "Agnes Rosengrave of Rosengrave and Hargrave, daughter and heir of Richard de Rosengrave by his wife Beatrice, daughter of William de Hatton" (juxta Daresbury, by the arms) marries firstly "*James Moulsonne of Hargrave*," living *circa tempus* Edw. IV. in or before A.D. 1460. But this spelling, it must be recollected, is Elizabethan.

Some 6 or 8 generations after appears "Sir Thomas Moulson, knt., afterwards Lord Mayor of London" (1634), who founded a Chapel and School in Hargrave Stubbs, the inscription on the former running: "Thomas Moulson, alderman of the City of London, built this Chapel at his own cost and charge, A.D. 1627." He died in 1648, and was "buried in the Whelock Chancel of Sandbach Church," where there still exists an inscription, which, by no means singularly, varies from other notices, in tabooring his civil knighthood. "In Memoriam Thomæ Moulson de Whelocke, armigeri, qui obiit tertio die Septembris annoq. Domini 1648," with the emblazoned coat of Moulson quartering the coats of Rosengrave and Hargrave.

The next name (of the original orthography) is that of one who occurs A.D. 1665, as "*Richard Moulton*." He left a legacy of £10 to the poor of Waverton (Wårton).

Then follows "*Peter Moulson*," who in 1674, by deed, gave the (same?) parish £20; and in 1709 gave £5 to the poor of Chowley; and in 1713 gave another £20, also £5, to Waverton.

I am not concerned in any research for further examples, but prefer to embalm in the "Sheaf" these fragments. Here, however, it may be observed that the four beautiful quarterings usually given to the Moulsons may have some additions beyond the single one in

the Aldersey rolls, which I am enabled to give, viz. Orreby. Here they all are:—1. *Moulson*: Gules, a chevron componée or and sable. 2. *Rosengrave*: Or, a fesse wavy, sable, in chief 3 martlets of the last. 3. *Orreby*: Ermine, 5 chevronels gules; a canton of [the second. 4. *L'Estrange*: Gules, 2 lions passant argent, in chief a label of 3 points or. 5. *Hargrave*: Arg., a griffin segreant per fesse gu. and sa., beak and claws or. CREST: On a wreath of the colours, a griffin statant, party per pale gu. and sa., with dexter talon raised on a mullet erect or. MOTTO: '*Actio virtutis laus*,' probably assumed by the Lord Mayor. And the crest seems to have been taken from the Hargrave coat.

Willm. de Rosengreve temp. Edw. III., who married the heiress of the Hargraves, was "son and heir of Wm. de Mulneton" (Milton, a neighbouring manor).

The next of the name of Moulson was of a family who, late in the 17th, or early in the 18th, century, came out of Cheshire and settled in the West Derby Hundred on the Lancashire side of the Mersey. *Peter Moulson*, son of Jonathan Moulson, gent., both living 1774, occurs in several partition documents relating to lands and houses in West Derby. Peter died a bachelor some 15 or 20 years later, leaving two sisters the co-heiresses of their father. One was wife of Francis Ashburner, a younger son of the Ashburners of Gleaston, and for many generations of Paddock Hall in Dalton in Furness, and had a marriage settlement of considerable lands of her father's, written on several parchments, about the year 1764. Her sister married a Mr. George Clutton (of Cheshire) some years before 1782. Miss Moulson, among other property, brought with her a variety of family oil-portraits; also an oilpainting, on panel, of about Queen Anne's reign of the armorials of the Moulsons quartering only Rosengrave, L'Estrange, and Hargrave perhaps as chief quarters—the coat of Orreby being apparently brought in by one of these marriages.

(To be continued.)

REPLY.

[578] THE ANTONINE ITINERARY.

(See No. 562.)

With regard to the date of the Itinerary, I have given reasons in my first paper in the "Antiquary" for following Parthey and Pinder

in regarding Antoninus Caracalla as the Emperor after whom this celebrated road-book is named. I would add three more instances which favour a fairly early date: London retains its old name, and is not called Augusta, as by Ammianus Marcellinus; Orleans in like manner is Cenabum, the present name from the Emperor Aurelian not appearing; Boulogne is Gessoriacum, not Bononia, its designation in Peutinger's Tabula, which while noting the old name adds "quod nunc Bononia dicitur."

I must freely confess the unsatisfactory result of my third paper in the "Antiquary." The received reading is inexplicable. There is but the slightest variation in the MSS., and I hesitated to invent readings for myself, the mantle of Bentley not having fallen on me. For the same reason I dare not pronounce for or against the theory advanced in the "Sheaf" of January 22nd.

One thing seems to me absolutely certain—that there could have existed but one Mediolanum in the district. The presumption seems very strong that Chesterton is this Mediolanum.

The indirectness of many of the routes in the Itinerary ought to cure the popular idea of the unsavouring straightness of Roman roads. Take as an example Iter VII., from Chichester (Regnum) to London, 96 miles, by Winchester, Silchester, and Old Windsor. This is only on a larger scale the Condate-Mediolanum difficulty, as in Route II., and I adhere to the idea that the single journey in Route X. is a later scheme. Further on we have a similar case: from London to Rochester in Route II. you pass two stations, Noviomagus (ten miles) and Vagniaci (eighteen miles), which with a third stage of nine makes a total of 37, whereas in Routes III. and IV. you accomplish the whole distance in one stage of 27 miles.

An older and longer road may be more expeditious after all in unfavourable weather.

J. J. RAVEN.

Fressingfield, Suffolk.

FEBRUARY 19, 1902.

NOTES.

[579] THE PARISHES OF CHESTER.

The areas of the old parishes of the country, like those of the townships and hundreds, are of great interest to the student of the English

Conquest. The little settlements of freemen voluntarily associated together, united perhaps by ties of kinship as well as by comradeship in the battles in which they had driven out the Britons, were the nucleus round which these old divisions were drawn in many cases; in other cases some great chieftain bringing his serfs and retainers might establish a home for himself in the midst of the devastated country, and the area which he was able to bring under his patriarchal authority became a permanent institution. When towns grew up as centres of trade they also had their natural limits according to the prosperity of the populations, the good or churlish dispositions of their neighbours, and, of course, the physical features of the country.

St. Oswald's parish seems to give the key to the original English settlement at Chester. Not only does tradition assure us it was the original parish in position, the name being altered, but it is the largest, stretching from Croughton in the north to Lee-Newbold in the south, and shews by its detached fragments that intermediate parishes have been cut out of it—as Backford, Plemstall, and Guilden Sutton. The other great parishes of the city—St. Mary's and Holy Trinity—must also have been originally within it; so that it measured about 9 miles from north to south and 6 from east to west. The detached township of Iddins-hall suggests at first sight a much greater extension even than this; but then this township was a manor of St. Werburgh's and may have come to be attached to St. Oswald's parish in that way, the transfer from Tarvin being granted by the bishop to whom Tarvin and its church belonged. A similar reason may be given for the inclusion of Hilbre within the parish. Although parochial boundaries are to be treated with respect as really ancient and significant, it does not follow that they must be regarded as having been preserved from the slightest change ever since their institution some 1,200 years ago; there are in fact other townships in Cheshire which appear to have been transferred from one parish to another, at least a supposition of this kind smooths away a difficulty or two. In the case of Croughton we have a definite statement that the township properly belonged to the parish of Stoke, but the Abbot of St. Werburgh's agreed with the rector of Stoke for its transfer to St. Oswald's parish. It had long been the Abbot's property. This transfer is undated, but earlier than 1316.

Leaving Iddinshall out of the question, and putting aside for the present any speculation as to the possibility of Dodleston, Eccleston, Pulford, Christleton and Waverton having been originally offshoots of Chester, let us consider the parishes which may with reasonable certainty be regarded as sub-divisions of St. Oswald's. The Bishop, as became his office, was liberal in providing churches. He had the great church of St. John the Baptist just outside the walls, and founded another on his manor of Guilden Sutton, which bears the same dedication as if to shew its descent. St. John's, if tradition may be trusted, must be almost as old as St. Oswald's, and its erection would be a kind of invitation to people to settle down by it, affording them a shelter and place of worship. Plemstall owes its church and its name to the little oratory established on an islet or holme in the Gowy marshes by St. Plegmund, who lived there as a hermit till King Alfred discovered him and promoted him from office to office up to the See of Canterbury. The townships belonging to it—Hoole, Mickle Trafford, Bridge Trafford, and Picton—came with one exception into the hands of Earl Hugh, who gave Hoole to a certain Herbert as part of the manor of Upton, kept Mickle Trafford in his own hands, and bestowed the independent manor of Picton on Richard Vernon. Bridge Trafford, which had wholly or partly belonged to St. Werburgh's, fell into the Earl's hands. Neither before, nor after the Conquest were the four townships in one ownership, so that their junction into a single parish must have been due to the decision of the bishop, whose guiding principle would be the convenience of the people. Backford parish in like manner comprises townships which though physically adjacent have had diverse lords from before the Conquest—Backford itself and Caughall were parts of the Earl's manor of Upton, and the former was given by him to Hamo Masci, Lea had belonged to the canons of St. Werburgh's for more than a century, and perhaps Chorlton also, while Great Mollington was in yet other hands. Any unity they may have had among themselves must therefore have been very far back, so that probably their conjunction into one parish was here also the work of the bishop. It is interesting to notice that the dedication of the church to St. Oswald witnesses to previous inclusion in Chester.

St. Mary's appears to be the church of the Earl's manor, for it is not only situated next

to his castle but includes the principal part of the manor of Upton which was an immemorial lordship of the Earls of Mercia. Here there seem indications of a date for the formation of the parish. Had it been formed long before the Conquest, i.e., before such townships as Backford and Hoole had become practically independent manors, it would no doubt have embraced them along with Upton. Its formation therefore is probably not earlier than the Conquest; nor can it be much later, for as Upton was given to St. Werburgh's by Earl Randle I. (1120-1128) it would, had it not already been part of St. Mary's parish, no doubt have been retained in the parish of St. Oswald as was Wervin. Again the townships of Great and Little Mollington are in two parishes—Backford and St. Mary's respectively; but from the Conquest they were held by Robert of Khuddan till his death in 1087, and he would probably have objected to having them placed in two different parishes. After Robert's death (without heirs) his manors fell again into the Earl's hands and the two Mollingtons were assigned to separate holders. Hence the most probable date for the formation of St. Mary's parish is 1100-1110, under the rule of Bishop Robert of Lymesey, the builder of the Norman part of St. John's Church. And if he thus concerned himself about this subdivision of the great parish of St. Oswald it is reasonable enough to suppose that he at the same time arranged for the other new parishes of Holy Trinity, Backford, Plemstall, and Guilden Sutton, this last being, as was explained above, his own manor. The dedication of one of the parishes to the Trinity would be appropriate to the same period. In many or most of these cases the churches may be older than the formal separation of the parishes attached to them, as in the case of Plemstall.

Having thus discussed the formation of the greater parishes from the original parish of Chester, a little must be said of the very interesting small parishes within the city. Dedications like St. Peter, St. Martin, and St. Michael at once suggest antiquity. St. Peter's, in fact, is supposed to commemorate the original church superseded about 920 by St. Oswald's, and the position of the building in the very centre of the Roman city seems to point it out as the citizens' church. St. Bridget's may indicate a Welsh colony; the church was at the city's entrance by the road from Wales, and the dedication is not un-

common in that country. The dedication of West Kirby church is probably due to similar influences. It is not so easy to make a theory for St. Martin's of the Ash. This dedication seems to occur once or twice in a county; another in Cheshire being at Ashton-on-Mersey, where the old Roman road from Chester to Manchester crosses the river. These churches—St. Martin's and St. Bridget's—and St. Michael's stand on the line assigned by Mr. Thompson Watkin to the wall round the city in Roman times, the former at the south-west corner, the two latter at opposite sides of the gateway of the road leading south over the river, forming as it were part of the defences. Churches in similar positions may be found in other fortified towns; at Oxford, for instance, St. Michael's is on the town wall and its tower was apparently meant to be part of the defences of the north gate. The reason of dedicating a church so placed to "the prince of the heavenly host" is plain enough, and it would therefore appear that at the time St. Michael's was first erected the wall of the city was still on the old Roman line, the extension of the east wall to the river side and thence round to the castle being later than these churches. The only hint tradition affords as to their date is the statement that some churches here were built by King Offa (d. 797). The little church of St. Olave tells its own tale of Chester's trade with the Norsemen of Dublin and the Irish coast and perhaps more distant lands. Bringing their small ships up to the discharging wharf by the bridge over the Dee these hardy mariners and their kinsfolk would settle for longer or shorter periods close by, perhaps in the narrow alley that still runs up beside the church, and there they would erect the shrine of the Norse King and Saint who lost his life in 1030 owing to his endeavours to establish Christianity among his subjects.

Thus the parish history shows us the old English settlement beside or in the Roman camp, the various townships growing from the farms or villages of individuals or small groups, the parochial unity being the natural result of the unity of the settlers either by birth or voluntary association or allegiance to a tribal chieftain; names like Newton and Newbold shew the progress of the agricultural districts, while the parishes within the walls testify to the growth of a town there, with traders and skilled workmen and colonies of strangers and foreigners.

J. B.

REPLY.

[580]

THE EARL'S EYE.

(See No. 573.)

The meaning of the name of this meadow is the "Island belonging to the earl," and though it may no longer be an island nor belong to the Earl of Chester (i.e., the King), yet when the name was given to it both parts of the title were accurate. Theland was given by Edward I. as Earl of Chester to Randle de Merton (Marton in Over) by a charter dated January 20, 1286, to be seen in Ormerod (ii., 179); it is therein described as part of the demesne lands belonging to Chester Castle "in the island which is called Erls Eye." From this Randle it descended to the Gleggs. The Roodes, Rood Eye, or Island of the Cross, must likewise have had a small stream cutting it off and making an island of it. In an old deed quoted by Ormerod (i. 371) it is said to be "land recovered from the sea."

A. B. C.

In reply to the question (No. 573) in this week's "Sheaf" I understand the Earl's Eye to be an old name for the Earl's island, as Rood Eye is of Rood island; the remains of the Rood or cross still standing there, probably marking its highest elevation, as well as the stranding of the famed Hawarden effigy. In Bailey's dictionary the word "Eia" (Sax.) means an island, eit, or ait; elsewhere in same book "Ait" and "Eyght" (with like pronunciation) is "a little island in a river." In Johnson's Dictionary I find "Ey" an island and "Ea" (both Saxon words) water. Small islands in the Thames and other South country rivers are still called Eyots, pronounced Aits. The town of "Eye" in Suffolk, and combinations of the word elsewhere have presumably a kindred origin. If in the case of the Earl's Island objection is taken to this explanation from the present configuration of the land, I think the devious and shifting propensities of the stream allow ample probabilities for the main land, as now presented to us, having been in olden time intersected, and an Eye or Eyot formed thereby. As regards the place being called The Earl's Eye; having, unfortunately, no antiquarian Cestrian lore, I can only suggest that the locality was one of the many belongings of the great Earls of Chester in feudal and mediæval times.

W. L.

Curzon Park, Chester.

FEBRUARY 26, 1902.

NOTES.

[581]

JOHN BRUEN. II.

(Continued from No. 566.)

Frugality.—Mr. Bruen's father, together with his lands, left him charged with the portions of twelve children, sons and daughters, which that he might discharge he laid away his hawks and hounds and began to cut off all other occasions of wasteful and riotous expenses; and whereas his father left him a park well furnished with deer he disparked it, and drawing himself to as narrow a compass as he well could, he provided competently and comfortably for his own family and faithfully paid his brethren and sisters all their portions and disposed of them in marriage to their own content.

Family Government.—Then he was very careful to set up God's worship in his family, walking wisely in the midst of his house, setting his eyes, in favour upon the godly and not suffering a wicked person to abide in his sight. And his principal care was to dwell with his wife as a man of knowledge and to train up his children in the nurture and information of the Lord, and by his holy and prudent carriage his wife (though well affected to religion before) yet grew on to a higher pitch in knowledge and grace, and became to him a faithful helper and careful yoke-fellow to bear and draw in the yoke of Christ.

Education of his Children.—They were both very careful in the education of their children, catechising of them in the principles of religion and causing them to learn such sentences of Scripture as might make the easiest impression of grace upon their hearts. Neither did he spare to use the rod of correction, as God's healing medicine to cure the corruptions of his children; yet if at any time his heart was overheated through his hatred of sin and zeal for God's glory that he spake unadvisedly with his lips or dealt too violently with his hands, he used to be much humbled for it that going about to cure others he had wounded himself. The fruits of which his holy desires and endeavours he found and reaped in due season; for hereby he became more watchful over his spirit and speech in all such occasions and provocations to anger; he grew more moderate in his corrections; when his passions were most vehement against sin he much assuaged them by his tender affection to the sinner: and lastly, he lived to see those whom he most sharply corrected effectually converted and reformed.

"Old Robert."—Come we next to his men and maid servants, among whom there was not one idle and unprofitable person. And for his choice of servants he took notice of any thereabouts that began to set their faces towards heaven; such he

loved, and laboured to draw them into his service; so that in a short time he was furnished with godly and gracious servants, both men and maids, and then he looked upon them as his brethren and fellow-servants in and under Christ; would sometimes use them familiarly, advise, confer, consult, and resolve with them in matters of conscience and other weighty occasions; sometimes he made them his comforters in afflictions and temptations and received refreshing from them. Among the rest he had one old disciple (Robert Pasfield), a man utterly unlearned, being able neither to write nor read, yet through God's blessing upon his industry, having a good memory, he became ripe in understanding and mighty in the Scriptures; yea, he was so well acquainted with the sum and substance of every book and chapter that hardly could a man ask him for any sentences of Scripture but he would tell him in what book and chapter he might find it. He had a good gift in prayer, [and] was very willing and able to confer of good things, whereby he became very useful both in the family and to other young Christians abroad, as he had opportunity. For the help of his memory he invented and formed a girdle of leather, long and large, which went twice about him; this he divided into several parts, allotting every book in the Bible in their order to some of these divisions; then for the chapters he affixed points or thongs of leather to the several divisions, and made knots by fives or tens thereupon to distinguish the chapter of that book; and by other points he divided the chapters into their particular contents or verses, as occasion required. This he used instead of pen and ink in hearing sermons, and made so good use of it, that coming home, he was able by it to repeat the sermon, quote the texts of Scripture, &c., to his own great comfort and to the benefit of others. Which girdle Master Bruen kept after his death, hung it up in his study, and would merrily call it "The girdle of Verity." This Old Robert, though but a servant, yet being rich in grace, his master used him very familiarly; when conveniently he could he would have him near him, would often go to the hopyard or barn where his business lay to talk and confer with him; and when he was grown old, having been in his service about thirty years, he was so far from casting him off that he daily fed him with some of the best morsels from his own table, and set him not far from him that he might the better confer with him; which he continued to his dying day.

His Carriage to his Servants.—Such other servants as he chose to be ever about him at home and abroad, he made happy by his taking opportunities to impart some wholesome words of admonition and instruction to them, etc. To them all he allotted their places and employments according to their skill and knowledge, proportioning their labour to their strength and their wages to their labour, ever allowing them liberty and leisure, means, and help to accomplish the work they took in hand, not suffering them to want any encourage-

ment which might make them cheerful and faithful in his and God's service. For which end (as his occasion would permit) he would go among them to see the work and encourage the workmen, and would take occasion to raise matter of speech from their callings, work, wages; sometimes from the good creatures of God, their nature and use; or from the season of the year, as spring, seed-time, harvest, fair or foul, weather, etc.; to apply these to such places of Scripture as they had heard or read the same things in, for their further instruction and edification. And in their labours what he saw well done for matter and manner he would well approve and accept of and by a due commendation provoke them to continue in their well-doing; when he saw amiss, if it were of small concern he would wisely pass it by, if of greater weight he would admonish or reprove them for it, yet without railing or reviling words; sometimes more sharply, according to the nature of the fault and disposition of the offender, and sometimes more mildly, as he found the party more sensible of his fault and more capable of amendment. There was not the meanest of his servants but he would cheer and encourage him, especially if he saw *aliquid Christi*, anything of Christ in them. His servants also did usually exercise themselves unto godliness, exhorting, admonishing, and encouraging one another in the ways of God, and praying unto God in their courses every night for God's blessing upon themselves and labours, which they performed in the kitchen after family prayers were ended, before they went to bed. And for such of his servants as were inclined to marriage he provided well for them, sending them out in the fear of God to establish God's worship in their own houses.

NOTE.—Foster's "Alumni Oxonienses" gives—*John Bruen*, of St. Alban Hall, matric. Dec. 20, 1577, aged 18 [no degree mentioned]; and *John Brerewood*, of Cheshire, plebeian, St. Alban Hall, matric. Dec., 1577, aged 17 [no degree mentioned]. The same work also gives—*Thomas Brerewood*, fellow of All Souls', 1511; d. 1544; *Edward Brerewood*, son of Robert B. of Chester, wet glover, Brasenose Coll. 1581, B.A. 1586-7, M.A. 1590, Professor of Astronomy at Gresham College 1596, d. May 4, 1613 [see Ormerod, i. 196]; and Sir *Robert Brerewood*, gentleman, Brasenose Coll. 1605-6, aged 17, M.P. for Chester, &c., d. 1654. Was Bruen's friend John Brerewood, "son of an alderman of Chester," an elder brother of Edward Brerewood?

(To be continued.)

[582] HENRY VIII'S ECCLESIASTICAL COMMISSIONERS.

Dr. Layton, one of the King's Commissioners, writes to Cromwell, the King's Vicar-General, about A.D. 1536, thus:—"Pleaset yowe to understand, that whereas ye intende shortly to visite, and belike shall have many suitors unto yowe for the same to be your commissioners,

if hit might stand with your pleasure that Dr. Lee and I might have committed unto us the north contre, and to begyn in Lincoln diocess northward here from London, Chester diocess, Yorke, and so forth to the border of Scotlande, to ryde downe one side and come up the other. Ye shall be well and faste assurde that ye shall nother fynde monke, chanone, etc., that shall do the King's highness so good servys, nother be so trusty, trewe, and faithful to yowe. There is nother monasterie, sell, priorie, nor any other religious howse in the northe, but other Dr. Lee or I have familiar acquaintance within X. or XII. mylles of hyt, so that no knaverie can be hyde from us. We knowe and have experience both of the fassion of the contre and rudeness of the pepul."

On the 4th of March, 1536, a Bill was passed, hastily, through both Houses of Parliament, transferring to the King (Henry VIII.) and his heirs all monastic establishments. However, a clause in the Act of Parliament left it to the King's discretion, that after the surrender of the monasteries, abbeys, &c., the King could found them anew. It has been hinted that through the consideration of "a present" to the powers in the ascendancy, this might easily be managed. Probably, this was the reason why John Clarke, twenty-seventh abbot of the monastery of St. Werburgh's, Chester, so readily surrendered his monastery, as, in lieu thereof, he might become dean of the new cathedral (the old monastery under a different rule).

The Chester and Cheshire surrenders were:—
[Regni 30] Henry VIII.

1. Cumbermore (Combermere): Augustinus The Abbot. 27th of July.
2. Val-royal (Vale Royal),

The Abbot and 14 Monks. 7th Sept.

[Regni 31] Henry VIII.

St. Werburgh, Chester. 20th January.

St. Mary, Chester, Nunnery. 21st January.

I hope in my next contribution to the "Sheaf" to give you a letter from the English Ambassador at Rome touching the See of Chester, 1556.

WILLIAM H. BRADFORD.

QUERIES.

[583] ST. OSWALD'S BELLS.

1. In the Churchwardens' Accounts of St. Oswald's, Chester, of 1608-9, the following item occurs:—

"Item the vth Auguste, delyvery
frō Gowrye to the Clarke, for
Rynginge xiiijd."

In the previous year there occurs—

"Itm. given to the Claroke for ringinge
one the Kinges day beinge the vth
of August..... xiiijd."

A similar item appears for several years afterwards, August 5th, November 5th, and March 24th, being called King's Days, or King's holidays. March 24th was the day of James I's Accession; but why was the bell rung on August 5th? Was it because it was St. Oswald's Day (the patron saint of the church), or in honour of some event in the reign of James I.? Can any of your readers explain the words, "delyvery frō Gowrye"?

2. In the accounts of the same church for 1615-6 there occurs:—

"Item paid for makinge the ould
bell rope new and for a Rope
for the Anthem bell..... ijs iiijd."

What was the "Anthem bell"? E. C. L.

[On August 5, 1600, an attempt was made by the Earl of Gowrie and his brother Alexander Ruthven to kidnap or imprison James VI. of Scotland (as he then was)—possibly they intended to murder him also—but he was saved by the devotion of Sir James Ramsay and other attendants. When James became King of England the holiday instituted on account of the "delivery from Gowrie" was kept here also.—ED.]

REPLY.

[584] HILBER 'ISLE.'
(See No. 568.)

The redundancy is to be found in many names. There is "Penhulton" (Pendleton), for instance—the first syllable British—the second and third Saxon—the latter two meaning precisely the same as the Danish 'Helsby'—the town by the Hill—the Danes in their incursions having given many names about the neighbourhood of the Mersey, especially in Wirral Hundred. But when the Normans conquered the country, and bundled out Dane and Saxon alike, they, of course, did not "call the lands after their own name"—the slip of a very able correspondent—but, "custom which never stales," or rather never "staled," gave the name to them by the months of their retainers and tenants, and all of the parish, and by the pens of monk and priest who *de'd* and *del'd* and *de la'd* it in the Norman-French and Latin charters and other writings; till the several names throughout the kingdom became by the beginning of the 15th century (and, mostly,

earlier) hard and fast surnames, to our minds quite a respectable sort of "fitz," compared with John o' Penhulton, or Jack, lord o'th' Legh, or Dick o'th' ynne (or inn), or Tummass o'th' owse (now Thynne and Thouse, both meaning a hall, or house, or dwelling, and not simply an inn or court, as so many of the very "antiquarian" publish it), which were in those heroic ages highly revered. But the pronunciation of "Hilbre," I take it, was "Hilber" not very many generations since, just as "Widdens," is to the present, the proper pronunciation of "Widnes"—not the Cockney "Wid-ness" of the bookmasters of provincial cotton and silk boroughs and cities.

I quite agree with Mr. Moore, and have ever been of his opinion, as to the "far-fetched" derivations of many words (which may be "good for the ladies"), and should be very glad to know his opinion, if convenient, on that of the surname of Rutter (*le Roter*), as given by Mr. Beaumont. Weak-minded linguists are often hampered by foreign tongues. (See No. 576). T. H.

MARCH 5, 1902.

NOTES.

[585] MOULSON ALIAS MOULTON. II.
(Continued from No. 577.)

The following curious letter is from the original written by Commodore Moulson of the French Navy, who and whose father were born Frenchmen. At the date of this communication (about a year before the beginning of the French Revolution, and some five years before Louis XVI. was beheaded), the Commodore was "Commandant of Dunkirk," receiving that appointment from the King in consideration of the bad health of his wife when he was to join his Division of the French Fleet at Toulon. The letter is the more interesting as being from the head of a French branch of a Cheshire and Lancashire family of no particular wealth in modern times.

Dunkerque, Janry. 26, 1788.

Dear Cousin,

I received with the greatest pleasure in life your kind favour of ye 23rd of last month, and am happy to hear that you and family are well; but since my last to you I have had the unhappy misfortune to undergo the cruel fate of Providence in being bereaved of my bosom friend, who, after a cruel and long fit of sickness, departed this life on

the 4th of June last, much regretted by all who knew her, but the greatest loss on me. She was only come to the age of twenty-one, and all that she left to console me in this life are two fine boys: one five years of age, and the other eighteen months. They amaze me in the evening with their little chattering notes, which helps to pass away my weary time; but all their little enchantments can't make me forget the many sociable hours passed in company with their dear Mamma, who, without flattery, was allowed by all that were acquainted with her to be one of the finest of women, in person and quality—with whom I was happy for the small space of six years, and then obliged to part with her in the flower of her age and height of our happiness. The long sickness of my dear wife kept me from going to Toulon to join my division; and before all my family affairs are settled, his Majesty hath honored me with the command of this port, where I hope to stay for some time, a place of honor and ease; as there come but few ships of his Majesty here, I have but little trouble on me.

I wrote to your brother for an abstract from the College of Arms of our family, but he did not understand what I would have, or he could not find an account of the family; but since that time I made it my business to go to London on that purpose, where I find that our forefathers hath (*sic*) been very neglectful in their entries, for I only find a list so low as Mr. Thomas Moulson, son and heir. I think that he must have been your father's grandfather; and as I mean to bring up the list of my family, if you and your brother will be so good as to send me a list of all our family on your side the water, I will have them inregistered also; for it will cost me no more to inregister fifty in a generation than one person, and it is extremely necessary for our family to be kept up in the College of Arms. I find that we are truly descended from the Coheirs of Rosen-grave, Orbs (*sic*, probably for Orreby) and Hargrave; which, for my children's sake (*), I intend to revive in the College of Heraldry at Paris, by which they become noble of France, although I find that the family hath lost all claims of that nature in England. I hope to hear from you oftener than what I have heretofore; for I shall ever be happy to hear from any of my family, although I am an open enemy to the country in which my grandfather first drew the breath of life. Give me leave to acknowledge to you that the ties of relations shall never be forgotten in me, and I declare to you that had not it been for the press, that broke out at the time I was at London, I should have come to Liverpool, although I could not have been good company at that time, as my late misfortune lay heavy upon me after so short a date; but thanks be to Him that is all-supreme, I

find myself greatly reconciled in my unhappy state by the help of a natural philosophy, which every man should make use of on such occasions.

Be so kind as to give my greatest and most respectful compliments to your good husband and children, your brother and family, wishing that you may all live to see many happy years like this in peace and tranquillity. If my place doth not keep me too much employed the next spring, I intend to call over and see you; but it is uncertain; for, in case of a movement in the navy, I shall find work sufficient to keep me here.

I hear by a captain from your port, that Miss Moulson, your brother's daughter, is going to take upon herself a married life; and as I hear that she is very handsome, I hope her fortune will be equivalent to her beauty.

I see, often, persons that inform me of your brother and family; but not one that knows you, which I suppose must be occasioned by his living so much nearer the harbour than what you do.

Adieu! for this time. I leave you here to judge by this evening's pen (*sic*, for pen) how my case is at present, and still remain,

Dear Cousin,

Your most obedient and affectionate Cousin,
MOULSON.

Addressed:—This for
Mrs. Mary Ashburner
of the Lowe Hill,
West Derby,
by Liverpool,
England.

This Mrs. Ashburner (*née* Mary Moulson) survived her brother and his daughter and heiress, and left grandsons, all of whom soon died and the family has been long extinct, others of the name being early branches of the Dalton stock. This letter is written in an excellent, dashing, off-hand style, on two of the old gilt-edged, large letter-sheets of paper. The Thomas Moulson he mentions, was probably grandson of the Lord Mayor. But, many years ago, in King, the York Herald's time, who assisted me, after much research, it was impossible to discover any special pedigree of the Moulsons in the College of Arms, referred to by Commodore Moulson. The portrait of the latter in oil, on panel, shewed a rather handsome man of about 40 years, in Naval uniform. His ivory hilted sword of very fine steel, is of the cutlass type. His features shew about as much French blood as English—his mother, and probably grandmother, being French. The "press" he refers to, evidently meant the "press-gangs," who picked up every able-bodied man of whatever rank; and unless he had a certificate of exemption and safe conduct, it would have gone hard with Moulson, although

* See the redoubted "X" on Coat Armour (end chapter) with regard to this passage.

a French subject and an "open enemy," had he confessed to it, or not. To shew the terms upon which we then stood with France, only 18 months previously a commercial treaty had been signed, and moreover at the date of this letter, we were not at war—not until Feb. 1, 1793 (10 days after the government of out-throats had finished their feeble Bourbon King) when young Napoleon first introduced himself, Mons. Moulson's wife must have been French. She was his wife at the age of 15; but he of 40 proved to possess the best constitution of the two. H.

[586] NEILD'S ORCHARD AT DUNHAM MASSEY.

In the Township of Dunham Massey in this County (Cheshire) there is a piece of ground known as "Neild's Orchard" and it was the custom of the family to be buried in it. Two inscriptions yet remain and run thus:—

"Elizabeth Neild, buried 5 December, 1670.

Buried here since, two daughters."

On the other:—

"Here lieth the body of John Neild, Bachelor, who departed this life the 28th day of December, 1702, in the 71st year of his age, leaving the interest of £50 to the highways of Dunham Massey for ever."

Another member of the same family was James Neild, of Knutsford, who went up to London and made a great fortune there, dying in Chelsea, in 1814. This James Neild was the father of John Camden Neild, who died 30th August, 1852, aged 72, and bequeathed £500,000 to Queen Victoria. A long account of this eccentric gentleman is given in Chambers' "Book of Days." W. L.

Bebington.

REPLIES.

[587] NIXON'S PROPHECIES.

(See No. 549.)

It may perhaps be worth while to say that Oldmixon (a curious name, having reference to the old Cheshire: "It's better to wed over the Mixon' than over the 'Moore'"!) in quoting the "Egertons of Oulton," really meant the family of Egerton of Egerton; as to have used the latter description would not have been understood by the many who would have supposed he meant another branch of that family. So I give Old Nixon the "benefit of the doubt."

Among the Cheshire 'folk-lore,' was a tradition, up to 50 years ago at least, that Nixon's

MS. prophecies were in the Vale Royal Abbey muniment chest of the Cholmondeleys; and in case they were ever seen (or lost?) the family would lose the estate! About that time, I enquired of one of them in vain, when I was residing in London, and he regarded it as a good joke.

There were many "country squires" (known still by their more feudal titles as barons, and lords, baronial and manorial, and major and minor nobles) as influential in their own county of Chester, among their own order and their dependents, as ever the Lords Derby were in Cheshire, whatever they were in Lancashire. It is true, the King was then a pretty absolute monarch, and thought no small beer of his "titles," but quite as much as ever did Author think of his own. But the absolute territory-given titles, (though then falling fast into the sere and yellow) were, in their day, as absolute as any that succeeded them, and, unbappily, infinitely more so.

As to the couplet fitting in with the Great Civil War, "the lord of Oulton" of that day was son of a father as honest as an 18th century attorney, and much more loyal; while the House of Egerton was many centuries before (under the name of Maupas—Malpas) one of the most powerful of the houses of the *barones minores*—which is saying a good deal; for, they shared half the great major barony of Malpas. T. H.

[588] NORMAN EARLS OF CHESTER.

(See No. 559.)

About the early part of the 12th century, when Ranulf le Meschin fitz William was settled firmly at Egremont in Cumberland, several scions of the Cheshire families probably followed, as was very customary. Le Roters (Rutters) were there as late as the 14th and 15th centuries, and "Rutters" are probably there still. These were of a younger branch of the Malpases, and, like the Duttons, "bred like rabbits," as old Sir Philip used to say. T. H.

MARCH 12, 1902.

NOTES.

[589] RENTAL OF THE EARL OF DERBY'S PROPERTY IN WIRRAL, 1521-2.

The following extracts are from a Roll now in the Public Record Office, London, shewing the rental of the property of the Earl of Derby from May, 1521,

to May, 1522. It was drawn up by the King's Commissioner, as Thomas the third Earl had just died leaving his son and heir Edward, under age, consequently the King had the wardship of his estates.

The document contains a great deal of interest to students of the history of the county and in the following extracts I hope to point out some of these as they occur. In the portion printed below the most interesting feature perhaps is the list of field names. Many of these still exist in Bidston, though rapidly disappearing.

Woltonwod is doubtless the ancient form of the modern Wooton Heys, which stretch on either side of the main road shortly before entering Bidston village as one goes from Birkenhead. A portion of the eastern end of the Rhododendron Gardens is on the site of part of this field. It preserves the name of the now lost hamlet of Woolton, which used to be in the township of Claughton, and which is mentioned in the survey of the possessions of the dissolved Priory of Birkenhead printed in Mortimer's History of Wirral (p. 318) under date 35-36 Henry VIII.

Le Forth is now known as the hamlet of Ford in Bidston, the whole township being officially described as the township of Bidston-cum-Ford.

Uttertwaite and *Indertwaite*, or as we should now call them Outer Thwaite and Inner Thwaite, are probably represented by the modern Tasseys's Thwaite, Whinney Thwaite, Spencer's Thwaite, and the rest of the group of fields known as the Thwaites down on the Bidston Moss.

Sweperfeld is represented by Suppersfield, a field also on the Marsh.

Le Perotte and *Le Hounds medows* I have not identified.

Rysshoke is probably Lower Rushey Paddock close to Bidston Station.

Le Mosse is no doubt a portion or the whole of the flat land still known as Wallasey Marsh or Bidston Marsh, over which until 60 years ago the high tides flowed.

Le Pyke meadow is still known as The Pike Meadows, though now divided into three fields. It lies close to the railway line on the north side at the boundary of the townships of Bidston and Moreton. It is interesting to note that the unit of measurement employed in this old survey is the Cheshire acre, as this field is reckoned in the survey at 7 acres whereas it is really 18 statute acres, which is approximately correct seeing that a Cheshire acre contains 10,240 square yards instead of 4,840.

Le News medows is still known by this name though divided now into four compartments covering about 75 statute acres; which again agrees with the measure here given of 31 Cheshire acres. It is curious to think that this meadow has been known for at least 400 years by the name of The New Meadow—it gives one some idea of the complete nature of the cultivation of our county at an early period.

One close within the Park called *Le Hoke* is no doubt the group of fields still known as Ley Hooks, close to the present School House, which are just within the bounds of the old Park.

A close called *Valans* containing 3 acres is rather a puzzle. Later on in the document it is mentioned again in a connection which shews it was also in the Park. It is probably now represented by the field next to Ley Hooks, called Bollands. It is curious that a little lower down in the Rental it is mentioned that the pasturage of the Park of Bidston had formerly been let to several men, two of whom were named Bolland. Possibly the present name dates from this period, and that it was at this time changed from the old name Valance, or Valens, to Bollands.

WM. FERGUSSON IRVINE.

WYRALL IN Account of Robert Liegh bailiff
Co. CHESTER there from the Feast of Pentecost
13 Henry VIII [1521] to the same
Feast the next year.

Arrears. None.

Rents of Assize 15li. 5s. 5d. assize Rents of free
with fermes. tenants and tenants at will with
fermes in BYDDESTON due at St.
John Baptist and St. Martin in
Winter, etc.

Richard Smyth for one ten't and 17 aces of land	23s. 0d.
Richard Shirlock for one ten't and 9 aces of land	9s. 6d.
John Bruse for one ten't and 5 aces of land	8s. 0d.
Morgan Hough (late Roger Deane) for one cottage	2s. 0d.
Alice Bennette (late Henry Lurtinge) for one ten't and 2 aces	4s. 0d.
The Prior of Birkhead for a pasture of the Lords called Woltonwod	5s. 0d.
Morgan Hough (late Henry Deane) for one ten't and 6 aces. of land	8s. 0d.
John Maker'r for one cottage and a croft	4s. 0d.
John Deane (late Roger Deane) for a ten't and 19 aces of land in Le Forth [Ford]...	29s. 4d.
John Wylkokson for a ten't and 10 acres	10s. 0d.
Thomas Mawry for a ten't and 4 aces.....	7s. 0d.
Jehn Wilkokson (late Isabel Tyrehare) for a ten't and 2 aces.	4s. 0d.
Hankyn Hycoke and another for one close called Uttertwaite containing 40 acres of land	40s. 0d.
Richard Smyth for a close of land called Indertwaite containing 24 acres of land	24s. 0d.
Thomas Forth for one close called Sweperfeld containing 7 aces.....	9s. 0d.
John Melys [Meols] for one close of Marsh called Grene containing 8 aces.	8s. 0d.
Thos. Gylle for 2 crofts of pasture called le Perotte and le Houndmedow containing by estimation between them 4 aces.....	5s. 0d.

Saunders Young by licence to reap rushes in a certain marsh called Rysshoke.....	4s.	0d.
The township of Pulton for pasture on Le Mosse.....	5s.	0d.
The township of Wallase for 7 acres of a meadow called Le Pykemedew.....	21s.	0d.
The same township for 31 acres of meadow called le Newemedew	63s.	0d.
Morgan Hough for a term of years by Indenture (late Roger Deane) for one close within the Park called Le Hoke	6s.	8d.
Morgan Hough (late the same Roger) for one close called Valance 3 acs.	5s.	0d.

[590] OLD CHESHIRE SCHOOLS.

Bishop Gastrell in compiling his "Notitia Cestriensis" (c. 1720) seems to have given much attention to the schools in the various parishes of his diocese. These were more numerous than might have been supposed; even when there was no regularly-founded school in a parish there was often a small sum for the education of one or two "poor children." The endowments were usually small, that of £60 for the master of Macolesfield School is conspicuous for its munificence. At Lymm out of his £25, the master allowed £6 a year to one of his scholars "to teach English." Sometimes the minister or pariah clerk was the master, but at Frodsham it was particularly ordained that only a layman was eligible for the post. At Mere in Rostherne a woman was the teacher, the only instance of the kind in Cheshire. "Cook pence," originally for the purchase of cooks to fight on Shrove Tuesday for the boys' amusement, but afterwards part of the teacher's perquisites, are mentioned as payable at Malpas and at Weaverham. Where there was no proper school house the boys were often taught within the church walls. Thus, we read, at Church Minshull, "the minister teaches in the church;" at Davenham, the children are "taught by the clerk in a side alley of the church"; at Rostherne, "the clerk teaches in the bottom of the old steeple"; at Bebington likewise, "the master teaches in the belfry"; and at Daresbury, "the children are taught in the chapel." These arrangements would scarcely be allowed by a present-day Education Department, even if the clergy concerned were agreeable. A school library is mentioned at Woodchurch; about 400 volumes had been given between 1676 and 1681, and were still preserved when Bishop Gastrell wrote, some 40 years later. It would be interesting to learn what they were, and what has become of them.

[591] RANDLE COTGRAVE.

The "Dictionary of National Biography" has an account of this Cheshire scholar, the author of the first French-English Dictionary, from which it appears that he was admitted a scholar of St. John's College, Cambridge, on November 10, 1587, and afterwards became secretary to William Cecil, Lord Burghley, eldest son of the first Earl of Exeter, and

therefore grandson of Elizabeth's great statesman. Cotgrave brought out his Dictionary in 1611, and a second edition in 1632. He died in 1634, a reference for this date being given to Cooper's "Memorials of Cambridge" (ii. 113). The year of his entry at college shews that he was born about 1570.

There are other statements, or rather suggestions, made in the biography which must be rejected. "Possibly," says the writer, "he was Randal, son of William Cotgrave of Christleton," mentioned in the pedigree in Harl. MS. 1500 (fo. 118), because the arms known to have been used by the subject of the notice closely resemble those given in that pedigree; "if he be the same person as the Randle Cotgreve of the Harl. MS. he became subsequently registrar to the Bishop of Chester and married Ellinor Taylor of that city by whom he had four sons—William, Randolph, Robert, and Alexander—and a daughter Mary." A reference to the printed Cheshire Visitation of 1580 (Harleian Society, 1882) would have shewn this supposition to be erroneous; for at that time Randle Cotgrave, son of William Cotgrave of Christleton, was husband of Ellinor Taylor and registrar to the Bishop of Chester, so that he could not be the youth who went up to Cambridge some years later. The latter may, however, very well have been Randolph, the second son of the registrar; and perhaps some reader of the "Sheaf" may be able to confirm this, or to point out the true parentage of the Cotgrave of French Dictionary fame.

Randle Cotgrave, the Bishop's registrar, appears to have entered this service about 1541, when "Sir John Chetham, clerk," was the acting registrar under Chancellor Wilmalw, and to have become acting registrar himself about 1564 on Chetham's death or retirement. He is perhaps the "Dna. Randle Cotgreyy" who took the oath in 1563 ("Sheaf," 3rd S., i. 34). An extract was printed a few weeks ago in the "Sheaf" from the account books of his clerk Henry Pennant (No. 558), and it appears from the Visitation of 1580 that he still survived in that year. He may very well have been the "Randle Cotgrave, chaplain," who was presented to the rectory of St. Peter's, Chester, in 1541, by William Brereton, esquire, William Cotgrave of Christleton, junior, and Nicholas Newbold of Dodleston, yeoman; in which case the second of these would probably be his brother (Ormerod i, 326). Nothing is said as to the reason for any vacancy, when the next rector, William Orton, is mentioned in 1569. If Cotgrave had married during Edward VI.'s reign he would have been expelled from this benefice or compelled to resign it, under Bishop Cotes, though he might have retained his place under the registrar.

The arms in the Visitation give eight quarterings. Those of Cotgrave are the same as those assigned to "William Cotgrave, late Alderman" (of Chester, 1629) in the Armoury printed in the "Sheaf"

(ii. 18). The second and third coats are those of Cotton of Cotton Edmunds and Ridware, showing a descent from the former family and probably also from the Cotgraves of Cotton, a fragment of whose pedigree may be seen in the Visitation (p. 80; cf. Ormerod ii. 786). The fourth, fifth, and sixth coats belong respectively to Rosengrave, Lestrangle, and Hargrave of Hargrave, as in the Moulson coat (No. 577 above), and explain why these Cotgraves are called "of Hargrave." The two last coats, Bostock and Moulton of Moulton (?), suggest a connection with the Bostock of Huntington whose heiress married a Cotgrave (Ormerod iii. 259). A. B. C.

QUERIES.

[592] A MURDER IN DELAMERE FOREST.

The following strange discovery was made in the early part of 1894 in Delamere Forest—a stone bearing the inscription

"Sacred to the memory of Sir Thomas Moore, who was murdered on ye road and thrown into the dell"

(1710), but the date is doubtful. The stone was removed by order of the Commissioners of Woods and Forests to the Lodge Cottage in the forest.

How was this matter cleared up? Who was Sir Thomas Moore, and where did he reside?

Bebington.

W. L.

[593] THE GOVERNORS OF CHESTER CASTLE.

Colonel Richard Kirkby, of Kirkby Co. Lanc., one of the suggested names for the order of the Royal Oak, is said to have been Governor of Chester Castle in the time of Charles II. Can any reader corroborate this statement or refer me to any list of Governors?

ENQUIRER.

MARCH 19, 1902.

NOTES.

[594] CHESTER UNDER HUGH LUPUS.

Very little is known of the state of Chester under its first Norman earls, Gherbod the Fleming and Hugh of Avranches. Domesday Book tells us that the latter in 1070 found it "greatly devastated," the taxable houses reduced to almost half the number which had existed in the happier times of Edward the Confessor. There are, however, a few clues to its condition and government at that time. Just as the new earl, reserving part for himself, divided the county among his "men," the former tenants being altogether dispossessed or reduced to the condition of undertenants to the subtenants of Earl Hugh, so he seems to have parcelled out the houses in the city, and we may infer that the burgess under him was a much less important personage than he had been before the Conquest.

The following are indications that this was the course pursued. Robert of Rhuddlan claimed the land on which St. Peter's Church stood as being "thane-land" and belonging to a manor outside the city; the burgesses, however, said it was not so, and appear to have proved their case. Holy Trinity Church was associated with the Barony of Montalt, and St. Michael's with that of Halton; while we find Robert Pincerna (the Butler) giving St. Olave's and the adjacent land to St. Werburgh's. Early in the thirteenth century land near St. Martin's was held by Bernard de Tramole [Tranmere], which suggests that it was attached to the Malbank Barony like the two-thirds of Tranmere which Bernard held as mesne lord. Besides these instances from Ormerod (i. 323, &c.) Domesday Book states that one house in the city belonged to Dunham Massey, and two others (then unoccupied) to Hawarden. Thus it seems quite probable that each of the earl's barons and minor tenants had one or more houses in Chester held along with his manor in the county—held along with it, but by burgess tenure as distinct from manorial tenure, as the case of Robert of Rhuddlan shows. What the difference may have been does not appear from the record, but the former was probably considered an inferior and menial condition, so that a great man like this Robert was very unwilling to submit to it, and tried to argue that as his land within the city was held along with manors outside it was held as part and parcel of these by a noble or military service. The case seems to prove conclusively that the burgesses were a distinct body, with certain common rights and duties, and really formed a community under their "praepositus" or reeve.

Professor Maitland in his "Domesday Book and Beyond" has outlined a theory of the borough which makes the connection between city and county an essential part of the idea of the boroughs as they were established by Edward the Elder, son of Alfred, nearly a thousand years ago; he points especially to the Chester "custom" that the reeve of the city had a right to call one man from each "hide" in the county to repair the walls. Earl Hugh, therefore, in dividing the city houses among his "men" was only adapting an old precedent. The burgess tenure being "menial," the Norman lords would perform it by the dwellers in the houses so allotted to them, these dwellers becoming burgesses. This may be the explanation of 37 "burgesses in the city" being in 1086 attached to three manors outside; the lords had filled their houses by villeins or others from their country manors and sometimes made a profit out of it.

The number of the houses which paid geld may also be significant. As already stated, in 1070 nearly half of them had been destroyed, but in 1086, and earlier no doubt, the Earl of Mercia had 431 houses and the Bishop 56; and beside these the Canons of St. Werburgh's and St. John's had 13 and 8 respectively which were "free of all custom";

in all, 508 houses in the city, corresponding with 500 hides in the county. This agreement is so close that one cannot help suspecting that the difference merely arose from subdivisions in the intervening 150 years, and that the original plan of the city provided for exactly 500 houses, 50 of which (i.e., a tithe) were given to the bishop and 450 to the earl, who afterwards released 20 to the canons when the two great churches were founded or re-endowed. Thus there would be a normal 480 houses paying geld, and they paid $10\frac{1}{2}$ marks of silver, which would be an average "gabel" of $3\frac{1}{2}$ d. a house. At Shrewsbury the gabel averages about 7d. a house, or double that of Chester. It is possible that the phrase "free of all custom" does not imply freedom from the geld; in which case this argument would need a little modification. J. B.

[595] INVENTORY OF ST. OSWALD'S, CHESTER.

May second 1678.

A true accompte of all such things and ornaments beelounge to the parish Church of St. Oswald's as I Gruffyth Trygarn one of the old Church-Wardens have or shall deliuer to William Pike and John Johnson the new Church-Wardens for the use of the parish as followeth

The Church Lease ffrom Simon Abbott in parchment with a seale.

Two bells hangeinge in the steppell & two ropes att them & one new doore with a locke & a key to keepe ye ropes.

one howle and sorcer of silver.

2 flagens of pewter : a key for ye greene Church-yard

1 new mapp & 3 old maps & a cover for the fronte

1 Red velvitt pulpit cloath & Quishen

one new Chest with the wardens names on to goe from one Church Wardens house to another

2 greene pulpitt Curtaines : a key for the steeple doore 2 keys for Lichgate

2 Rejester Bookes : Mr Russells buckitts & Reale to hange them on.

4 parish bookes one poores booke : & two Chest : & one poore box.

2 Beeres & a hears : & a table over the poores box
A starr hanginge in the Middle Joyle : & 25 Quishens.

A Table of fees and a Table of Marriages over the Church Wardens seat.

one purpill Cloath & Quishen be Longeing to the Alter table : one Holland Cloath & two napkins for the covering the Alter table.

5 pewter plates : one Church Bible perfected

one Common prayer booke

one Sirplus : one Chest with three Lockes on.

one table of Leagusies hangeinge up in the Church, severall bonds & other writtings to Keepe the parish heorless

Two turnd Candlestickes & two socketts

one spod & a picke & a Crow & a mattock

A note of Mr Booths advies concerninge the parish two planks & a halfe & a rope & the arme of a wheele

one band of Randle harrison of tenn pounds
1 band of Edward Waltons of tenn pounds
1 bond of Thomas Greene tenn pounds
1 bond of Chatharine Parkes widd' of Twentye pounds.

1 bond of Robt: farringtons five pounds

1 bond of Thomas Bushell five pounds

1 Common prayer booke unperfected & deformed

2 ses bookes with black hillinge & Clasps

Edward Croughton agreeements for the vicourage house

May ye 2.78 we acknowledge to have rec'd from Mr Griffith Trygan all the things herein above mentioned

WILLIAM PIKE

JOHN JOHNSON

That wee finde ther is & old bible And Mr Thickens Lease & booke of Hommleys wh: are not to bee found for the present two Plates and a booke of Jewells worke : it is ordered yt the Churchwardens are to doe ther endeavour to finde them out wthoute any delay and one red uelluett quishion and one greene velvett quishion.

There is a much lees complete inventory of 12th December 1667, all the items in which are included in the above, except "one carpet of Kittermuster stuffe."

There is also a list of "books and writings for the use of the parish" dated 20th April, 1613, in which the following are included :

A booke of Articles

a Coppie of a statute forbiddinge eatinge of flesh in lent

An order from the Exchequer for wiruin and Croughton

A warrant to leuy fynes for absence from the Church

An Inventory of May 15th, 1682, includes the following additional items :

The black cloath.

a peece of Lead computed to bee about 40lb

A wooden Mace for the Saxton

One Iron chessell

E. C. L.

QUERIES.

[596] "AILSTO IN CHESHIRE."

In a list of the Briefs, or letters from the King ordering collections in churches, preserved at All Saints' Church, Cambridge, occur the following entries:—

June 25, 1709 Ailsto in Cheshir£0 10 4½

July 19, 1713 Warmingham Church,

Co. Chester 0 9 3½

The latter collection was no doubt for the rebuilding of the church, completed in 1715. But where was Ailsto? and what was the collection for?

STAR.

[597]

FRITH.

This word occurs in the names of two Cheshire townships—Little Budworth or Budworth in the Frith and Wrenbury-cum-Frith. In the latter township Frith is the western and higher part. Can any reader of the "Sheaf" explain the term?

STAR.

REPLY.

[598]

BACKFORD.

(See No. 576.)

There is no evidence, in this very interesting and ancient Backford charter, of even a connexion by marriage, though probable enough, between the "Bacforts" and "Gerstons." See the Hist. of Chesh. 1882 ed. (ii, 363) for the Bacforts and their propinquity to the Hellesbies—large manorial holders in Backford parish, as were their male line descendants, the Lees or Leas (from Sir Richard de la Lee alias de Hellesby, knt.), and the Chorletons. There were also several "Adams" of this family throughout the 13th century; and it is just a question whether "Sir Adam de Gerstan" was not a priest—as his knightly rank does not appear; or, were he then 'lord of Gerston,' Dominus should be translated "Lord Adam de Gerstan" if there were any circumstantial evidence of *that* style, from other documents. 'Miles' or 'milites' even then began to be added to names, in order to distinguish a knight, from a mere priest—who, in this case, might be only a younger son of the Gerstons.

The 'grant' (which is a stronger and more accurate word than 'concede') was by Sir Adam de Gerstan to the Prior and Brethren of the Hospital of St. John, without the Northgate. The Prior and B. afterwards grant, and confirm their grant, to Wm. de Bacfort son of Adam 'the Parson,' of Bacfort. Both Adam de Gerstan and Adam le Person, or "Clerk," witness this last grant. Was the latter another Adam 'de Gerstan'? I think he was one of several Adams de Bacfort who occur in other coeval documents. And it may be noticed that, so far, no "privity of contract" appears between the first grantor, Adam de G., and the later grantee, Willm. de Bacfort. But, did the Prior of St. John's, by some earlier charter, grant to Sir Adam de G. the fee *in trust*, or to such uses as the Prior might appoint, and who afterwards directed Sir Adam, by a first charter, and secondly by the present one, to regrant the premises to the "Prior and Brethren" in fee; who, then, granted them to 'Wm. de Bacfort' for his homage and service? This was often done, for various reasons. A distinct confirmation charter may some day turn up—if antiquarian Micawbers will only wait a little!

The subject of the grant seems to be partly manorial—the most of it free, apparently, from the mention of "the lord's meadow." Henry de Thorinton, the witness, and Robt. fitz Thurstan were probably of the Mollington-Torant (not

Torington) family—some "foreign" scribe having confounded the Norman name with the Saxon form, as in another family, the proper name 'Joscetram,' is confused with 'Joscelyne.' T. H.

MARCH 26, 1902.

NOTES.

[599]

JOHN BRUEN. III.

(Continued from No. 581.)

His Private and Family Duties.—He never thought his table better furnished than when he had some godly persons to sit with him or stand about him, nor his meat better seasoned than when it was powdered with the salt of wholesome words. The religious duties which he daily and duly performed in his family, morning and evening, were these:—He rose very early every morning, before any in the family, betwixt three and four o'clock in the summer and at five in the winter, and then spent an hour or two in private before he rang the bell to awaken the rest of his family. In his secret prayers he used to make mention of every one in his family, and especially as their occasions and afflictions required, and gave thanks for such mercies as either he or they had received. Then he meditated upon some part of God's Word or works, wherewith he seasoned his mind in the morning; then he wrote out fair part of some sermon that he had heard lately before. Then, his family being up and met together, he with his heart and his hands lift up to heaven spake in this manner:

A Form of Prayer.—"Blessed Lord God and our most merciful Father in Christ Jesus, we Thy poor children do humbly beseech Thee graciously to assist us by Thy Holy Spirit in this our morning exercise, that we may faithfully perform the same to Thy praise and our comfort, and that for Christ His sake, our only Saviour and Redeemer. Amen." This set form of short prayer he used morning and evening before his exercise to convince their ignorance which deny the lawfulness of them.

Spiritual Joy.—Then he with his family sang a Psalm, with which exercise he was much delighted and oftentimes so ravished therewith in his spirit that his heart would even spring and leap in his body; yea, he was so affected with praising of God that he took the word "Hallelujah," which is the title of nine Psalms, for his motto and usually wrote it in the first page of all his books.

His Reading the Scriptures.—Then he read a chapter himself out of the Bible, keeping an orderly and constant course in his reading to make his family better acquainted with the order and matter of the Scriptures, and to season their hearts with some portion of God's Word in the morning as a preservative against all unsavoury thoughts, noisome lusts, rotten speeches, and ungodly works all the day after.

His Fervent Prayers.—Himself also prayed with them, and that with such power, feeling, fervency, sincerity, faith, and humility, that he was oft much admired of them that heard him. He so wrestled with God by prayers and tears that he would not let Him go till he had prevailed, insomuch that they seldom met again to pray but he had some new and fresh cause of thanksgiving for the return of his prayers.

In the evening he called them together again to the like service, which he performed very religiously after the same manner, saving that after the chapter he propounded some wholesome instructions to them, as the portion of Scripture gave occasion, whether to convince any error or to confirm the truth, to rebuke sin or to instruct in the way of righteousness, &c. And the better to justify this his practice against opposers he made collections out of the sacred Scriptures, out of the expositions, testimonies, and examples of godly and good men, concerning this point of the master's duty in teaching and instructing his family in the fear of God and faith of Christ; and lest any should think that hereby he intrenched too much upon the minister's office and went beyond his line, they must know that whatsoever he spake in this kind he borrowed it of good men or obtained it by serious study and meditation, got it by reading the Scriptures and good expositors or by reviving his notes of such sermons as he had heard upon those Scriptures, using all good and holy means to fit and furnish himself with spiritual provisions for that service.

Zeal against Idolatry.—Neither was his zeal confined within his own walls; for finding in the church of Tarvin (and his own chapel that anciently belonged to him) many superstitious images in the windows, which by their painted coats darkened the light of the church and obscured the brightness of the Gospel, he caused all those painted puppets to be pulled down in a peaceable manner, and at his own cost glazed the windows again. And for his encouragement and justification he had not only the Word of God but the Queen's injunctions authorising and requiring "to extinguish and destroy all pictures, paintings, and all other monuments of idolatry and superstition, so that there might remain no memory of the same in walls, windows, or elsewhere within their churches or houses"; as also he did it by virtue of a commission sent down into the country to the Earl of Derby, the Mayor of Chester, and others, to the same purpose at the same time.

Zeal for Propagating the Gospel.—Yea, his heart was so enlarged towards God, with zeal for His glory and His people's good, that it was the joy of his soul to bring in godly and able ministers among them almost every Lord's Day in the public assembly, and that of his own cost and labour, which he did with a cheerful heart, honouring God with his substance by giving maintenance to such as were the Lord's labourers in His harvest; and though many alighted it, yet was it no discouragement to him, neither was he weary of well-doing.

Sacrilege abhorred.—Whose practice will shame such as being entrusted with the lands and livings of the Church for the maintenance of the ministry, do turn their patronage into pillage and their devotion into sacrilege, robbing the ministers of their means and the people of their spiritual provision.

He Withdraws the Ministry for a while.—Anno 1590, having provided for his parish a worthy preacher (Mr. J. D.), the people, though they admired his gifts, yet would not so much as thank him for his pains, which was a great discouragement to the minister; hereupon Master Bruen withdrew his preacher into his own chapel to make the people more to prize the Word by the want of it, more careful to seek it where they might find it, and more thankful to God and His servants by whose means they did enjoy it. Then resorted many to him, some to the chapel to feed their souls, and many into the hall to feed their bellies, to his no small cost and yet great comfort, because religion increased thereby. But after a while at the importunity of Christian friends he restored him to the public congregation, maintaining him and other preachers after him, till by the death of the incumbent God established a faithful pastor among them. Concerning which hear Mr. Clark's (my reverend and learned brother Master Sabbath Clark) own words at his funeral: "He was," saith he, "the chief instrument to plant and establish the preaching of the Gospel in this congregation, first by providing divers of God's ministers to preach here oftentimes when the incumbent was grown old and decrepit; afterwards by maintaining a preacher at his own proper cost and charges, and lastly by being a means to obtain the place for me in reversion and allowing me the greatest part of my maintenance; so that this parish hath cause for ever to acknowledge him a nursing father of religion among them and a blessed instrument to bring in the light of the Gospel unto them, when they sat in darkness and in the shadow of death."

NOTE.—The Vicar of Tarvin whose ministrations were in John Bruen's eyes so inadequate was Edward Bagshaw, appointed in 1557-8. He was buried Sept. 12, 1622, according to the note in Ormerod (ii., 311), but his successor, the above-named Sabbath Clark, was appointed on Sept. 14, 1621; if there is no error in the year the difference in the dates may explain what is meant by "reversion" above. It will be seen that Bruen maintained a special preacher for over 30 years. Who was the first "worthy preacher," Mr. J. D.?

(To be continued.)

[600] ST. PETER'S CHURCH, CHESTER.

The following document was found among a collection of old Cheshire deeds. It has no seals and tabs and is probably only a draft or copy, written on parchment (about 3in. by 12in.). It is interesting, not only in itself as relating to the central church of the city, but as containing an early instance of churchwardens, though they do not

seem to have been then known by that name. According to Ormerod (i. 326) Robert de Bredon was presented to St. Peter's in June, 1350, and died before September, 1377, when his successor was appointed. As to John de Assheton, one or more of this name occur in the second half of the fourteenth century, probably connected with the family of Ashton-on-Mersey. One was rector there in 1379, and may be the John de Assheton rector of Davenham from 1361 to 1363, when he resigned; he was probably the commissioner appointed to fulfil the duties of Archdeacon of Chester in 1347-8; another (or the same) was brother of the William de Assheton, clerk, who in 1391-2 was made Keeper for life of the Hospital of St. John Baptist, Northgate, Chester (Ormerod i. 114, 559, iii. 240-2).

[1415, Oct. 1] Know all men by these presents that we John de Preston and Richard de Hatton, citizens of the city of Chester, bailiffs [præpositores], receivers, collectors, overseers, and governors of all the moneys, profits, and bequests for the fabric of the Church of Blessed Peter of Chester, by the assent and ordering of all the parishioners of the parish of the said church ordained and constituted to sell and receive in the name of the parishioners, have received from John Savage esquire ten pounds of silver in the name of all the said parishioners, namely for divers lands and tenements in the city of Chester which lately belonged to Robert de Bredon, lately rector of the said church, and afterwards to John de Assheton, cousin [consanguinei] of the said rector, bequeathed by their wills to the same church of Blessed Peter, and by us sold to the same John [Savage] and released in the name of all the parishioners. By the which ten pounds we confess [fateor?] that we in the name of all the said parishioners for the works [opera] of the said church have been satisfied for the same lands and tenements and that the said John (and) his heirs and executors are for the same quit by these presents signed with our seals. Given at Chester October 1, 3 Henry V.

[601] THE AMBASSADOR AT ROME (A.D. 1556)
AND THE SEE OF CHESTER.

I send part of a long letter from the English Ambassador at Rome, of the above date, to Queen Mary, for the "Cheshire Sheaf," my sole reason being that the letter relates to Chester.

"Pleaseth it your Most Excellent Majesty to be advertised, that Francis the Post arrived here upon Corpus Christi Day with your Majesty's most gracious letters, as well for the Bishopricks of Winchester and Chester, as also for his Holiness beside; with your most gracious Letters of the 30th of March to me: According to the purport whereof I sued for Audience at his Holiness Hands, the next day following; whereof I had Answer, that I should come to his Holiness, viz., the sixth of this; and being with his Holiness, after the delivery of your Majesty's most gracious Letters, with your

Majesty's humble commendations, After he had read your Majesty's Letter, in the presence of the most Reverend Lord Cardinal Morone, he said how much he was bound to that Blessed Queen and most Gracious and Loving Daughter, that had written to him so gratefully;

As touching the Provisions of Winchester and Chester, it shall be done with all speed that may be. And his Holiness hath promised all the favour he can conveniently shew for your Majesty's sake. It must have somewhat longer time, for that the Process made there by my Lords Legat's Grace, for to try the Yearly Value of Winchester, must be committed to certain Cardinals, for to report to the Consistory, before the new Tax can be made; but there shall be no time lost, for it shall be diligently solicited."

At the same time—although it may be irrelevant to the subject—I am much inclined to show what sort of an ambassador England had at Rome in the reign of Queen Mary. I allude to Vicegerent Edward Carne. He says, in part of his letter, to the Queen:—"I came to the Ambassador of Portugal [this was at the anniversary of the pope's consecration] as gently as I could, and for that he would not give me my Place, I took him by the Shoulder, and removed him out of that Place, saying, that it was your Majesty's Ambassador's Place always." I had intended to finish this letter with the foregoing remarks of Sir Edward Carne, but as he was reputed to be so bold, the account given of him might be put down as a bit of fanciful British swagger amongst an assemblage of foreign ambassadors; therefore I will write a little more about him. The Portuguese ambassador appealed to the pope, but he dismissed the case to avoid dissension. I will now again take up the words of our Marian ambassador. He says:—"I am much bound to the Marquess (the Duke of Paleano) he was very angry with Portugal, to attempt any such thing against your Majesty's ambassador. . . . I said to the Duke, I would not lose a jot of your Majesty's Honour for no Man. For it is the Place of Ambassadors of England, nigh a thousand Years before there was any King in Portugal." This is not a bad conclusion of a letter from an English ambassador. After wishing her Majesty (Queen Mary) a long and prosperous life, he signs thus:—"From Rome, the 9th of June, 1556.

"Your Majesty's most Humble Subject,
and Poor Servant, EDWARD CARNE."
WILLIAM H. BRADFORD.

REPLIES.

[602] ANTHEM BELL.

The inventory at St. Mary's-on-the-Hill in 1553 shews "five great bells and an Anthem bell." Mr. Earwaker in the History of that Church (p. 24)

says:—"I have been a good deal puzzled to explain the meaning of the name of this bell, and to define its use, as I have not met with it elsewhere and cannot find it described anywhere. I can only conjecture that it is the same as the 'sacring bell' which was formerly rung at the elevation of the Host and was in some churches suspended in a small bell-cot placed on the roof directly over the chancel arch. At the Reformation these bells, if retained, were used for other purposes, as seems to have been the case at St. Mary's, where the 'Anthem bell' had become so worn as to render it necessary to recast it in 1617." The following entries relate to this matter:—

Pd. for castinge the Antom bell and the brass wayange fourscore ixli and a halfe, and a brass for the fourth bell being cast with it, all under one, after ijd. a pound for castinge. xvs.

Spent vpon our selues goeing to Congerton [Congleton] with the Tanton bell and cominge whome and beinge there. iijs. xjd.

Here are other items from the Churchwardens' accounts

1536—For hencing of the Antoll bell. ijd.

Paid unto Thomas Sprag for making a clapper to the Antyll bell. xjd.

There are entries of a similar nature.

The Anthem bell ultimately got broken, as the following shows:—

1646.—For two dayes worke takinge downe the broaken Antham bell and alteringe the craine, and changeinge the head and makeinge itt fitt for the bell that is now vpp and for placeinge and putting itt up and fastening it. iijs. iiijd.

JOSEPH C. BRIDGE.

Chester.

In the Oxford "New English Dictionary" is the following quotation from Cotgrave (under the word Anthem):—

"*Martinet* . . . a Saints bell or Antham bell."

At Nantwich in 1548 there were "five bells and of little antofi bell"; at Wybunbury "four bells and of little seints bell"; and at Barthomley "thre bells and a saking bell" (Ormerod iii. 887), which seems to establish the identity of Anthem, Saints, and Sacring bells. This record also proves that the name "Anthem bell" is pre-Reformation. May it not be derived from the practice of ringing a small bell just before the great curfew was tolled so that the people might recite an "anthem" like the Hail, Mary? Thus the Anthem bell would be the same as the Angelus.

The Ecclesiological Society's "Handbook" (1847) does not mention the name Anthem bell, but says "the Saints bell is sometimes called the Sermon bell, being rung before sermons" (p. 191).

A. B. C.

APRIL 2, 1902.

NOTES.

[603] THE RECTORY OF WEST KIRBY IN 1633.

The following judgment pronounced in a tithe suit relating to West Kirby parish in 1633, kindly communicated by Mr. Gilbert P. Gamon, explains the hitherto rather obscure proceedings before the Exchequer Court in that and the previous year, abstracts from which were printed in the 1st volume of the present series of *The Sheaf* (p. 12). Reading the two together makes it clear that some time in 1631 the Rev. Thos. Billinge was deprived of the living of West Kirby for simony, and the Rev. Thos. Glover coming armed with a presentation from the King was duly instituted by the Bishop on the 13th August, 1631. Incidentally it may be mentioned that it is possible the Rev. Thos. Glover was instrumental in bringing about Mr. Billinge's deprivation, the vacant living in a case of simony being not infrequently given as a reward to the informer if he were in orders.

Immediately Mr. Glover obtained possession of the living he began a suit against Sir William Massey, who leased the tithes of West Kirby from the Dean and Chapter; and it is the evidence in this suit that was printed in the *Sheaf* as mentioned above. In the course of this evidence it is clear that Sir William Massey made an effort to insinuate that Mr. Glover had himself been guilty of simony. This attempt, however, seems to have fallen to the ground, but, on the other hand, Mr. Glover did not win his point as is shewn by the following judgment. [Ed.]

Harl. MS. 1994. Folios 157—160.

Entitled

Bordland Tythes of West Kirkby, the sute of Wm. Massey. An ould deed. London, Oct. 28th, 1633.
Anno xi. Rex Caroli, 28 Die Octobr.

"Whereas the cause dependinge in this court by Exchequer Bill betweene Thomas Glover, Clerke Parson of the Rectory of Kirkbye al's West Kirkby in the County of Chester plaintiff and Sir William Massey Knight, George Massey gentleman and others defendants, touching the sayd Rectorye and Church of West Kirkby al's Kirkbye aforesaide, came this daye to bee heard in the Exchequer Chamber. Vpon the openinge and hearinge thereof. Forasmuch as itt appeared to this court that the defendant Sir Wm. Massey had a lease for yeares yet in beinge of the sayde Rectorye w^{ch} hath bynn enjoyed by him and those under whom hee claymes by the space of four score yeeres and upwards. And the sayd Bill of Complaint beinge to evict the sayd Sir William Massey out of the possession of the sayd Rectory It is this day ordered by the Court that the sayd

Bill shall be dismissed out of this Court without costs. And whereas there was produced on the defendants behalfe and read in Court a Lease beinge made in the first yeare of the raigne of our late Soverigne Lord King Edward the Sixt (1547) from Richard Walker Clerke then Parson of the sayd Church unto Sir John Massye of Puddington in the sayde County of Chester Knight great grandfather of the sayd defendant Sir William Massye of the sayde parsonage of Kirby al's West Kirkby and the Confirmacon of the then Bishopp of Chester and the Deane and Chapter of the sayde Church Patrons of the said church. Forasmuch as it is informed this Court that the Complayntant standeth chargeable unto his Majestye with first fruit for the sayd Parsonage Itt is therefore this day ordered by this Court that the sayd defendants Attorney in Court shall upon demand deliver unto the sayd complainant a true coppy to bee examined by the Attorneys on both sydes of the date of ye sayd lease and Reservacion of the rent therein mencioned and alsoe of the habendum and of the Covenantes for payment of the yeerely rent reserved unto the parson of the sayd parish for the tyme beinge and ef all other payments payable out of the same and likewise touching reparacion and servings of the cure."

[604] OLD CHESHIRE SCHOOLS.

(See No. 590.)

It appears there was a school held within the walls of St. Oswald's Church, Chester (the south transept of the Cathedral). The following entries are to be found in the Churchwardens' Accounts :

1612. Item paid for mendinge the partition betwixt the Chancelland the Schools.....	iiijd
1613. Item paide to Thomas Eaton for Iron to houlde uppe the partition between the Scoole and the Church	xijd
And among the receipts :	
1613. Richard Taylor for one parte of a forme next the scoole.....	xijd
1614. Imp'mis Widdow Buttler for one forme next unto the scoole Doore	ijs

In 1686 there occurs :

item pead unto Mestres Brewerton for a yeareshooling for wid. Robinson boy	0 3 0
E. C. L.	

[605] THE EARLIEST CHESHIRE WILL.

The following is a translation of the earliest known Cheshire will. The original text is printed in vol. 30 of the publications of the Record Society for Lancashire and Cheshire. An account of the Macclesfield family may be seen in Ormerod's "Cheshire" (Helsby's ed., iii. 745-9) and Earwaker's

"East Cheshire" (ii. 165). One interesting point in the will is that Macclesfield Church is called *All Saints* instead of *St. Michael's*. Can any of our readers say which is the original dedication, or when and why a change was made?

In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Ghost, Amen. On Thursday, the Vigil of the Blessed Thomas the Apostle [Dec. 20] in the year 1301. I Thomas de Macclisfeud [Macclesfield] make my testament in this manner. First I bequeath my soul to God and to the Blessed Virgin Mary and to all the Saints; and my body to be buried in the church of All Saints, of Macclisfeud, before the altar of the Blessed Virgin on the side where Richard my son lies; And before my body my best horse in the name of a mortuary.

I bequeath to the work of the church of Macclisfeud one good young beast and to the work of the church of Lichfield 2s. Also I bequeath to the Friars Minor of Chester 40s. and to the Friars Preacher there 40s.; and to the Friars Minor of Salop 40s. and to the Friars Preacher there 40s.; and to the Friars of Mount Carmel, of Chester, half a mark. Also I bequeath to Brother Richard Andreu 20s. and to Brother Robert my son 40s. This legacy to the Friars could well be levied from my goods and debts at Overton and Maleor seyscneyk [English Maylor]. And further I bequeath and will that in the General Chapter of England, when my letters which I have of fraternity with them ought to be shown and my soul commended in masses and prayers, each of the Friars Minor and Preacher have 20s. for their pittance. Also I bequeath and will that a becoming participation be made for me on the day of my burial either from my larder or elsewhere.

Also I bequeath to Milicent my wife all the lands of Macclisfeud with the Bothefeld for her whole life with the rents of assize of Macclisfeud, so that of her proper inheritance she can do her pleasure. I also will that she have the land of Halleleg and of both the Hurdesfelds whilst she shall live chaste and without a husband and that in the meanwhile she can claim nothing in respect of the other lands and tenements in Wales nor elsewhere. Also I bequeath to the same Milicent all my utensils of the house and my other jewels, saving to Roger my son two brass pots, one basin with a laver, two napkins with towels, and one bowl with a stand. And that the said Milicent shall provide one vestment very suitable for the altar of the Blessed Mary, the chasuble and embroideries of which, with the stole, shall be interwoven with gold, in which the chaplain there celebrating can more becomingly serve the Blessed Virgin and make the Body of Christ every Saturday. I also bequeath to the same Milicent my wife sixteen of the better oxen, twenty of the better cows, and a hundred male or female sheep to be chosen at her pleasure, and two heifers.

Also I bequeath to Isabel my daughter £20, together with the corn sown in the land at Gouzeworthe, so that she may have there seed and straw for sowing her land at Lent. Also I bequeath to the same my roan foal which is at Overton.

Also I bequeath to Milicent de Davenport six oxen, six cows, and six young cattle, twenty sheep, ten pigs and two mares with their young, one of which is in the forest and the other in the park.

Also I bequeath to Jordan my son ten oxen which are at Mottram with the corn and straw there being, but that the sheep of Stanley [? Stayley] may be sustained from the hay there being this winter. Also I bequeath to the same Jordan one bay foal which is in the park.

Also I bequeath to the three boys of Cicely my daughter six cows and twelve steers together with six marks which I owe to them, and their other chattels which they formerly had.

I bequeath to Master John my brother my bay foal which is at Overton and the other shod horse which is there.

Also I bequeath to the service of the Blessed Mary one fit beast. Also to the recluse of Maoolisfeud 40d. Also to Sir Adam, dean of Maoolisfeud, one cow. Also to every parish chaplain of that deanery 6d.

Also to each of the boys of Robert de Staueley one fit beast. Also to Thomas de Hegham 20s. To William de Rauenk two oxen and two cows and two young beasts and a robe of russet.

Also to Richard, my brother, one ox and one cow and one young beast and one of my robes, to wit, an overcoat of green with the tunic pertaining to it. Also to Adam, my brother, one ox, one cow and one young beast, with the other chattels which he has from me; and I remit to him the debt in which he is bound to me. Also to Thomas de Tyderinton four cows, four young beasts and my new robe. Also to Emma my maidservant 2s.

And if any of my goods shall remain indistinctly bequeathed I will that my executors shall do and ordain therewith according to what they shall deem to be expedient for the safety of my soul. And I ordain and constitute those underwritten my executors of this my testament, that is to say, Master John my brother, Master Jordan my son, Milicent my wife, Adam Byran, Roger my son, and William de Rauenk, to all and singular of whom I give and grant full and free power to administer in all my goods as if I were present.

In witness whereof I have set my seal to the present writing and I have procured the seals of my executors to be set.

On Wednesday next after the Feast of St. Hilary A.D. 1302 [Jan. 17, 1302-3] the present testament was proved before us the Official of the Archdeacon of Chester and administration was granted in the form of the constitution to

Master J. de Upton, Master Jordan, son of the said deceased, Roger, son of the same, Adam Byran, and William de Rauenk the executors named in the testament So that Milicent wife of the said deceased shall superintend the same and she shall do these things concerning the goods of the testator aforesaid according to their common advice.

QUERIES.

[606] HALGHTON AND WILLINGTON.

Lady Mary Cholmondeley (d. 1625), called "the bold Lady of Cheshire," held the manor of Isooyd in Flint, and lands in Bronington, Tybroughton, Wellington alias *Willington*, Hanmer, Bettisfield, *Halghton*, "Kadaheym," "Pentrathe," and Penley in the County of Flint (Ormerod ii, 154, note); and it would appear that these were an inheritance from her father, and then from a remoter ancestor Ralph Brereton of Isooyd. As the Breretons succeeded to one share of the Barony of Malpas, it is likely that the above lands were part of the Domesday manors of Bettisfield and "Burwardestone" held by Robert FitzHugh, the first baron of Malpas. Is this the case, and can any further particulars be given? Where were Kadaheym and Pentrathe?

STAR.

[607] CLOY, GREDDINGTON, WALLINGTON.

These names occur in the detached part of Flintshire lying between Cheshire and Shropshire; Cloy in Overton and Bangor, Gredington close to Hanmer, and Wallington in Worthenbury. What do the words mean and what is their origin? Is there any history of this peculiar composite part of the county to which one can repair for information?

STAR.

REPLY.

[608] PENKRIDGE. (See No. 562.)

The Rev. Dr. Raven, in a letter to the writer, reaffirms his opinion that "Penkrige in Staffordshire is Pen Kridge and not Penk Ridge. The late Latin *crucio* for cross-ways (in Pennocrucium, the name in the Antonine Itinerary) survives in the surname Curzon, i.e., de Crucione."

This appears to supply a missing link in the argument contained in the article above referred to; for it is evident that a cross-road to the Watling Street at Penkrige must lead north and south; the former would go through Stafford and Stone to Chesterton (Mediolanum). Thus there was at the time the Itinerary was compiled a road from Chesterton to meet the Watling Street at Penkrige.

Q. E. D.

APRIL 9, 1902.

NOTES.

[609] ST. OSWALD'S PARISH BOUNDARIES IN 1620.
I.

In sending to the "Cheshire Sheaf" a description, taken from the earliest extant Vestry Book, of the Perambulation of the Boundaries of the Parish in 1620, may I ask for the assistance of your readers in elucidating the document by identifying the various places named in it?

ERNEST C. LOWNDES.

The perambulation to the Bondaries of St. Oswalds parish in Chester was performed on Tuesday in Rogation Week, beinge the xxiiijde of May 1620 in such manner and forme as hereafter followeth.

Blacon. Imprimis from the Church through the Northgate and through Dee lane to the newe Towre wh: parteth our parish from Trinitie parish, from thence about mr. Duttons saltgrasse, and over Porte poole bridge, and then about the west side of the poole heys in Blacon Lordshipp, then turninge Eastward unto the further stone bridge in Mollington Lane, followinge the water course at the ends of Certaine of the said poole heys which are nowe in the Occupac'on of David ap Ieuan (?) Mr. Christopher Leyland and M^r. Richard Leicester, wh: said water course doth there separte our parish from Trinitie parish, and cometh from the aforesaid Stone Bridge.

Crabhall. Item from the saide Stone Bridge we went through parte of St. Maries parish in Mollington Lane, and thence turninge up a short Lane that Leadeth to Crabhall, wee entered the demesne of Crabhall at the gate of a Closse called the Intacke followinge the hedge syde westward, into Wright's hey, and Ball's feild, and from thence alonge the west syde of Becks feild, stacke hay, gorstie feild, and Marled hey, then out of the said Marled feild over the Lane that Leadeth from Crabhall unto Saughall greene and soe into a Closse called the Birches, and followinge the west syde thereof, into the ould Marled hey, through the wh: ther is a litle brooke that parteth our parish and Shotwicke parish, and goinge alonge the East syde of the said Brooke we came unto the syde of the Lane, wh: leadeth from Saughall heath towards Mollington lane. And from thence wee followed the hedge at the said lane syde into the said Closse called the Birches, and alonge the East syde thereof into the litle Haigh, and then into the greate Haigh, then into the doue house yarde, and the Closse called the Hill, and out of that into the aforesaide Closse called the Intacke and unto the gate thereof where wee first entred.

(To be continued.)

[610]

RANDLE COTGRAVE.

(See No. 591.)

The following letter has been kindly copied by Mr. Gilbert P. Gamon from the original. It is mentioned by the writer of the Cotgrave article in the "Dictionary of National Biography," and he remarks that the arms on the seal are proof that the author of the famous French Dictionary belonged to the Cheshire Cotgraves; "they are quite different from those of Hugh Cotgrave, Richmond Herald in 1566, who is sometimes supposed to have been his father." These latter, however, differ from the usual Cotgrave arms only in having the fesse and horns argent. The same article has a reference to an earlier letter of Cotgrave's, printed in "Notes and Queries" (3rd Series, viii, 84), to which it was communicated by Mr. W. C. Hazlitt; this letter (dated Nov. 27, 1610) is to the same Monsieur Beaulieu, who appears to have helped in revising the proof sheets of the Dictionary.

Harl. MSS. 7002, fo. 221.

Letter by Ran: Cotgrave to Mons. Beaulieu. 8th July, 1612. With seal bearing arms: "A fesse dancettee ermine, between 3 bugle horns stringed."

To my worthe and most deere frend M^r sieur Beaulieu Secretary to the Embassad' of Great Britaine at Paris or elsewhere, haste theis.

I left for you a l're at Mr. Inesters the 19th of last enclosed w^{thin} yt one from my lo: gone hence but a few days before. This I hope you receaved ere this. The 30th I had one from you, and in answer of it send you by this bearer (the same that brought from you the Picktooths for my lo:) 2 of my Dictionaries, wherin many (I dare not say all) alips of ye Printer be corrected; but they are thereby somewhat handsommer than the ordinarie ones. This Bearer, as it seems, was not furnished for ye payment of them, and therefore you shall take what course you will for ye return of xxijs w^{ch} they cost me, who have not been provident enough to reserve any of them, and therefore am now forced to be beholden, for them, to a Mechanicall generation, that suffers no respect to waigh downe a private gaine. Deerer they were by xijd in a booke, untill of late; yet had they bene mine owne they should not have bene so dere to you, whom I owe much more then a multitude of those booke are worth: And so for this time I bid you farewell resting allwayes & to my utmost abilitie

Your frend and servant

RAN: COTGRAVE.

8 July 1612.

The British Ambassador at the time was Sir Thomas Edmondes. "My lord" is Lord Burleigh (afterwards Earl of Exeter), in whose service Randle Cotgrave then was.

[611] HATTON, OF FRODSHAM, LETTER.

The following quaint and interesting 17th century letter, by one of the long-descended yeoman branches of the lords of Hatton, temp. Edw. III.,

was copied many years ago from the original in the Parish Chest of Frodsham, by the late lamented Vicar, the Rev. Wm. Chas. Cotton, Scholar of Christ Church, Oxon.

The writer was evidently a Quaker. He might have been appointed, at one of the meetings of the Friends at their little Newton Chapel, to 'super-cargo' a draft of them to the Quaker Colony of Pennsylvania. But, it is certain that by great good luck, and the friendly shield of the Brethren, he got the post of steward to a floating wooden monster of the day, after having bidden a very silent farewell to his creditors—who were impliedly to be paid, 'if it pleased God that it should be.'

There were no less than five distinct large and small branches of Hatton in Frodsham Parish, but to which of them he was affiliated is uncertain. (1) There were the "Hattons of Helsby," who as early as Edw. III.'s reign were most probably founded by a younger son of the marriage of Adam de Hatton of Magna Aldersey, of the house of Hatton, lords of Hatton in Waverton parish, with the 5th daughter and co-heir of Sir Wm. de Hellesby, Knt. The elder brother of that marriage had taken by it a 5th part of Hatton by Daresbury, and lands elsewhere, and founded there the 2nd line which became extinct by the end of the 17th century. (2) The "Hattons of Woodhouses," who perhaps acquired their estate, by their descent from a younger son of the Helsby Hattons, or vice versa; in Woodhouses, a charter, s. d. shows "Lord Alan de Hellesby, *alias* de Acton," to have held lands, as well as in Alvanley—other lands, in Little Leigh (between Woodhouses and Daresbury), and elsewhere, passing to the great-grandsons of a sister co-heiress, viz., to the Griffyns of Bartherton. (3) The "Hattons of Norley Bank"—Norley Hall manorial estate being in the Norleys, *alias* Sparke, from whom, or from the Glasshouse family of Kingsley, probably descended the long line of Hall of Norley Hall, written "del Hall" or "de la Hall." This Hatton 3rd branch was also of a younger son of Hatton of H. by Daresbury, i.e., of "Quisty-birches" in Hatton—the other, and younger, manorial house of Hatton in "Waarton," having been merged, by the beginning of the 15th century, in a branch of the Vernons of Shipbrooke, and finally in the Duttons, both by "distaff." This younger son of Hatton of Quisty was brother to the first Hatton of Holdenby, co. Northants, *temp.* Hen. VII. (great-grandfather of Sir Christopher Hatton, K.G.)—the descendant and heir male of the 7th or 8th brother of this Holdenby Hatton, being an eminent butcher in Chester *tempore* Elizabeth. This "younger son" of Hatton of Quisty was still seated in Norley in the latter reign. (4) Probably "Hatton of Kingsley" was a cadet of the line of Norley, the adjoining township; both of which lines, however, ranked as gentlemen-yeomen—the latter in estate, and the former by lineage. (5) The "Hattons of Frodsham" town,—at least, one line,

were there first about the second half of the 17th cent., about the time the Helsby and the Woodhouses lines became extinct. From one of these latter, certainly came the chief of the Frodsham Hattons. (6) But, there was then, or a little later, a line of Hattons on the opposite bank of the Weaver—the yeoman line of Hatton of Aston Chapelry, a famously well-built race among whom flourished many "Peters"—commonly known by the ancient diminutive of 'Piers.' And there lived some of them in the days of Waterloo. But, in the 17th century, last quarter, I suspect one of them crossed the water—and established himself in Frodsham. Another of them was perhaps the writer of this letter: which is in a hand of culture and talent; and bears the then newly-invented small, round, black postmark of London. The orthography and pointing are strictly adhered to.

from on Board ye William, Robert
Lurting Commander, in ye Hope about
a League below Gravesend falling
Downe ye Thames ye 7th day of ye
12th mo'th 1693.

Dear and Loveing Brother,

The Cordiall Kind and Hearty salutation and remembrance of my dear and Brotherly love is most unfeignedly Comended in tender affectionate Bowells of Goodwill unto thee and thy dear wife and Children, and to mye dear Bretheren Thomas & Joseph, and their wives and Tho: Children, and also to my aged Honourable Mother in law, and to my loveing and tender freind thy sister in law Rachell and her Husband and Nathaniell, and to all freinds that ask for me, and to my patient and Loveing Creditors (in particular Arthur Willcoxon) I desire them not yet to be dismayed of seeing their money, for I doubt not but if it please God I live some years of being capable (& I assure thee I shall be very willing and desirous to pay them all) by this way I am gott and comeing into, whereby I am already got into business which some would give money to have, which is to be Steward of so good and large a Ship as will Carry 500 Tunn, and the Master is engaged to Learne me in Navigation to makeme Capable of being a Master, which when I have attained to, I have freinds in London who assure me I shall not want A ship: in the meantime I have a great deal of Charge and Business, all the Provisions and giving out of every thing being Comitted to me and a man under me, to my assistance: I Hope and pray for Gods blessing, and I doubt not of doeing well, being more exempted from some snares than at Land, and I earnestly desire to live a Watchfull pious life in self deniall and the fear of God to the end of my days; Dear Brother I received thy Letter wherin I understood with great sorrow of the firing of my Brother Thomas's Barne, alas! poor man: but the Lord keep us all in his fear and love & patience in Afflictions, Losses or poverty, if he please he can raise us as other men, if not, his will be

done; whose holy name be Blessed for ever: to whom I leave you all with my selfe as to a sufficient & faithfull preserver of his Israell and those that put their trust in him.

I cannot expect to hear from thee till I returne which if it please God may be towards the years end, when thou shalt with all speed hear from thy Loveing Brother till Death

J. H.

I expect wee shall go either to or near Pennsylvania.

Directed: "Peter Hatton in Fradsham—to be left wth Samuel Trafford—Shop-keeper in Tarporley—Cheshire."

His proper name was probably 'James'—'John' not being in so much use, at all events at this particular period, with any of the family, perhaps from religious bias. His letter has its humours; but, he seems to have been, at bottom, a thoroughly sound, religious young Quaker, but too sensitive to meet his creditors till he could meet them full-handed. There were also before him such perils in a December sea which we can, in this age, but feebly imagine.

X.

QUERY.

[612] SURRENDERS OF MONASTERIES.

In my last letter on this subject (No. 582) I purposely left out two in the list of surrenders apparently relating to the county of Chester, as they appeared to require some explanation. The first is:—

1. "Hammond, a Commission to the Bp. of Chester to take surrender of it."

This puzzled me at first sight, but on looking carefully over a long list of monasteries I find—

[Regni 31, Hen: VIII.]

"Haughmond Can. August. [Austin Canons] Sallop. the Abbot and 10 Monks. 9 Sept."

The Commission to the Bishop of Chester is dated the 31st of August. I presume Hammond, or Haughmond, must have been within his diocese, though in Shropshire.

[Regni 31, Hen: VIII.]

2. "A Commission for the surrender of St. Allborough. Chesh: 7 Nov."

I cannot find saint, or place, of this name, but as it is, from the Records, I leave it so. Can this house be identified?

W. H. BRADFORD.

[Before the creation of the See of Chester, 33 Henry VIII., the Bishops of Lichfield were frequently styled "of Chester," as in the case above, "Allborough" is said to be a variant of Ethelburga (of Barking); there was also an Alburga of Wilton (Stanton's "Menology," p 674 and 607).—ED.]

APRIL 16, 1902.

NOTES.

[613] THE RENTAL OF THE EARL OF DERBY, FOR HIS WIRRAL PROPERTY, 1521-2.

(Continued from No. 589.)

In the following portion the Rental still deals with lands in the parish of Bidston, including the townships of Moreton and Saughall Masey. Perhaps the most interesting reference is that to the fishery "in the water of Ayne called Dowble Dyke." There can hardly be any doubt that here we have an early name for the little stream which still drains the northern end of the Wirral Peninsula and which is now known as The Fender. There is only this one stream in Bidston parish, with two branches, one draining the flat lands as far as Newton Carrs at the end of West Kirby Hill and the other flowing from the district near Prenton and Barnston. Both these streams unite on the Bidston Marsh and are both called the Fender, though the Ordnance folk have invented the name Birket for the former branch. Near the point where they unite are some dykes or banks, probably of considerable age, built to prevent the overflowing of the meadows by the high tides coming up Wallasey Pool. These may represent the "Dowble Dyke" mentioned in the document. The word Ayne is itself very interesting. It is no doubt the Celtic word *Afon* or *Avon*, meaning water. In Devonshire we get the form *Aune*, and in the Isle of Man the form *Aon*, both forms being very close to that here used. (See Taylor's *Words and Places*, p. 132, 4th edition.)

Le Rome in Mosset is the allotment on the Moss where the Lord of the Manor had the right to cut turf for firing. His lot seems to have been close to the present Bidston Station.

Pennesby in Bidstone is no doubt a mistake in the original, as Pennesby is a township in the parish of Woodchurch.

RENTAL—Continued

William Lyne of Newton (late John Goodman) for licence to have a road in Salgham [Saughall] Carr to Newton ...	11d.
Certain profits issuing from a fishery in the water of Ayne called Dowble Dyke —nothing—yet it used to yield	13s. 4d.
annually as shown by former accounts.	
For farm of the site of the manor of Bidston with all buildings upon the said site with <i>Le Rome in Mosset</i> belonging thereto	6s. 8d.
For the farm of the pasture of the Park of Biddeston (late in the tenure of William Urnston, John Jenkinson, John Bowland and Robt. Boll [Bolland] for	

£13 6s. 8d. per ann., and afterwards in the tenure of Thos. Pole) now in the tenure of said Robert Liegh for the term of his life 12li. 0 0 subject to all charges and repairs to palings, etc.

Increased farm of pasture of Bidston Park 44s. 2d.

According to an Indenture dated 9th May, 13 Henry VIII. between Sir Andrew Wyndesore Kt. and John Hales Esq on the one part, and Sir William Stanley of Hooton Kt. and Robert Lee gentleman of the other part. . . . Mentions "the Parkes of Bidston and Grett Neston and the parcells of medow land and mosse called the Pyke Medow, the New Medow, Bidstone Moese and Pennesby in Bidstone [*sic*] parcel of the Manor of Bidstone." It further stipulates that "the said Sir William and Robert shall leve sufficient pasture and gresse for the fedyng of the dere which now be in the seid Parkes."

Winter herbage—nothing.—

Nor anything of 6s. 8d. for farm of one close within the Park aforesaid called Le Hoke, because it is charged above.

ISSUES AND PROFITS OF TURBARY IN BIDDESTON. Sale of turf ... 30s. 0d. ISSUES OF THE MANOR OF

BIDDESTON. Annual value of the Chief Messuage with dove cot, barn, and stable in Biddeston—nothing, because it is included in the profits of the Park of Biddeston abovesaid. Formerly 6s. 8d. for the farm of the site of the Manor.

RENTS IN MORETON.

Rent of free tenants for military service	5d.
Rent of tenants at will	114s. 6d.
Rent of one house with dovecot and one butt	6s. 8d.
Rent of one tenement with one butt acquired by the Lord from John Whitmore senior to hold by the Lord immediately after the death of George Whitmore	8s. 0d.

[Note.]—The said George is dead.

SALGHAM MASSEY.

One red rose free rent from Thomas Bennett son of John Bennett deceased for one tenement and one bovat of land in Salgham Massey wh: he holds from the lord for military service, etc. £11 17s. 7d. rents of tenants of the Lord there payable with 26s. 8d. from farm of capital messuage lately acquired from John Whitmore senior.

(To be Continued.)

[614] AN OLD INDENTURE OF APPRENTICESHIP.

The following document will no doubt be interesting to readers of the "Sheaf." It will be noticed that a nine years' apprenticeship was considered necessary for learning the "mystery" of silk-weaving:

This Indenture made the second day of february in ye Thirty second Yeare of ye Reigne of our most gracious sou'aigne Lord King Charles ye Second ou' England &c Añq; Dñi 1679 (according to ye Computac'on of ye Church of England) *Witnesseth* that Henry Lettenby and Thomas Warde Church-Wardens and Samuell Heath and John Taylor sidesmen and ou'seers of the Poore for ye Parish of St. Oswalds in ye Citty and County of the City of Chest' have placed and putt forth Robert Gardner soñe of Robert Gardner late of the s'd Citty of Chest' dece'd an Apprentice w'th John Salmon of ye same Citty of Chest' Silckweaver with him ye s'd John Salmon to abide and dwell from ye day of ye date hereof for by and dureing ye full end and terme and untill ye full end and terme of Nine Yeares next ensuing ye date of these p'sents fully to bee compleate and ended & ye's'd Church-Wardens doe hereby Covenant to finde and p'vide ye s'd Robert Gardner with one suite of Apparell more than hee hath at ye sealeing and deliv'y hereof w'th all necessaries thereunto belonging as shooes hose and hatt three shirts and three bands and ye s'd John Salmon doth hereby Covenant to and with ye s'd Church Wardens & their respective successors to instruct & teach the s'd Robert Gardner his s'd App'tice ye Trade Mistery and Experience of a Silckweaver And duringe ye said Terme to finde his s'd App'tice sufficient meate, drinke and Apparell washing and lodging sufficient for such an Apprentice In Witness whereof they have interchangeably sett & putt their hands & seales the Day and Yeare above written

JOHN (I.s.) SALMON.

Signed Sealed and deli'ued in p'sence of us

Henry Hughes

John Bradburne

Geo: Preston junr

In the St. Oswald's Vestry Book the following notices relating to the above case occur:—

September 16th 79

Att a meetinge of ye parishioners of the parish of St. Oswalds it was ther ordered that Robert Garner and Mary Key are Left to the dispossell of the Churchwardens to be placed out by them at ye charge of the parish the takeinge advice from 3 or more of the Chief parishioners

pd Widd: Hurstage for Robt: Garner	}	1 4 0
from ye 30th of Aprill to ye 16th Octob:		
in all 24 weeks att 12d pr		

pd for Cloath for Garner	0 12 0
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pd for triminge shifts bands & makinge	0 13 0
--	--------

pd for a hatt shooes & stockines	0 5 2
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feb: 79 Spent at binding a boy to Mr.

Salmon	00 01 00
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E. C. L.

[615] ST. OSWALD'S PARISH BOUNDARIES IN 1620.

II.

(Continued from No. 609.)

Back. Item from Crabhall wee returned agayne through Mollington Lane aforesaide unto the further Stone Bridge, and from thence followinge

the east syde of the aforesaid Poole Heyes in Blacon Lordshippe, wee turned ouer the said Mollington Lane, and entred into Mr. Dutton's Meddowes, out of the wh: we came into the Bach ground entering at Glaseors Hey into Lookers Hey and into the Bach Knowle, below the wh: there is a Meadowe in our parish called Bach meadowe. There wee turned up and followed the East ends of the said Closes called the Bach Knowle, Lookers Hey, and Glaseors Hey, and out of that into Mr. Ratcliffe's feild, and through the same into the lane that leadeth from Chester towards Moston, and from thence wee went after the East syde of the Bach ground unto the Bach Poole.

Parte of Newton. Item from the said Bach Poole wee went alonge the highway that leadeth from the Bach to Newton, namelie through Mr. Brownes Hey called the White feild in St. Maries pariah, and soe to the water course that compasseth our parish, from the Bach Poole unto the End of a close which is parcell of a Tennement belonging to Randle Holliwell of Newton, and is now in the occupation of Thomas Chroughton then after the end of William Ryders Close, and soe into the High Heywood, and alonge the Perleway and through Healies Knowle and soe into Seftons Croft, and about the north side of Seftons house unto Newton Common, from thence alonge the north side of the said common unto the Corner Hedge thereof, and from the said Corner followinge the Hedge North ward unto an Ash tree wh: standeth in the Corner of Mr. Ince's feild, and adioyneth to a Close belonging to Mr. Brocke. Then from the said Ash wee wente over crosse the Common towards the Heath house ground, unto a Marke made on the Common a little from the Marle pitt, wh: is on the end of a Close belonging to the Heath house called the Marled Hey.

Heath house. Item from the said Marke on the Common wee went alonge the west syde of the Heath house ground, and at the north end thereof, through the Lane that Leadeth towards Picton, then wee turned and went after the East syde of the said Heath House ground by a meere stone that parteth Upton and Picton Heath, unto the Corner of a field belonging to the Heath house, and adioyninge to a Close called Aldersays Close in Plamstall Parrish.

E. C. L.

(To be continued.)

QUERIES.

[616] BORDLAND TITHES.

Why were the tithes of West Kirby and some other places called "Bordland tithes," as in the suit recorded in the "Sheaf" a week or two ago (No. 603)? In the record of the possessions of the dissolved Abbey of St. Werburgh I find the term used of the "parsonage" of Upton as well. In a later charter of Queen Elizabeth mention is made of the "burland tithes" of West Kirby and other places, and of the "bordland tithes" of Nantwich, &c.

ENQUIRER.

[617] LOTHBURN AT NANTWICH.

In the "Book of the Abbot of Combermere" printed some years ago by the Record Society there are a number of references to the Lothburn at Nantwich; e.g., "between Munkesyordes and Lothburne," "a certain cistern called Lothburne," and so on. Where was this cistern (or brook, as one would imagine from the name) and what is the meaning of the term? Has it any kinship with the London Lothbury?

A. B. C.

REPLY.

[618] JOHN BRERWOOD.
(See No. 581.)

It would appear from Sir Peter Leycester that John Bruen's chief friend and companion at Oxford was the elder brother of Edward Brerewood, a man greatly esteemed by his contemporaries. He writes: "Robert Brierwood, a citizen born, was chosen Recorder of Chester April 9, 15 Car. I. (1639). He was son of John Brierwood, sheriff of this city: which John was son of Robert Brierwood, wet glover, thrice Mayor of Chester. John had a younger brother called Edward Brierwood, the famous scholar of Brasen-nose College in Oxford and afterwards professor of astronomy at Gresham College in London, who writ many learned books; scilicet, a Treatise of the Sabbath, 1631; the Enquiry of Languages, printed 1635; De Nummis, printed 1614; besides his logical notes, and tractate De Oculo, published by Sixsmith of Brasen-nose" (Ormerod i, 221).

A short pedigree of the family may be seen in Earwaker's History of St. Mary's (p. 263). Robert Brerewood, sheriff in 1531, had by his wife Lucy a son Robert, alderman of the city, sheriff in 1566 and mayor in 1583, 1587, and 1600, dying during his last term of office on May 29, 1601. By his first wife (Elizabeth, daughter of Thomas Horton) he had two sons—John, who was Bruen's friend, and Edward—and a daughter Alice, who married (1) Robert son of William Wall and (2) Ralph Allen an Alderman of Chester, but had no children. Edward died unmarried. John was sheriff in 1598 and died on October 22, 1599, leaving by his wife Mary, daughter of Thomas Parry of Nannerch in Flintshire, two sons—Sir Robert, of Brasenose, Oxford, the Recorder and M.P., and John—and two daughters—Jane, the second wife of John Ratcliffe, alderman of Chester and sheriff in 1601, and Frances, wife of Robert Cotgrave, son of the William Cotgrave who was Mayor in 1589. Three Brerewood entries in Foster's "Alumni"—John, Edward, and Robert—are thus identified and connected.

Robert Brerewood, thrice Mayor, was married a second time, to Jane daughter of Hugh Powell; she died in August, 1613, and was buried in St.

Mary's. He was, as will be noticed, a "wet glover"; and his house is said to have stood "by the chapel gate" (Ormerod i, 236). Where was this gate? In 1367 Philip de Raby had "four shops near the Walls, near le Capelyate." J. B.

APRIL 23, 1902.

NOTES.

[619] ST. OSWALD'S PARISH BOUNDARIES IN 1620.

III.

(Continued from No. 615.)

Wirvin Chappellrie. Item from the corner of the said Closse wee went through the Chappellrie of Wirvin. The precincts where as followeth, first begininge at the Heath ground belonging to Wirvin it shooteth along Coughall Heath, and from the said Heath alonge the syde of Coughall Lordshippe, unto the syde of Chorlton towneshippe and soe by the syde thereof and aboute Chroughton Heath and after the syde of Stoke Heath alonge about the Moores belonging to Wirvin, wh: joyneth to the Lordship of Stoke, Thorneton, and Trafford, And from the said Moores after the syde of the Towneshippe of Picton, and Picton Heath, unto that parte of the Heath ground wh: belongeth to Wirvin where the precincts first began.

Part of Newton. Item from the said Chappellrie of Wirvin, wee came agayne to the Marke made on the Common by the Heath house ground, and from thence we wente after the syde of the said Common, and through a Lane that leadeth from thence towards Hoole, and from the end of the said lane wee followed the syde of Newton Common unto the Corner of a feild called Withen Hey wh: doth belonge to Mr. John Bayand and adioyneth to the syde of a Closse in the Tenure of Raph Coddington in Plem-stall parish And from the Corner of the said Withen Hey wee went over Crosse the said Common towards Chester unto the Corner of a Closse in the occupation of John Picke, and after the west side of the saide feild downe the Rake unto flookers Brookes.

Boughton. Item from Newton Common aforesaid wee went to St. Anns. The bondaries of our pariah about that Towneshippe are as followeth. first begininge at the Blewe Stone by Spittle wh: separateth the liberties of the Citie from the Contrey, from thence through the lane that leadeth to Vicars Crosse unto the further syde of the marled Hay belonging to Mr. Thomas Whitbie, Then through the lane that leadeth towards Chriasington unto a thornestanding on the south syde of the said Lane a little beyond Cranes house, Then unto Butterbach Bridge and from thence alonge the River of Dee, and by the blewe Stone wh: lyeth at the waters syde, And soe up the sandie Lane unto the aforesaid stone where the said Bondaries first began.

(To be continued.)

What is the "St. Anns" referred to above? It is clearly not the St. Anne's Chapel adjoining St. John's Church. Was there ever a St. Ann's Chapel, or St. Ann's Cross, at Boughton?

E. C. L.

[620]

THE COTGRAVE FAMILY.

A family known to have resided in Chester and its immediate neighbourhood for over six hundred years has some claim to a notice in this column, and the following preliminary notes have been put together in the hope of eliciting fuller information and in particular of identifying the two Cotgraves who figure in the "Dictionary of National Biography"—Randle (see Nos. 591 and 610) and John (miscellaneous writer; fl. 1655)—and others who have occupied some public position, e.g., Hugh Cotgrave, appointed Rouge Croix Pursuivant in 1563 and Richmond Herald in 1566, dying in June, 1584.

The sources principally drawn upon are (1) the Visitation of Cheshire printed by the Harleian Society (pp. 68, 80, and 268; (2) numerous unpublished pedigrees in the Harleian MSS. in the British Museum (2011 fo. 3 b; 2153 fo. 178 d, 258 a, 259; 380 fo. 160) which have been copied out for the "Sheaf" by Mr. Gilbert P. Gamon, to whom in consequence our best thanks are due, as these pedigrees are of great importance; (3) incidental notices in Helsby's edition of Ormerod's "History of Cheshire" (here denoted by O.), more especially in the numerous "proofs of age" given in the footnotes, which contain a multitude of curious particulars concerning persons and things; and (4) a pedigree of Cotgreave of Netherleigh printed in the first edition (i, 531) of Burke's "Landed Gentry."

The Cotgraves claimed descent from Robert FitzHugh, the first of the Norman Barons of Malpas, and some support is afforded to this claim by their tenure of lands in Christleton and other places which were included in the possessions of the barony. It is curious to note how very restricted is the area within which the surname is common—Christleton, Tarvin, Guilden Sutton, and Chester. Robert FitzHugh, supposed to be a natural son of Hugh Lupus, is said to have left two daughters who divided his lands between them—Letitia, whose share descended to the Patricks and Suttons of later times, and Mabella, who married William, son of John surnamed "le Belward." It is from the latter that the Cotgraves claimed descent. The son and heir of Mabella and William was another William le Belward, who is said to have married in the 5th year of King Stephen, and to have left three sons who shared among them his half of the Malpas lands—"Dan" David, ancestor of the Egertons, Robert, ancestor of the Cholmondeleys, and Richard. From the last-named are said to have descended Thomas de Cotgrave, William de Overton, Richard the Little, and others (O. ii 598, 641). The particulars of this descent are unknown; those named are usually given as sons of

Richard, but it is evident that they represent a much later stage. The Visitation (p. 268) gives the succession thus: "Richard le Belward—son, Thomas de Cotgrave—son, William—daughter Alice, married to Robert Stephenson." A Harleian fragment has: "Thomas de Cotgrave—son, William (32 Ed. I), who married Alice, daughter of Robert le Brun (or Bruen)—son William (35 Ed. III), who had issue." The succession (Thomas and William) is the same; but if these two fragments of pedigree are identified as coincident there must be an interval of nearly a century (two or three generations) between Richard le Belward and Thomas de Cotgrave, and nothing but vague conjectures can be offered as a means of filling the gap.

The case of Thomas de Cotgrave does not stand by itself. Another of the "sons" of Richard le Belward is Richard the Little; sometimes "*alias* Kenclerk" is added, and sometimes "Kenclerk" is called his son. Now Richard the Little, "of Wigland," is mentioned in 10 Ed. I., so that he was a contemporary of Thomas de Cotgrave; his widow Alice occurs in 1306, and their son Kenrick the Clerk (the original of "Kenclerk") in 1318; this last is probably the "Ken" le Clero de Egge who is mentioned, with his wife Sibilla, about the same time (10-11 Ed. II.). Yet another "son" is Hunoth de Coddington—probably Cuddington—whose daughter Mabel married Wronou Litele; and we find Wronou de Cuddington and Mabel his wife living in 1311, so that Mabel's father would be another contemporary of Thomas de Cotgrave's. Nine "sons" and "daughters" are attributed to Richard le Belward in the Visitation of 1580; but it would appear from these dates that they are separated by two or three descents from their supposed father (O., ii. 641, 643, 649, 681, and 694).

The first Cotgrave distinctly mentioned is William de Cotgrave in 32 Ed. I.; to him Roger le Bruen granted lands in Bruen Stapleford, perhaps in connection with the marriage above recorded (O. ii. 317). He is again mentioned in 1326, also in connection with Roger le Bruen (O. ii. 318n). If the two fragments above are to be regarded as referring to the same persons, this William had a son William and a daughter Alice. Nothing seems known of the latter or her husband, Robert Stephenson, unless he be the Robert son of Stephen del Mulne mentioned along with Randle de Cotgrave in 2 Ri. II (O. ii. 642); but the son is probably the William de Cotesgreve or Cotegreve who is mentioned with the above Robert, son of Stephen del Mulne, and others in 1342, and who in 1346-7 was one of the sureties for Edmund de Coton (O. ii. 130n). The last name, it will be seen later, helps us a step further. Then we may identify this William with the father of the Randle de Cotgrave with whom the continuous pedigrees begin (O. ii. 664). In an inquisition *post mortem* of 37 Ed. III (1363-4) Robert Egerton was found to have held a sixteenth part of Foulwyche (Wychough) in right of

his wife Matilda daughter of William de Cotgrave, from the heirs of William de Goulbourn; Randle de Cotgreve, son of the said William, being the heir of this portion, and 17 years of age in November 1361. Randle therefore was born in 1344.

The William de Goulbourn here mentioned—an Egerton—was also lord of Overton; and in the pedigree above quoted William de Overton is mentioned as one of the descendants of Richard, ancestor of the Cotgraves. It is possible therefore that as Overton descended, perhaps by marriage, to the heirs of an elder brother of Richard, so the Cotgraves acquired their interest in the Overton lands by a marriage. William del Malpas (of an elder line) and William de Cotgrave also held lands in common (O. ii. 642). There does not seem to be any place called Cotgrave in Cheshire from which the surname could be derived, and another of the Harleian MS. pedigrees expressly states that the father of Randle above-mentioned was Hugh Cotgrave of Cotgrave in the county of Nottingham. It is clear that Randle's father was named William and that Cotgrave occurs in Cheshire as a surname in 1304, earlier than a probable date for Randle's father. Hence we must conclude that Hugh was really a much more remote ancestor; but the family tradition may be correct—that their surname was derived from a certain Hugh who came from Cotgrave near Nottingham.

The arms borne by the family are—Gules, a fesse dancettee or indented ermine between three bugle horns stringed or. Those assigned to Hugh Cotgrave, Richmond Herald, are simpler and perhaps earlier—Gules, a fesse dancettee between three bugle horns stringed argent. Now the arms of Belward are given as—Gules, three pheons (arrow heads) argent; and his descendants who took the surname of Malpas bore—Sable, a fesse between three pheons argent. Thus the Cotgrave bearings are somewhat similar, with bugle horns instead of pheons. Both pheons and bugle horns are symbols of huntmen, as may be seen in the arms of families named Forester and others known to have held such offices, as Sutton of Sutton in Macclesfield (O. ii. 598, 641; iii. 761). The fesse indented ermine appears on the shield of neighbours of the Cotgraves, the Barnstons of Churton (O. ii. 747), so that it may have some local significance; compare the coat of Leche of Carden.

The pedigree, largely conjectural it must be confessed, will then read thus:—Robert fitz Hugh, baron of Malpas (living 1090)—d. and coh. Mabella, m. William le Belward—s. William, m. in 1140—3rd s. Richard—[? gt.-granddr and coh. m. Hugh de Cotgrave, who came from Nottinghamshire in 1250 or thereabouts and acted as forester in Cheshire—s. Thomas—s. William (mentioned in 1304 and 1326), m. Alice, dr. of Robert le Bruen—s. William (mentioned 1346, d. before 1361), and dr. Alice, m. Robert Stephenson (Robert son

of Stephen del Mulne, mentioned 1378-9). William had a son Randle de Cotgrave (b. 1344) and a daughter Matilda, m. to Robert Egerton.

A family named Kelum of Allington (Lines.) and Congleton, inter-married with Cotgrave of Hargrave, Holme of Tranmere, Wentworth of Ince, and Ellis of Overleigh (O., iii. 37n).

A further point must be mentioned. In the account of Rowton Ormerod (ii. 783) quotes a charter which he assigns to the middle of the twelfth century in which a Robert fitsNigel mentions "two bovates of land in Rowceoristelton [Rowton] which Richard Otgrave held and which I have wrongfully withheld" from Robert son of William and Mabel his spouse. This latter Robert is said to be the son of William le Belward who was ancestor of the Cholmondeley family. It seems curious that there should have been an Otgrave in a township where the Cotgraves were resident in later times; and yet if Otgrave is simply a mistake for Cotgrave, it seems difficult to date the charter so far back as 1150. Robert fitsNigel is not otherwise known.

(To be continued.)

QUERY.

[621] KENRICK OF CHESTER.

Can any of your readers (including, especially, your valued and accurate contributor in the years 1896 and 1898, who signed his articles "Genealogist") inform me, in my preparation of my forthcoming two volumes of the History of the Kenrick-Kendrick families in Great Britain and America, as to any facts or data on the following lines? Sir John Kendrick was Lord Mayor of London from November 1651 to November 1652. He died in February 1661-2. He was Sheriff of London 1645. He was a Freeman of Chester, and was educated there on the Foundation. He married Katharine Evelyn in London, cousin of John Evelyn, the author of the "Diary," etc. In his Diary, John Evelyn alludes to him, under date of February 1652-3, thus: "This afternoon I called upon Alderman Kenricke, who is a relation of ours, a fanatic Lord Mayor." In Strype's Stow's Survey of London, 1720, vol. ii., book 5, p. 145, Lord Mayor John Kendrick is described as "Son of Hugh Kendrick, of the City of West-Chester, Joyner, son of Thomas Kendrick, etc." Sir John Kendrick had a sister, Margaret, who married a Dr. Wm. Barker, of Salop. Apparently he had four other sisters (whose names I have not), according to the abstract of General Robert Venables' will, dated 1667 and proved 1687, as it appears in The Cheshire Sheaf, vol. ii., April 1898, p. 47, No. 208, in which General V. describes him as "Cozen John Kendrick and his 5 sisters."

Sir John K. was a son of Hugh Kendrick, as stated, of Chester, and Anne, daughter of Sir Thomas Moulson, Kt., of the Spurstow line—

whom Hugh K. married. Sir Thomas Moulston (or Moulson or Mowlson), John K.'s maternal grandfather, went to London about 1624 or 5, became Lord Mayor of London in 1634, and died about 1638. Doubtless he it was who, in his youth, and before his marriage, took his grandson, young John Kendrick, with him to London, for the youth's benefit, from Chester, John K.'s early home. The wills at Somerset House and at Chester all show (that is, the old Kendrick-Kenrick wills) that the Lord Mayor John Kendrick, of London, was closely related to the Venables, Lees, Parkers, Alderseys, Raintons, etc., of Cheshire. Is it possible, therefore, for anyone to give the line of Sir John Kendrick on its Kendrick side—or any data concerning it in any of its prior generations—beyond the bald fact stated, as above, in Strype's Stow's London, that his father was Hugh Kendrick and his grandfather was Thomas Kendrick?

Where did this Thomas K. belong to? or live? When did he flourish? Was this line of Chester K.'s of the Lord Mayor of the Shropshire family, as per Visit. of Salop, 1623, and from a brother of some one of its generations to the single male ancestors therein mentioned? Or, was his grandfather, Thomas K., of the Reading, Berks., line, and if so, where in the pedigree in Costes' Reading, or Man's Reading, should Thomas K., or his Reading ancestor, be placed? The earliest K. I have ever been able to trace in Reading was John Kendrick, grandfather of "The Benefactor," who was Mayor of Reading in 1565. I have seen it stated, in Man's History or Dr. Doran's, that the Kendricks of Reading came originally from Chester, and through Chester for some generations, go back to the Salop chief line, and join that oldest-branch of all K.'s in England. If so, can anyone enlighten me on the ancestor in any way of the old Reading K.'s, who migrated about 1500 to Reading from Chester? My chief and most important inquiry, however, is as to any Chester facts or data relating to Lord Mayor John Kendrick, and to his ancestry and family connections, on the Kendrick or paternal side. Any facts as to him or his pedigree would be gladly inserted in my History and proper credit given for them to the giver.

GREENE KENDRICK.

West Haven, Conn., U.S.A.

APRIL 30, 1902.

NOTES.

[622]

JOHN BRUEN. IV.

(Continued from No. 599.)

The Wakes put down.—And whereas the people of Tarvin had a bad custom of keeping wakes upon the Sabbath day, at which times there was much profaneness practised, to the dishonour of God, by

banqueting, drinking, dancing, etc., this godly gentleman, studying to remedy this great evil, against that time every year provided three of the best affected ministers in the country, who spent most part of three days in preaching and praying in the church, so that the pipers, fiddlers, bearwards, players, and gamesters had no time left them for their vanities, but went away with great fretting; yet multitudes of well affected people filled the town and the church, much rejoicing before God.

Liberality.—And these he feasted at his house also, so that at one of these times he spent in his house a fat beef and a half in the space of three days upon godly and well affected people; such was his desire to do good, his delight in the saints, his joy in the house of God, and love to His service, that all other things in comparison of these were but loss and dross and dung to him. . . . And this he did for divers years together till by degrees he had worn out those profane wakes.

His House a Nursery of Religion.—Hereupon he began to be admired for his fervency in the profession of the Gospel and practice of true religion, insomuch that divers gentlemen of the best rank (as Sir Richard Grosvenor, and Mr. Hardware and his family) desired to sojourn in his house for their better information in the way of God. One of which at his first coming would by no means endure to be reproved for his faults, but how it was afterwards with him Master Bruen thus left it upon record: "After a while, having the 141st Psalm for our evening exercise, divers of my family did usually give notes, being godly and well affected, and they all concluded together that every one of them should speak upon the fifth verse: 'Let the righteous reprove me,' etc.; and myself gave the last note, after which he never resisted any more." Yea himself gives this testimony concerning Mr. [Henry] Hardware, his brother-in-law [Mayor, 1599]: "It pleased God," saith he, "whilst my brother and his wife, children, and servants were in my family, so to work upon their hearts that they went home with new hearts, converted unto God, and professed religion in holy sincerity till their death. My brother Hardware upon his return to the Poole [Peel Hall in Little Mouldsworth] set up religion in his family with great power and comfort; so that the very first evening after their coming home they began to sing psalms, to read the Scriptures, to pray and catechise. All which being ended his wife went to him and kissed him, saying, 'Oh, husband, I thank God and bless His Name that ever you went to Stapleford.'"

His Pains to hear the Word.—And whereas in those days the Lord was pleased, in compassion to His people, to raise up and establish many holy exercises of religion in Cheshire and Lancashire, which were maintained monthly by the godly labours of the faithful ministers of Christ in those parts with much comfortable success, Master Bruen frequented their exercises and with great care and

conscience he stored himself with their treasures and lighted his candle at their torches, whereby he was better enabled and more furnished to set forward religion in his family and elsewhere as occasion was offered. In frequenting these exercises he took much pains, riding early and late, in heat and cold, and through foul ways, sometimes ten, twenty, yea thirty miles, to his great charges also. These sermons he wrote diligently, repeated them as he went home, and for about thirty-six years together at home he wrote out the substance of these exercises, whereby he left to the heirs of his family so many volumes of manuscripts set up orderly in his study as is scarce credible, which he charged them to read over, if it were but once in their lives.

His Love to God's Ministers.—He used the ministers wheresoever he came marvellously kindly, commending their pains, rejoicing in their labours, and many times defraying their charges; always encouraging them with gracious and sweet words. Yea, this kindness of his extended to all the professors of religion, even to the weakest and poorest Christian that he observed to frequent these exercises.

His Wife dies.—In the midst of these sweet comforts the Lord was pleased to exercise him with a great affliction by taking away with a stroke his dear wife and faithful yokefellow, who being well in the morning began to be ill and sick at supper, and departed this life the same evening [Jan., 1598]. Yet did the Lord so sanctify this affliction to him that by the power of grace and Christian wisdom he moderated his affection and subdued his passions, not mourning as a man without hope but assuring himself that his loss was her gain.

His Second Marriage.—After which, finding that he stood in need of marriage for the comfort of his life and necessity of his family, he sought by prayer a prudent wife from God, and the Lord was pleased to answer his prayers. For as he was in Manchester, attending upon the holy exercise of religion kept in that place, he cast his eye upon a very amiable and beautiful young gentlewoman which diligently frequented those assemblies; upon sight of whom a sudden thought arose in his mind that this was she whom the Lord had provided to be his wife. And that he might not only please his eye and follow his affection in his choice, but might deal prudently and advisedly for his better satisfaction touching her virtues and graces—which he much desired might be proportionable to her outward lineaments—he employed one of his most trusty and religious servants to make enquiry after her; who, being born and bred in those parts, soon brought him word that this young gentlewoman was named Mrs. Ann Fox, sister to Mr. Fox of the Rhodes, well descended both by father and mother's side: her father [John Fox] a gentleman of good account, who sometime lived with the right honourable Henry Earl of Derby and was controller of his house, one of his council, and chosen by him as a

principal gentleman to attend upon him when he was by Queen Elizabeth sent ambassador into France; her mother, yet living, was a very godly and gracious matron, descended of the ancient and worshipful families of the Addertons and Leylands in Lancashire; that herself was a virtuous and religious young woman, beautiful by grace within as well as by nature without; one who was well reported of in the Church and of good esteem among God's people. Upon which report he being encouraged, neglected no time but took the first opportunity to make a motion to her mother and friends; which being readily entertained by them, he wooed the young gentlewoman, gat her consent, and so proceeding in the fear of God they were married, to the comfort and content of all.

He promotes Religion in his Mother's Family.—And his mother-in-law gave them and theirs their table the first year; during which time he was as careful to do good to that family as if it had been his own house, and he quickened himself and them to prayer and praise, reading the Scripture, singing of psalms, holy conference, catechising, etc.; concerning which himself thus writes: "My mother-in-law tabling of us for a year, we set up the exercise of religion morning and evening; in which time through God's grace my mother-in-law got saving grace and my sister-in-law (now Mistress Hind) and another half-sister of hers, and their brothers Master William and Master Thomas Fox, a servant or two, and some neighbours; blessed be God for it," etc.

(To be continued.)

[623] SOME EVENTS IN WALLASEY IN 1422.

In illustration of what is said in a preceding article (No. 620) concerning the "proofs of age" the following example may be given from the notes to Ormerod (ii. 774).

William Chauntrell, lord of the Bache near Chester, died in November, 1438, his son and heir, John, being then a minor. After a few years this John came of age and claimed his inheritance. A court was held accordingly on Feb. 20, 1443, to allow him to give "proof of age," and numerous witnesses came forward on his behalf. It appeared that he was born on Tuesday, Feb. 10th, 1422, and baptized next day in Wallasey Church; his mother was a daughter and heir of Thomas Bolde of Poulton in Wallasey, so that he was, no doubt, born in her house there. Sir John Stanley, Knight (of Lathom), was one of his godfathers, and Sir John Bolde, Knight, was the other. John Sutton of Sutton, aged 45, testified that he was in Sir John Stanley's company in church. Roger Falybrome, who carried the lighted wax candle, remembered the occasion, and so did Richard Mottresheved (49) and Thomas Falowes (50), who accompanied Sir John Bolde, and carried burning torches.

Then Vivian Birteles and others said they heard of it because they were at Wallasey Church on the

Wednesday after John Chauntrell's birth, to attend the obituary Mass of John Yarwoode, and the obit would be found duly marked in one of the missals of that church. Yarwood and others are East Cheshire names.

Reginald Shrigley and Geoffrey Lowe were in the company of Sir John Stanley at Poulton on the Thursday after the birth of the claimant; their business was to witness the settlement of some disputes (it was a *dies amoris*) between Henry Litherland and John Launcelyn, but they heard the news that William Chauntrell had had a son named John, born on the preceding Tuesday.

Yet others were at Poulton on the same day for quite another purpose. Robert Massey of Butley and Edmund and John Pounall accompanied Gilbert Glegge, lately coroner for the hundred of Wirral, in order to view the body of John Urkell, there slain. Thus they learned of the event, and could witness to the claimant's age.

Such incidents are of no great importance to the county historian, but they throw some light on the everyday life of the people, illustrating the old words: "A time to be born and a time to die. . . . A time to kill and a time to heal. . . . What hath man more of his labour?"

[624]

HILBRE CELL

The following extract from a Lease granted by Wm. Clyffe, Dean, and the Chapter of Chester, to Rowland Stanley of Hooton in the County of Chester, Esqre., is connected with the suits already recorded in the "Sheaf." (See No. 603)

GILBERT P. GAMON.

Harl. M. 88. 1994, Fo. 409b.

This Indenture made the 13th day of March in the sixth year of the reigns of our Soverainge Lord Edward the Sixth [1551-2] by ye grace of God of England, France, and Ireland King defender of faith: and on Erthe of the Church of England and also of Ireland the Supreme head. Between Mr. William Clyffe Dr. in lawes deane of the Cathedrell Church of Christ & our blessed Lady ye Virgin in Chester and ye Chapter of ye same place upon the one part & Rowland Stanley of Hooton in the County of Chester Esqre. upon the other part. Wytnesseth that in consideration that the said Rowland Stanley of his own free wil hath surrendered and given up into ye hands of ye said deane & chapter a certain covent-seale or deed indentured by ye late Abbot & Convent of ye late dissolved Monastery of St Werberge in Chester conseded and made unto one Thomas Byrkenhead of a Mease or cell cald ye house of Hilbre and the Ile therewith with all houses, buildings, lands and fyshing & other the appurtenances to ye same belonging or in anywise appertaining and also divers tieths within ye Parish of West-Kirkby and also certain tythes corn, hey within ye Townshipp of Irby in ye parish of Woodchurch & Thur-

stanton in Wyrall which tythes belongeth to ye said Cathedrell Church. Also one wynd-mill in Irby aforesayd oald Irby Mill which appertaineth To have & to hold . . . ye sayd mease, houses, buildings lands heeth (?) tythes and other the . . . P . . . with their appurtenances To ye sayd Thos: Byrkenhead & his assigns from ye day of ye making of ye sayd Indenture or covent-seale unto them a terme of threescore & one yeares then next ensuing fully to be compleat & ended & determined which Indenture beareth date ye xth day of Sept. in ye xxxth yeare of ye raigne of the Late King of most famous memory Henry eight [1538] All which covent seale or Indenture ye same Rowland Stanley by good and sufficient conveyance in ye law with all interest terme & residue of yeares in ye same contained and for divers causes this moving hath surrendered the same indenture & all his interest term and residue of yeares which he hath in ye same to ye sayd Deane & Chapter For divers & sundry weighty causes and urgent consideration them presently moving & chiefly in respect of ye good and faithfull friendship, benefitts & pleasure which ye ancestor of ye sayd Rowland hath hereuntofore done and employed and which the sayd Rowland duly doth and employeth the sayd Deane & Chapter their own whole assents, consents, and agreement have devised granted sett lett and to farm betaken and by these presentes do devise grant sett lett and to farm betake unto ye sayd Rowland Stanley and his assigns all those their sayd Tythes of Corne, Hay, Hempe and Flax called Bordland Tythes set and being in the Townshipp Townfields and Liberties of ye towns of Little Caldey, Great Caldey, Newton, with the Winges, La(v)erton, Newbold, Great Meoles, and Grevesby within ye Parish of West Kirkby.

QUERIES.

[625] SAUGHALL-ROAD, CHESTER.

In past volumes of the 'Sheaf' discussion arose as to whether this road was not the old Mollington Lane. This seems to have been decided in the negative, but as the Saughall Road has existed some centuries as an important road and very little is known of its history, some information respecting it would be very interesting. Can any readers supply this?

W. H. BENNETT.

[626] ALDFORD BRIDGE.

Can anyone give some particulars about the old bridge which once spanned the Dee near the village of Aldford? I have an idea that it stood a few yards below the present Iron Bridge. Is this correct?

W. H. BENNETT.

MAY 7, 1902.

NOTES.

[627] RENT ROLL OF THE EARL OF DEBBY IN WIRRAL 1521-2.

(See Nos. 539 and 613.)

There is not very much that requires explanation in the following instalment of the Rental. The payment of "Forster sylver," which no doubt stands for "forester silver," at Thingwall is worthy of note and goes back to the time when Wirral was a Royal forest or hunting-ground.

There is also mention of a payment to the Prior of St. John of Jerusalem for lands in Moreton. Sixty years ago, according to the Tithe-Map, there was a field (since absorbed in a larger one) called the Prior's Field and it is not improbable this may refer to a portion of this holding, though of course it may equally well refer to some field held by the Prior of Birkenhead.

WM. FERGUSSON IRVINE.

Birkenhead.

RENTAL—Continued.

KIRKBY WALASE. Free rents 3d. Tenants at will	66s. 2d.
UPTON & LARTON. Rent from Hankyn Tomlynson for one tenement & 4 bovates in Upton	10s. 0d.
Rent from Roger Newbolt for one tenement & 4 bovates in Larton	20s. 0d.
PYNNEBY. For the third part of one pasture in Pynnesby containing 60 acres of land called Penneby ..	20s. 0d.
TYNGWALL. Free tenants and tenants at will	38s. 0d.
PULTON LAWNSON. Of William Lawnson for one tenement & [blank] acres of land in Pulton Lawnsn	33s. 4d.
CHILDER THORNTON. Rent of tenants at will in Childer Thornton	40s. 10d.
NESTON. Free tenants in Neston	23s. 1d.
Tenants at will	£15 0 0
Farm of park there	53s. 4d.
Increased rent of pasture of park	20d.
Free rent of John Barow for one tenement and 2 bovates in Neston—4 barbed arrows.	
By sale of wood & underwood etc.....	Nothing.
For farm of seven "Volatrics" there called Cokshots	2s. 4d.
LEIGHTON. Tenants at will there	42s. 8d.
BEBYNGTON. Of Matilda Bennett for one cottage & one croft containing three selions of land in Bebyngton	3s. 0d.

NEW RENTS IN SALGHAM. New rent of one parcel of land containing one acre lying in Le Leefeld in Salgham now enclosed by John Benet 12d.

INCREASED RENT OF PARK 13a. 4d. increased rent of NESTON. of farm of pasture of Park of Neston beyond 53s. 4d. formerly charged late demised to John Glegge & Hugh Salesbury for a term of 10 years, & beyond 20d. increased rent, charged above.

Total £80 13s. 11d.

QUICK RENTS. Value of 37 rent hens in Biddeston, Moreton, Salgham-Massey, Kirkby Walase, Upton, Thynghwall, Pulton Lawson and Chelther Thornton payable at Christmas, each hen 1½d ... 4s 7½d

RECEIPTS FROM COURTS. Profit from Courts held at Biddeston and Neston this year, nothing, because no courts held, etc., etc.

SALES OF HERONS AND CYGNETS, this year. Nothing because there were none.

SALE OF WOOD ETC. Nothing because there were none.

Total, £80 18s. 6½d.

RENTS RESOLUTE. To William Stanley of Hooton for one Tenement in Kirby-Walase in tenure of Robert Pere..... 5d. disallowed

To William Trotbeck for lands etc. in Thynghwall 26s. 8d. "

To said William for same tenements for certain rental called "Forster sylver" 10d. "

To Thomas Bowland for one tenement in Pulton Lawson 6d. "

To John Maynwaring for the same tenement 2s. "

To the Prior of St. John of Jerusalem in England for one dovecot and one bovate of land late acquired from Edmund Wodenott in Moreton 12d. not paid or asked for

80s. 5d. (disallowed by the Council of the King).
(To be continued.)

[628] ST. OSWALD'S PARISH BOUNDARIES IN 1620. IV.

(Continued from No. 619.)

Brewera Chappellrie. Item from Boughton wee went to the Chappellrie of Brewera, the Boundaries whereof are as followeth. first begininge at Cromwells gate, and from thence to Black Streete lane end, and from thence to the newe bridge wh: separateth the said Chappellrie from Warton parish, then from the said newe bridge unto a Meere Ston upon the Common called Whiclock Such. thence to Clarkes gate, and from thence to Milton Brooke, and then followinge the syde of the said brooke

unto the Lea Mill, where the said Chappellrie is divided from Audford parish. And from the said mill alonge after the side of the brooke under the Lea hall and Lea wood almost unto Audford bridge, from thence up the Heath towards the Chappell. Then to the Poole field Bridge, and from thence to the lower end of Beggers brookes, and soe to Cromwells gate where the aforesaid Boundaries first began.

Huntington and Chelie. Lastlie wee came by Huntington and Chelie, the Bondaries whereof doe begin at Butterbach, and soe about Cromwells house to Cromwells gate, and from thence after the Bondaries of Brewera Chappellrie unto Audford bridge, and soe alonge the brooke that runneth under the said bridge unto the River of dee, then after the side of the said River unto the watercourse that Runneth from Butterbach where the aforesaid Bondaries began.

(To be continued.)

E. C. L.

[629] SIR T. BUNBURY'S CHARITIES.

Sir Thomas Bunbury, first baronet, of Stanney, who died on August 22, 1682, left a large sum of money for the benefit of the poor in the parishes of Stoke and Bunbury and others. The details of his bequests are given in the following extract from his will which has been sent to the "Sheaf" by Mr. W. H. Bennett of Chester. The school is mentioned by Bishop Gastrell. According to Ormerod the original stock, "considerably increased by subsequent donations of the Bunburys and others, has long been lost to the parish, from being invested in private hands" (ii. 392).

A true Copy of the Last Will and Testam't of Sir Thomas Bunbury Barrr Deceased or of soe much thereof as relates to and concernes his bequests therein to charitable and pious uses.

In the name of God Amen the nineteenth day of August in the thirty fourth yeare of the Reigne of our Sovereigne Lord Charles the second King of England &c Anno Dñi. 1682. I Thomas Bunbury of Stanney in the County of Chester Baronett being weake &c Inpr's I commend my soule &c And considering that wee are all but stewards of what wee hav(e) and the Lord commands us to honour him with our Substance and it may happly be an inducem't to many to whom hee gives ability to doe someth(ing) proportionably of the like nature I humbly begge Gods gracious acceptance in Christ of my 'endeavo'r herein in these particulars following I give and bequeath to the Parish of Stoake aforesaid the summe of three hundred (and) thirty foure pounds to remaine as a stocke and the improvmt and interest thereof yearly arising to be yearly distributed upon Easter Monday to the Poore of the said Parish and to no other end or purpose whatsoever And my will is that the same distribution be made according to the discretion and at the oversight and care of the Minister and churchwardens

for the tyme being in the said Parish successively And my will and desire is that my said sonne Henry Bunbury, my Nephew Charles Bunbury Gent and the said Thomas Birkhened and their heires for ever should take care and have the oversight thereof that the said stocke may not be diminished but be p'served and kept intire and likewise that the same be sett forth and improved according to my mind and will before expressed. And alsoe that the profit arising from the same be employed and distributed as before is mentioned Item I give and bequeath to the Parish of Stoake aforesaid the summe of Two hundred pounds to remain as a stocke and to be putt forth by the Trustees aforesaid and their heires for ever and the Profit and interest thereof yearly arising to be yearly paid to a Schoolmaster (elected by the said Trustees or any Two of them) at two seu'all tymes in the yeare by equal paym'ts To the end, that hee should teach in the Schoolehouse lately erected at Stanney aforesaid any Children within the said Parish freely Item I give and bequeath to the seu'all Parishes of St Werburg in Chester aforesaid Bunbury and Plemstow in the said County of Chester the seu'all summes of sixty and eight pounds apeece to remaine as a seu'all stocke in each of the said Parishes and the Use and Interest yearly arising from the same to be yearly distributed upon Easter Monday to the Poore of the said seu'all Parishes according to the discretion and at the oversight and care of the Minister and Churchwardens for the tyme being in the said seu'all and respective Parishes And my will and desire is that the trustees before in these presents mentioned and their heires for ever should take care and have the oversight thereof that none of the said stockes be diminished but be preserved and kept intire and likewise that the same be sett forth and improved according to my mind and will herein before expressed And alsoe that the profit arising from the same be employed and distributed as before is mentioned.

A true Copy (of soe much thereof) th' originall remaining in the Consistory Court at Chester as can witnessse

THO: BIRKHENED JUNR.

[630] NIXON'S LOCALITIES.
(See No. 549.)

The following places mentioned in the Cheshire Prophecy are recorded on Bryant's map (1831):

Headless Cross—on the border of Delamere Forest, east of Oakmere.

Luddington Hill—midway between Rushton and Utkinton; north of Eaton.

Nockinger (Nogginshire) Mill, or Oulton Mill—on the border of Little Budworth, west of Oulton Park and north of Rushton.

Sandyford Bridge—about a mile W.N.W. of Nockinger Mill. There are other Sandyfords in or near Cheshire (e.g. in Church Hulme), but the Budworth one is probably that mentioned.

There is also a "God's Croft" at Netherton Frodsham; but though it is "between Mersey and Dee" it may not be the spot intended by Nixon; indeed, "Christ's Croft" is often given as the name of this place of safety in evil times.

J. B.

QUERY.

[631] ALTARS IN ST. WERBURGH'S.

Is anything known of the number or names of the altars in St. Werburgh's Abbey, apart from the high altar and that in the Lady Chapel? In the south transept (or St. Oswald's Church) the high altar seems to have stood near the middle of the east wall, with altars of St. Mary Magdalen to the north and St. Nicholas to the south in the corner bays. There was also an altar of St. Anthony. If the parish church had four altars the principal church must, one would imagine, have had a larger number, and there is abundant room for them. There appear to have been thirteen altars in the small church of St. Mary's Nunnery near the Castle.

Q.

REPLY.

[632] DEDICATION OF MACCLESFIELD CHURCH.

(See No 605.)

When Thomas de Macclesfield in the year 1301 made his will, that was but 23 years after Queen Eleanor dedicated the new church "All Saints." In the will of William Bridges, 1536, this church is called All Hallows, and again, still later it took the name of St. Michael's. This apparent confusion has caused critics to assume that the former names may have reference to some earlier foundation. That there were such, owing the early settlement of the Macclesfield family and their attested interest in the church, seems to have been the opinion of Dr. Ormerod. Of the Macclesfield parish church, which dates back more than six hundred years, records are preserved, but of the earlier Saxon church all is conjecture. In a concise history of the Macclesfield Church, written by the Rev. S. A. Boyd, vicar, there is this comment:—

"Ancient Dedication of the Church.—The church is known to have been originally dedicated to All Hallows, or All Saints. In Ecton's 'Thesaurus,' 1740, it is spoken of as All Saints. In Bacon's 'Liber Regis,' 1786, it is alluded to as St. Michael's. It is reasonable to suppose, therefore, that the dedication was altered at the time of the reconstruction of the church in the Classical style in 1739-40."

GEORGE GLEAVE.

Old Trafford.

MAY 14, 1902.

NOTES.

[633] ST. OSWALD'S PARISH BOUNDARIES IN 1620.
V.*(Continued from No. 628.)*

The perambulation to the Bondaries of our parish within the liberties of the Citie was performed on Wednesday the xxiiiijth of May 1620 as followeth:

Imprimis from the Church through the litle lane by the vicars house, and soe into the Northgate Streete, then on the East side of the said Streete toward the Crosse, unto the dwellinge house of Jane Rogers widow from thence ouercrosse the said Streete unto the dwellinge house of Mr. Peter Drinckwater, And from thence wee went after the west syde of the aforesaid streete, and turned downe the parsons lane, on the south syde thereof, And almost at the end of the said parsons lane there is another lane that leadeth thence into the Watergate Streete which is called Gerrard's lane, in the wh: on the East side thereof there is one Tenement in our parish now in the Tenure of Widow Thomas, Then goinge downe the said parsons lane to the dwellinge house of William Cowdocks (wh: is the furthest house in our parish on the south side of the said lane) wee turned ouercrosse the said lane to the dwellinge house of John Stanney, wh: is the furthest house in our parish, the north side of the said lane, and from thence wee came to the said Parsons lane, and turned towards the Northgate, and wente downe the south side of the Barne lane unto the end of a south wall latelie erected by Sr. George Booth, and then over agayne the said lane unto the side of the Ladie Barrows Hey, right over against a marke in the Citie wall wh: devideth our parish from Trinitie parish. From thence wee came upp the North side of the said Barne lane, and went through the Northgate, and into the Hospitall of St. John, and from thence through gorstacke lane, and after the west side of Cowlane, and then wee turned through the Eastgate, and went upp the south side thereof unto the dwellinge house of Mistris Hallwood, and from thence ouercrosse the streete to the dwellinge house of Mr. Doctor Yale, thence turninge agayne wee went through St. Warburge lane, and soe to the Church agayne.

Note that these Tenements in the Eastgate Streete are not in our parish.

On the south side thereof

- one in the Tenure of Samuell Bennett
- another in the Tenure of Raph Blease
- another in the Tenure of George Allen
- another in the Tenure of John Ball

On the north side

- one in the Tenure of Mr. Richard Wall
- another in the Tenure of Edw: Pemberton.

E. C. L.

[634] THE COTGRAVE FAMILY.—II.

(Continued from No. 620.)

Having thus briefly noted the earlier and more uncertain part of the Cotgrave pedigree we can now proceed with the later descents, keeping to the line (Cotgrave of Hargrave) which handed in a pedigree at the Visitation of 1580, but noticing also other members of the family as they occur.

i. At the head stands Randle de Cotgrave. He was, as already stated, born in 1344, the son of William de Cotgrave, and had a sister Matilda who married Robert Egerton; his hereditary possessions were small pieces of land in Foulwyche and Hampton (O. ii. 664, 642, 691), a saltpit in the former place being let during his minority to John Rathbone and Kenrick de Cholmundelegh in January 1361-2. In 1385 Randle de Cotgrave was bailiff of the Hundred of Broxton, and in the next year he is mentioned in a case concerning the tithes of Chowley and Aldersey; in 1396-7 he occurs in regard to the bailiwick of the Hundred of Northwich; in 1399 he was one of the gentlemen of Broxton Hundred appointed to examine complaints about harbouring lawless men therein; and in 1402 he was one of the collectors of a subsidy from the same Hundred (O. ii., 489; Morris's "Chester under the Plantagenets," p. 28; Dep. Keeper's 36th Report). In 1384-5 he had been one of the sureties of Henry le Bruen and Bertram de Elton, the newly-appointed bailiffs of Eddisbury Hundred (O. i. 729); perhaps another indication of the connection between the Bruen and Cotgrave families which has previously been recorded. In 10 Henry IV. (1408-9) Randle de Cotgrave, aged 60 (i.e., 60 at least) was a witness in the proof of age of William de Beeton or Beeston (O. ii. 270). This seems to be the latest mention of him.

He married a daughter and heir of Edmund de Coton (Cotton Edmunds) and thus himself became "Cotgrave of Coton," and his descendants quartered the arms of Cotton and Ridware. Here a new difficulty is encountered. The traditional pedigree of the Cottons of Coton is pronounced by Mr. Helsby (who enlarged and corrected it) to be at this point "one of the most erroneous in the series" (O. ii. 785, 786), and probably something further will be necessary to make it accurate and complete. The old pedigree gave: "William Cotton—s. Edmund, m. Joan, dr. and hr. of Walter Ridware of Hampstall Ridware, Staffs.—s. John, of Hampstall Ridware," &c.; the amended one reads: "William Cotton—s. Edmund, m. Catherine—s. William, m. Agnes, dr. and hr. of Walter Ridware—s. John, of Hampstall Ridware," &c., as before, a new descent being inserted between Edmund and John Cotton. If, however, the Cotgrave quarterings can be justified there must have been another Edmund Cotton, contemporary with the one in the Cotton pedigree, who married a daughter and heir of one of the Ridwares, and who had no son. The apparent error in the old Cotton

pedigree may have arisen through confusing these contemporary Edmunds. The Cotgraves do not appear to have been lords of the manor of Cotton at any time, so that their property there was probably only the share of a younger son of the local family.

The eldest son of Randle was William, and the youngest Robert. Possibly the Thomas Cotgrave of Christleton, whose daughter Margaret married Edward Weld of Eaton by Tarporley (O. ii. 241) was another son. At all events there appears to have been a Cotgrave family at Christleton, apart from the line (afterwards "of Hargrave") in the 1580 Visitation; for a succession of Robert Cotgraves are named in various inquisitions who can best be accounted for by this supposition.

The Cotgreaves of Netherleigh claimed descent from Randle's youngest son. The succession is thus given in Burke's "Commoners" (ed. 1837, i. 531): Robert (b. 1384)—s. Hugh (b. 1418, d. 1472)—s. Thomas, of Chester—s. William (b. 1483, d. 1545)—s. William (sheriff 1580, mayor 1589, d. 1592)—s. Robert (b. 1561)—s. Ralph (b. 1600, d. 1693)—s. John, brewer (b. 1640, sheriff 1720, d. 1724)—s. John, brewer, bought Netherleigh (mayor 1735, d. 1759), and dr. Margaret (m. Wm. Johnson). John had three children, Thomas (mayor 1758, d. 1791), John (b. 1722, d. 1794), and Mary (m. John Hignett of Rowton), who died childless, Netherleigh and the other family property coming to John Johnson, grandson of the above-named Margaret. He assumed the surname of Cotgreave, was mayor in 1815 and knighted the following year. This pedigree is set out with full details of marriages, &c.; but, in spite of this appearance of minute accuracy, it is very unsatisfactory. For instance it will be seen that William Cotgrave, mayor in 1589, was only *fifth* in descent from Randle; but the following notes will show that his contemporary, Randle Cotgrave the Bishop's registrar, was *eighth* in descent from their common ancestor; some generations, therefore, must have been omitted. The William who died in 1545 (father of the mayor) had a brother Ralph, ancestor of the Cotgraves of Guilden Sutton. The following references to Ormerod may be added: i. 213, ii. 577, i. 338, 357, 373, 216.

ii. William, eldest son of Randle de Cotgrave, seems to have been born about 1371, that is, if it is safe to identify him with the person who gave evidence at inquisitions in 8 and 10 Hy. VI, and whose age is recorded as 50 and 60 (meaning, as above, 50 and 60 at least) at those dates. At the "proof of age" of Richard Done of Crowton taken at Christleton in May, 1430, William Cotgrave (50) and others said they remembered the year of Richard's birth (1409) because on St. Michael's Day following they attended the coroner's inquest into the accidental slaying of Thomas Littler at Crowton; and at a similar inquiry as to the age of Alice daughter of William de Mulneton (Milton) of Grafton, held at Waverton in November, 1431,

William Cotgrave (60) and others testified that they were at the funeral of one Richard Bird at Tilston Church on the Tuesday after Alice's birth in May, 1415 (O. ii. 134, 704). William Cotgrave was collector of a subsidy in Broxton in 1418. He married Jane, daughter of Robert Walker, of Cheshire (one of this name occurs in 1360, O. ii. 238), and was succeeded by a son and heir.

iii. Ralph, or Randle—Ralph representing either Ranulphus or Radulphus. A contemporary Cotgrave of this name occurs in 29 Henry VI, but if he is the same person there must be some mistake in the age (45) given, or else the pedigree has a generation too much. It will be found that between the birth of the first Randle de Cotgrave in 1344 and of Randle the registrar (about 1520) eight descents have to be interpolated, an average of about 22 years to each; hence the birth of this Ralph or Randle Cotgrave must be fixed about 1396, and he would have been 55 or thereabouts in November, 1450, when Robert Cotgrave (52) and Randle Cotgrave (45) testified to the age of John Starkey of Wrenbury (O. iii. 394). This Robert Cotgrave may be the Robert mentioned (aged 51) in the proof of age of Thomas Gerard in August, 1452 (O. ii. 96), though the ages do not quite agree. The name of Ralph Cotgrave's wife is not given. His son was

iv. Richard, who married Alice, daughter and heir of Richard Rosengrave of Cheshire; the date and father's name and arms quartered seem to prove that Alice was a sister of the Agnes Rosengrave who married (1) James Moulson and (2) Thomas Bird ("Sheaf," No. 577; O. ii. 806). The arms quartered are (1) Rosengrave, (2) Orreby—not Lestrangle directly as stated in No. 591 (see O. ii. 803n), and (3) Hargrave. Possibly it was from this marriage that the later Cotgraves inherited the property which entitled them to be styled "of Hargrave" in Foulk Stapleford. Richard Cotgrave of Littleton, Richard Rosengrave of Church Christleton, and Robert Cotgrave of Rowton are mentioned in the Inq. p. m. of Ellen Macclesfield, 12 Edward IV (1472-3) (O. iii. 748). The printed Visitation omits these two generations, Ralph and Richard (iii. and iv.). The MS. pedigree gives to Richard two sons—Randle and Hugh. The elder married Cecily, daughter of Harry Wolston, by whom he had three daughters—Katherine, who married John Dodd of Smithfield in Broxton; Emma, who married William Tattenhall; and Elizabeth, who died young. Katherine's grandson, Peter Dodd, is said to have been living in 1580; Emma's grand-daughter Eleanor married Sir Hugh Calveley of Lea, and their eldest son George was born in 1533. These details give some slight basis for supplying possible dates in the pedigree; it will be seen that "about 1400" will serve for the birth of this Randle Cotgrave's heiresses; then 1438 will approximately represent the father's birth year and 1416 his father Ralph's, bringing us to the year 1396 already indicated as probable for the second Randle

Cotgrave. Of course if there is a generation too much in the traditional pedigree these dates will have to be altered. Some account of the Tattenhalls and the Cotgrave marriage will be found in Ormerod (ii. 712-3, 769).

(To be continued.)

REPLIES.

[635] THE SAUGHALL ROAD.

(See No. 625.)

In reply to Mr. W. H. Bennett's inquiry respecting this historically interesting road I will state first that it begins on the boundary of the city of Chester north-westerly, namely, from Stone-bridge, the "stanen-brigge" of the Charter of the boundary of the city of Chester *temp.* Edward the Black Prince, then runs under an old embankment of the ancient Dee after passing from Alderman Williams' residence, and on to between the entrances of Blaconhall and Blacon-point farms; thence over the bridge of the Manchester and Lincoln railway and on to the houses of Messrs. Lunt and Curley. Here the present road turns off at a right angle, bringing you suddenly to face the Welsh hills, especially Hope mountain. This length of road led to a huge stone on the road side, called the Blue Stone, which is now, however, scarcely observable. After passing this stone (at right angles, again), leaving the Welsh hills on our left, we come to Little Saughall and then proceed northerly to Great Saughall and enter about the middle of the village, at the point where is marked "Inn" on the Ordnance Survey map (I am referring to sheet 108, small maps). This road in old times led to Shotwick Castle and no farther; beyond that point there is no trace of a road, or of there ever having been one.

Now, if instead of turning sharply to the left after passing the houses of Messrs. Lunt and Curley, we go straight on, we enter a green lane, about 15 yards wide, having a sombre and solitary appearance, with scrub (thorns and brambles) on each side; on one or two parts of this lane there is a space of only about five yards clear for traffic, but notwithstanding this, there is no doubt two kings have traversed it namely, Edward I. and James II. This lane is known as "King's Wood Lane"; it traverses the highest ground, the slope on the left showing the two Saughalls, and, beyond, old Deva's bed (now Sealand) with the Welsh hills in the background. You might easily imagine this to be the road of the early Saxons coming from Sotowiche (Shotwick) having passed through Sal-hale Saughall and proceeding to Legeceastre (Chester). Following this lane we come into Fidler's Lane. As this was formerly very wide, it might have been used as common pasture land, or have led to it, namely, to where used to be Saughall Green. King's Wood Lane and Fidler's Lane become one road just beyond Mr. Fawcett's (the famous greyhound owner), passing on to where, until lately,

was a smithy, but now the weighing machine. The Saughall road there passes up a road past Parkgate House and Shotwick Lodge farms, until it enters the Woodbank lane, but as a deep ravine intervenes between this road and Shotwick the present road runs zigzag into Shotwick (see Ordnance map). This ravine is where King Edward I. I suppose passed over what was called at that time Shotwick Ford (see the letters of E. J. H., our ex-schoolmaster, and mine to the editor of the "Chester Courant," May, 1889). Whether the ancient Sotowichians passed the ravine on their way to Ceastre, or took the present road, I am unable to say.

W. H. BRADFORD.

[636]

FRITH.

(See No. 597.)

I always understood this word to mean either a woody land, an estuary, or, a croft or small field carved out of a common. The Frith of Little Budworth one would think would scarcely mean an estuary—though I forget the exact character of its Mere (as I first saw it over half a century since, in Sir P. de M. Grey-Egerton's day). Frith might be a woodland—part of the old Forest of Mara and Mondrem, for some centuries called "Delamere." The same may be said of Wrenbury, perhaps.

T. H.

In A. N. Palmer's "History of Wrexham" it is said that "ffrith" is locally used for a piece of mountain land or upland common that is enclosed or brought under cultivation in accordance with customary regulations; it is also applied to the "havotries" or summer pastures on the mountains ("Land Tenures," pp. 43, 44). Can the land near Little Budworth or Wrenbury be called "mountain" or "upland"? There would be no difficulty in understanding the word thus in the case of Chapel-en-le-Frith or Saddleworth-in-the-Frith.

"Frith" was also used in the "frith mote" of the Forest of Delamere. Here it may mean "peace," as in the case of the "frith stool" of Hexham, the fugitives' sanctuary.

A. B. C.

MAY 21, 1902.

NOTES.

[637] THE RENT ROLL OF LORD DERBY'S WIRRAL PROPERTY, 1521-2.

(Continued from No. 637.)

The interest in this instalment centres in the reference to the "Derehouse" in Bidston Deer Park, which would afford a shelter and feeding place for the deer during the winter, and the reference to the maintenance of the Hall, shewing that a building, roofed with tiles, preceded the present Elizabethan structure, no doubt standing on the same site.

WM. FERGUSSON IRVINE.

Birkenhead.

RENTAL—Continued.

DECAYED RENTS. One forge in Salgham Massey late in tenure of Hugh Penketh—fallen down	12d.
One dovecot in Moreton, charged for above, therefore deficit	6s. 8d.
Two pieces of pasture called Le Hoke, and the Le Valance, now included under Park of Biddeston	11s. 8d.
One tenement in Neston, by default of collector	4s. 0d.
Deficit, 11s. 8d.	

FEES AND ANNUITIES. A certain annual rent granted by Thomas late Earl of Derby to James Stanley gentleman his brother by charter for the life of the said James, for £40 issuing from the Manor of Bidston, and further the said Thomas granted the said James £50 out of the demesne of Bidston by his last will and testament.

Fee of Robert Liegh, bailiff and park-keeper at Bidston 60s. 8d. per annum, granted for the term of his life by Thomas late Earl under date Aug. 2nd, 19 Hen. VII.

Paid Thurstan Tildeley Esq., by the hand of Hugh Mathew chaplain Sept. 12, 13 Henry VIII. £70 6s. 8d.

[Later hand] Paid Thurstan Tildeley by the same Hugh after this account £48s. 11½d.

Summa £74 15s. 7½d.

Sum allowed and paid £78 7s. 11½d.

Debited 50s. 7d.

From which is allowed him 12d. for as many pence paid to 12 tenants of Bidston, Moreton and Salgham, for food for the same there being and sworn, for the valuing of the turf coming from the turbarry of the lord in Biddeston. above, sold this year, as has been done of ancient usage. Debit..... 49s. 7d.

[Further deductions.]

For the building of "Le Derehouse" in the Park at Bidston this year, including 8s. paid for 4 cartloads of hay brought for the use of the same house (besides the carriage of each, 2d.); 2s. 6d. paid to a builder working upon the said "Derehouse" for 6 days at 5d. a day and the builder's man at 4d. a day. Also 20d. paid to a tiler for "le poyntyng" and repair of the tiles of the hall and chambers of Biddeston Manor house this year, 4 days at 5d. a day. Also 5s. for the rent of a certain pasture called "Woltonwodde" claimed by the Prior of Birkhed, and occupied by him for many years past and granted to him by the late Earl of Derby 30s. 5d.

NOTE.—Allocated by John Dawson, Kt., general supervisor of the King.

[638] FREE GRAMMAR SCHOOL OF FRODSHAM.

Among the many yeomen's bequests to the poor of Frodsham, and to the Feoffees of this, one of the earliest schools in the country (*temp.* dissolution of Norton Abbey by Henry VIII.) were the following, from excerpts from the Will of "Mr. Robert Wriggan," who was Master of the School in 1662.

"I give and bequeath the Summe of Tenn pounds of Lawfull money of England to be laid out and disposed of for the use of the poor of the parish of Frodsham in the County of Westchester, where I was born, by the Minister, Churchwardens and Overseers of the same parish successively as they in their discretions shall think fit and the Interest and product thereof my will is shall be payd and disposed of to and amongst the poor people of the said Parish of Frodsham on St. Thomas Day or Good Friday yearly for ever by the Minister and Church Wardens of the said parish for the time being. Also I give and bequeath the summe of Tenn pounds of like good money to the Free School of the said parish of Frodsham to be laid out and disposed of by the Feoffees of the said School with the approbation of the School Mr. of the same School for the time being and my Brother in Law Thomas Webster And my Will is that the Interest and product thereof shall be payd yearly for ever to the Mr. of the said School for the time being."

The School Masters were often clergymen, and sometimes the curates of the Parish. The School was founded as, and always accounted a "Free Grammar School," not what it has lately been called an "Endowed School," though it had its endowments, like many others, originally from the produce of the sales of the monastic estates, and, afterwards, from such devises and bequests as testators like Mr. Wriggan were generous enough to make. The school was held in the Church, vestry (?) up to the end of Elizabeth's reign, and perhaps a little later, when the Churchyard Schoolhouse was erected, or rebuilt?

In an old book possessed by the writer, one of the scholars (J. H.) pencilled a rhyme, in or about 1670-5, that his name and nation were so and so, and it was his book, finishing up with

"Pray do not take me for a Fool,
For I do go to Frodsham School!"

Here is clear testimony of the distinguished position once, alas! it occupied in, at least, the estimation of its pupils.

X.

[639] BRITLAND AND HELSBY LETTER. I.

The letter following this introduction, and curiously directed:—"These—for Richard Helsby—Esqr. att—Helsby—in—Cheshire—frodsham Bagg"—and sealed with a chevron between 3 trefoils slipped, the crest being a bird with a trefoil in its beak, bears an early postmark with the date (May 21) within a very small one-line circle, lettered ^{MA.} 21. It was written by Mr. Britland, Serjeant-at-law, who must therefore (particularly at

that period) have been a very eminent counsel. He had, also, an estate in a rather wild part of the Macclesfield Hundred, and practised in the reigns of Charles II. and William and Mary. (See Earwaker's "East Cheshire.") But, "Richard Helsby, esqr.," at this date, is almost as difficult to affiliate as "a child of nature"; at all events, as difficult as is "The Reverend James Ellesby, the worthy Rector of Chiswick," as the old Queen Anne History of Middlesex describes him. He also was Mr. Serjeant Britland's contemporary, and rector for about 37 years, when he resigned (for a better post, as the author of a History of Chiswick said) in Queen Anne's reign. He does not appear to have graduated at either Oxford or Cambridge. Now, the patron of Chiswick was Lord Bellasyse, Earl Fauconberg, whose family by marriage, had acquired the estates of the Suttons of Sutton near Macclesfield—one of these, Sir Richard Sutton having been a great benefactor, if not a part founder, of Brasenose Coll., Oxon., of which Bishop Smith, of Cuerdley, on the Lancashire side of the Mersey is generally called the Founder; and of which a rich priest of Weaverham, adjoining old Frodsham parish, was also a considerable Benefactor, as were Sir John Port, Knt., and others of or in Cheshire in or about the reigns of the two Henry Tudors and Elizabeth. Nevertheless, a strong suspicion arises that Rector Ellesby (who or whose ancestors had evidently "dropped their H's"), descended from the sham merchant of the reign of Henry VII., viz. William Hellesby of Hellesby, armiger, who took up his residence in London, and who lived, but did not 'flourish,' in the days of the Wars of the Roses

However, as to 'Richard Helsby, Esq.,' the only person of those names, at that period, in the pedigree, who would answer his description, was a younger son, born in 1620, and in 1644 'volunteered,' as a scape-goat, 'for all the Township of Helsby' (as a gentleman well might), to serve in the wars, on the side of the Parliament. So that if he is identical, as is very probable, with Mr. Serjeant Britland's friend, he would be upwards of 80 when the latter's, perhaps excess of, courtesy, for those times, might have arisen either from friendship, or sympathy with some distinguished act, during the great Civil War, on the side to which Britland's family leaned. But, this courtesy title, to a younger son, too, may be compared with that given to an elder son, 'John Helsby, esq.' by his attorney-at-law in a letter in Jas. II. reign, and also in his burial entry in 1731 or 1728. The first signature, however, of the first Richard of 1620, is a very fine one on the title of a shockingly dog-eared Greek Grammar of James I's. time.

Mr. Serjeant Britland's letter runs as follows:—

S'r.—I had with mee this day Mrs. Worthington who brought mee y'r letter in answer to myne that you are not willing to give any more than what you have offer'd in y'r former letter in

satisfacc'on of Mrs. Worthingtons clayme in her owne & the right of othrs the Legatees of her fathers will of 20li a peece to his 3 daughters & a son which is devised to bee p'd by Sale of the house in ffordsham which you purchased with notice of the Trust & for cause you kept 10li. in y'r hand & have soe kept it for sevrall y'rs which you have kept in y'r hands & this you purchased after a suite com'enced & if I mistak not the cause was heard & a decree made before y'r purchase however y'r haveing notice makes you lyeable & to stand in the place of John Aldcroft who is the obstacle & hindrance in the affaire & who cares not whether you or his Aunt or relations to whom the money is due starve or not haveing noe regard to the honesty & Justice of the Case but his present maintenance & advantage for certainly if hee had should have agreed [to] this matter long since and not lett the moneys lye dead in y'r hands without answering interest which you are pleased to mencon [mention] in y'r letter hath benee all the tyme since y'r purchase but I doubt that will not bee an excuse to you for non paym't it being manifest that Jo. Aldcroft had nothing to doe with the 80li. & interest for the severall Legacies did comence from the Bill being exhibitted which I beleeeve is neer 20 y'rs agoe & you cannott pr'tend to bee deceived for that you had notice fully and soe stand in John Aldcrofts place which you may doe well to consider of & p'happes you may find true what I here affect to y'r damage however if you think fitt too bee p'swaded I have with great difficulty by the advice of others prevaield with Mr. Worthington to accept of 80li. & by this agreem't which I hope you have not reason or cause to refuse there wilbe something coming to Jo. Aldcroft after the 80li. p'd but this is not to bee obligeing without acceptance & if I did not deal with an old freind and one I think may rely on will not make any use of this to the prejudice of ['my Cly'(ent) scored out] Mr (sic) Worthington I would not give you this trouble from

21st May 1702.

y'rs N. BRITLAND.

y'r Answer is desired.

(To be continued.)

X.

[640]

CROUGHTON RATES, 1683.

Amongst the St. Oswald's Parish papers there is the following Order of Distress for Poor Rates in Croughton, dated 1683. It will be noticed that the order is signed by Sir Peter Pyndar, who formed the subject of some discussion in the first volume of the "Cheshire Sheaf."

E. C. L.

To the Church Wardens and the ou'seers of ye poore of the parish of St. Oswalds and to eu'y of them and to the Constables of Croughton.

(L.S.) Forasmuch as the persons undernamed have refused to pay you the seu'all summes of
(L.S.) money menconed in the Assessment annexed and Adjoyneing to their seu'all and respective

names being charged upon them seu'ally for and towards the releife of the poore of the sd. parish These are in his Ma'tyes name to command you to Leavy the sd. summes by distresse and sale of the seu'all and respective goods of the sd. seu'all and respective offend'rs Rendring the parties the Ou'plus If any be and in defect of such distresse you are to Certifye to them they may be further proceeded ag't as to Justice shall apperteine Given under our Hands and Seales at Glou'stone the 5th Day of May Anno Dai 1683

Pe: Pyndar

Ken. Eyton

Thomas Moorton	00 : 03 : 05
Richd Davies	00 : 03 : 04
Aloe Daniele Wido.	00 : 04 : 04
Cha: Swinlow	00 : 01 : 06
John Bostock	00 : 00 : 04
John Smith.....	00 : 02 : 01
Ye Deane and Chapter for } ffee-farme Rent and Tyeths }	00 : 03 : 08

QUERY.

[641] BOUNDARIES OF ST. OSWALD'S, CHESTER.

(See No. 609)

In the perambulation of the bounds of this Parish in 1620 the perambulators are stated as having, after passing over the Port Pool Bridge, &c., followed "the watercourse at the ends of certaine of the" Port Pool meadows to "the further stone bridge in Mollington Lane."

If this means that the present brook called Finchett's Gutter was followed it would leave out a large piece of land now included in St. Oswald's Parish. This land extends from the present Stone Bridge on the Saughall Road, along that road to the end of the plantation which borders it for some distance, thence to a point on the Parkgate Road between the entrance to the lane leading to Blacon Hall and the road bridge over the Canal, then along the Parkgate Road to the bridge on Finchett's Gutter, and so back, following that watercourse, to the starting point at Stone Bridge, Saughall Road.

Is it not probable that the watercourse mentioned in the perambulation is not the present Finchett's Gutter but the one which once ran from the direction of Backford, along the course of the Canal, and so past the above mentioned western boundary of St. Oswald's Parish into the Port Pool?

I shall be much obliged if any readers of the "Sheaf" can throw any light on this.

I should also be glad to receive information respecting Port Pool Bridge, beyond what is contained in Canon Morris' "History of Chester in Plantagenet and Tudor times."

Chester.

W. H. BENNETT.

MAY 23, 1902.

NOTES.

[642]

JOHN BRUEN. V.

(Continued from No. 622.)

He entertained many Boarders.—At the year's end he brought home his beloved wife to Stapleford, where they lived in great peace and love; and being well settled there were many of the greatest gentlemen in the country that sued to him, some for themselves, some for their children, to be entertained in his family, and all to this end—that being partakers of so good means of grace under his religious government and holy example, the ignorant might be instructed, the unruly reclaimed, the superstitious reformed, the profane converted or restrained, the babes in Christ might be nursed and grow up by the sincere milk of the Word, and that such as were of riper years might be fed with a stronger meat; by which means his house became a nursery for religion, a vineyard which the Lord blessed to bear trees of righteousness and fruits of holiness.

Amongst these the first that dealt with him in this kind was that accomplished gentleman Thomas Wilbraham of Woodhey, esquire, who having married his eldest daughter to the heir of the house at Utkinton, of great place for his birth and blood, and of good parts and civil disposition (yet addicted to the pleasures and lusts of youth), was very desirous to place them as sojourners for a season in Mr. Bruen's house under his government, that thereby they might be the better weaned from such occasions of evil as haply elsewhere they might be exposed unto. This godly motion was by Mr. Bruen willingly entertained, partly to satisfy the worthy gentleman's desire (whom he much esteemed) and partly that he might have opportunity to do good to the young couple, being near akin to him and now committed to his trust; and accordingly he entertained them and their attendance into his family.

His Prudence.—Now his manner was, when any came first into his family, to try their dispositions and inclinations and how tractable they were like to be to good duties and practices. For which end he carefully observed their ways, saw much and said little, bore and forebore as occasion required, taking special notice of any good they said or did and passing over many lesser faults till he had fitter opportunity to reclaim them.

Amongst others this young gentleman Mr. Done could not well away with the strict observation of the Sabbath. "Whereupon," saith he, "we did all conspire to do him good, ten of my family speaking one after another and myself last, for the sanctifying of the Lord's Day; after which he did very cheerfully yield himself, blessed be God."

He reforms his House.—“At another time,” saith he, “coming into his chamber I found over the mantel a pair of new cards, and nobody being by I took out the four knaves and so laid them there again. But for want of such knaves his game was marred and he never played in my house after. And in like manner,” saith he, “twenty years before, being in one of my studies and seeing a pair of tables under my feet, I took them with the men, dice, and all the cards I found and put them into an oven that was then in heating;” and thereby he rid them out of his house. And to justify his detestation of these games he set down in writing these collections “Against Cards and Dice.” [Among Mr. Bruen’s reasons are] 7. There is no recreation of body or mind in these games, unless it be in desire and hope of gain by another man’s loss, which is unlawful. 8. Cards seem less evil than tables, but there is never a barrel better herring, there is so much craft in packing, &c. 10. The coat cards were in times past the images of their idols. 11. We should abstain from such games (1) because they never were nor are of any good report in the Church; (2) there is a great appearance of evil in them; (3) the command of the magistrate forbids them by the name of “unlawful games”; (4) they tend not to God’s glory; (5) they are causes of much hurt to our neighbours and occasion of many sins and sorrows to the gamesters and their families, &c. *Alea, vina, Venus; tribus his sum factus egenus.*

He sets up Bibles in his House.—And therefore for the preventing of these mischiefs and to exercise the heads and hearts of his family and of such as came occasionally to his house, he bought two goodly fair Bibles and set them upon two desks, one in his hall, the other in his parlour, which practice of his was so much the more commendable because it was answerable to the Canons and Constitutions of our one Church of England, made and printed 1571, by which there is a serious and heavy charge laid upon all archbishops, bishops, deans, cathedral churches, &c., that they provided themselves Bibles of the fairest and largest volume and of the Book of Acts and Monuments [“Foxe’s Martyrs”] and place them in their halls and dining-rooms . . . “that they might be for the use of their own servants and of such strangers as came unto them.”

Mr. Bruen having thus reformed and ordered his own family, he began to take notice of some defect in the public ministry, whereupon he procured a faithful minister of Christ (Mr. Ar. St.) to be preacher at Tarvin, whose ministry being very powerful and profitable he so much delighted in him that he maintained him and his family very bountifully and entertained him kindly. Concerning which hear his own testimony: “I may well say,” saith he, “of that worthy servant of God Mr. John Bruen, as it was said of Noah, that he was a just and a perfect man in his time and walked with God. Whilst I was preacher at Tarvin, I had little maintenance but what I had from him, and with much

cheerfulness did he minister both to me and mine that which was sufficient, affirming oftentimes that he had not the less for that which I and mine received from him. He was ever one and the same at home and abroad, very faithful unto God and loving unto men, walking in the uprightness of his heart in the midst of his house.”

Mr. Perkins his Testimony of him.—About this time the fame of Mr. Bruen came to Mr. Perkins [of Cambridge], who hearing of his excellent parts and pains in the profession of religion and exercises in his family and of his government of his house and the religion of his servants, being ravished with heavenly joy and stricken with an holy admiration at the hearing of it he brake out into these speeches: “Certainly this is no other than the house of God, and for the practice and power of religion the very topsail of England.”

NOTE.—The marriage of (Sir) John Done and Dorothy Wilbraham took place about 1598. Who was “Mr. Ar. St.,” the second of Bruen’s preachers at Tarvin? Can anyone give the origin and correct forms of the proverbs (Latin and English) above quoted?

(To be continued.)

[643] KATHERINE BULKELEY, LAST ABBESS OF GODSTOW.

Although this lady was abbess of Godstow, the Oxfordshire nunnery well known as the place of Fair Rosamond’s penance, surrendering through a notary (perhaps, not a law, but a Church notary) 17 Nov., 31 Hen. VIII., yet I think it probable she was descended from an ancient Cheshire family and for this reason I introduce her letter through the “Sheaf.” The family I allude to, is that of Robert Bulclogh, Lord of Bulclogh, co. Chester, in King John’s time, from which were descended the Bulkeleys of Eaton, Cheshire; the Bulkeleys of Standlow, Stafford; the Bulkeleys, Lords of Beaumaris; and most probably the Bulkeleys of Ireland, and Wiltshire. Her letter (printed in Mr. Wright’s volume of Letters edited for the Camden Society, as also by Burnet) runs thus:—

Pleasith hit your Honour, with my moste humble Dowtie, to be advertised, that where it hath pleasid your Lordship to be the verie Meane to the King’s Majestie, for my Preferment, most unworthie to be the Abbes of this the King’s Monasterie of Godystowe; in the which Office, I truste I have done the best in my Power to the Maytenance of God’s trewe Honour, with all Treuth and Obedience to the King’s Majestie; and was never moved nor desired by any Creature in the King’s Behalf, or in your Lordships Name to surrender and give upe the House; nor was never mynded nor intended so to do, otherwise than at the King’s Gracious commandement, or yours. To the which I do, and have ever done, and will submit my self most humble and obedientlie. And I truste to God, that I have never offendyd God’s Laws,

neither the King's wherebie that this poore Monasterie ought to be suppressed. And this notwithstanding, my good Lorde, so it is, that Doctor London, whiche (as your Lordship doth well know) was agaynst my Promotion, and hath ever sence borne me great Malys and Grudge, like my mortall Enemye, is sodenlie cummyd unto me, with a greate Rowte with him; and here dothe threaten me and my Sisters, sayeng, that he hath the King's Commission to suppress the House, spyte of my Tethe. And when he sawe that I was content that he shulde do all Things according to his Commission; and shewyd him playne, that I wolde never surrender to his Hande, being my Awncyent Enemye; now he begins to entreat me, and to inveigle my Sisters, one by one, otherwise than I ever harde tell that any of the Kyng's Subjects hathe been handelyd; and here tarieth and contynueth, to my great Coste and Charges; and will not take my Answers, that I will not surrender, till I know the King's Gracious Commandement, or your good Lordship's. Therefore I do most humble beseeche you, to contynewe my good Lorde, as you ever have bene; and to directe your Honorable Letters to remove him hens. And whensoever the King's Gracious Commandement, or yours, shall come unto me, Yeu shall find me most reddie and obedyant to folloe the same. And notwithstanding that Doctor London, like an untrew Man, hath informed your Lordship, that I am a Spoiler and a Waster, your good Lordship shall knowe that the contrary is trewe. For I have not alienatyd one halporth of goods of his Monasterie, movable or unmovable, but have rather increasyd the same. Nor never made Lease of any Farme, or on Peece of Grownde belongyng to this House; or there hath bene in Tymes paste allwaies set under Covent Seal for the wealthe of the House. And therefore my verie Trust is, that I shall fynd the Kynge as Gracious Lorde unto me, as he is to all other his Subjects. Seyng I have not offendyd. And am and will be mooste Obedyent to his most Gracious Commandment at all Tymes. With the Grace of Almighty Jesus, who ever preserve you in Honour longe to indure to his Pleasure. Amen. Godistou the vth Daie of November.

Your most bownden Beds Woman

KATHERINE BULKELEY. Abbes there.

This lady was very greatly respected by Lord Cromwell, but she had to surrender, as she did, on the 17th of the same month, as already stated. Some further details will be found in Dom Gasquet's book on the "Suppression of the Monasteries" (i. 464 and ii. 231-3).

Beds Woman or Beadswoman—like Beads man—was commonly used in concluding letters about that period, implying of course that the writer would pay for the person addressed.

W. H. BRADFORD.

[644] A CHEMIST'S BILL 150 YEARS AGO.

Among some old St. Oswald's papers, I have found an account of John Crewes against the Overseers of the poor of St. Oswald's, from 1750 to 1752. It is too long to copy in full, but the items (omitting repetitions), will probably interest many readers of the "Sheaf."

E. C. L.

	s.	d.		s.	d.
the Ointment	0	8	twelve Powders ...	1	4
two Bladders.....	0	3	a Syrup	0	8
a Tincture	0	9	Poppy Heads	0	3
a Pectoral Mixture 1	4		Liquorice Root	0	1
Flower of Sulphur 0	2		Extraction of a		
a Purging Draught 0	8		tooth	0	6
an Electary	1	8	an Elixir	0	6
a Julep	1	3	a Vomit and		
a Bolus	0	4	Carduus	1	0
Oil of Turpentine..	0	6	Basilicon	0	2
an Eye Water	0	10	an Infusion	1	4
a dose of Glauber			a Cerate	0	3
Salts	0	4	two Ear Blisters		
a large Blister and			and Mellilot	0	3
Mellilot	0	6	Liquorice Juice	0	2
a Haustus	0	8	Senna	0	3
a Plaster of the			Hiera Picra	0	3
Shoulder	1	0	Irish State(?)	0	1
a Liniment	0	8	Rupture Plaster	0	3
an Emulsion	1	0	Adhesive Plaster 0		
an astring Plaster 0			Syrup of Poppies	0	4
a paper of Ingred's.	0	6	a cord'l Julep	1	7
a Balsam	0	6	Pennyroyal Leaves 0		
Diapalma	0	3	Phlebotomy	1	0
three doses of pills 1			Pearl Barley	0	1
Bloodletting	1	0	a Gargle	1	0
a Collyrium	0	8	Peppermint Water 0		
Hoggs Lard	0	3	an Issue cut	1	0
a Bottle of Drops ..	1	0			

[645] CHESHIRE DOMESDAY NOTES. I.

Those who confine their study of the Domesday record to this county usually avail themselves of the facsimile reproduction, or of Mr. Beamont's "Extension and Translation"; but those who take a wider range use the printed edition which follows the original MS. line for line and page for page. This last is numbered in folios, but the facsimile, followed by Beamont, in pages (i. to xiv.), and it may therefore be useful, in beginning a collection of short notes on this part of the Conqueror's great survey of his realm, to give the connection between the facsimile and the folios of the original:—

Page.	Folio.	Page.	Folio.	Page.	Folio.
1	262b	6	265	11	267b
2	263	7	265b	12	268
3	263b	8	266	13	268b
4	264	9	266b	14	269
5	264b	10	267		

In references to the pages the columns are often denoted by a and b; thus "Nesse (6b)" means that the account of Nesse will be found in the second column of the sixth page in the facsimile, or of folio 265 in the original.

It is hoped that those interested in the local record will find the "Sheaf" a useful means of communicating notes and criticisms, so that a clearer knowledge of its meaning may be attained.

(To be continued.)

JUNE 4, 1902.

NOTES.

[646] SANCTUS, SERMON, AND ANTHEM BELLS.

(See No. 602.)

Many churches possessed a "Sancte," "Sanctus," "Sacrifying" or "Sauce" bell. As the priest said the "Sanctus" the custom was to toll three strokes on a bell, which was hung in a bellcote between the chancel and the nave, that the rope might fall at a short distance from the spot where knelt the youth or person who served at Mass, at the high altar. Such a bellcote exists at Prestbury in Cheshire and other churches. At other altars in the church a small handbell was used. Such an one is still preserved in Gutfreston Church, Pembrokeshire, and several have been found in churches in North Wales. Fuller in his "Church History" says "the Hand bell was not fixed as the rest, in any place of church or steeple, but being diminutive of Saints bell was carried in the sexton's hand at the consecration of the Sacrament, the visitation of the sick, etc."

The Injunctions of Edward VI. in 1547 say that "in the time of the litany, of the high Mass, of the sermon, and when the priest readeth the Scripture to the parishioners, no manner of persons without a just and urgent cause, shall depart out of the church; and all ringing and knolling of bells shall be utterly forborne at that time, except one bell in convenient time to be rung or knolled before the sermon." In 1549 "the ringing of Sacrifying bells" was expressly forbidden, and it was also ordered "that going to the sick with the sacrament the minister have not with him either light or bells." In 1554 under Queen Mary the Articles of Visitation ask whether there be "a little Sanctus bell" and "bells and coops" in all churches, and Cardinal Pole in his visitation of the diocese of Canterbury asks "whether the Sacrament be carried devoutly to them that fall sick, with light, and with a little Sacrifying bell"? In 1557 (1 Elizabeth) the injunction of Edward VI. regarding the knolling of bells and the Sermon bell was again enacted.

The existence of Sanctus and Sermon bells gives such an air of plausibility to an Anthem bell that the latter has been accepted as a natural corollary even by such an experienced antiquarian as the late Mr. Earwaker, though he confesses that he was a good deal puzzled to explain the meaning of the name of this bell and could only conclude that it was the same as the Sacrifying bell. That this was not so can be seen by the accounts of St. Mary's Church which he quotes, for we find in that the churchwardens in 1545 paid

For a rope to the Antam bell..... iijd
and also

Paid to Elyn bushell for a Sacrifying bell... iiijd
so that the two bells were co-existent.

In the first place let us observe the spelling. It shows strange variants, even allowing for the eccentricities of the period. In St. Oswald's accounts it is spelt Anthem *once* in the 16th century, but we also find:—

1705, 29 June. paid for a Rope for the
Tantany Bell 10d.

1710, March 25. pd. for a Rope to ye
Tantany Bell 1s. 0d.

In the accounts of St. Mary-on-the-Hill it stands as follows:—

1536, Antoll, Antyll; 1541-2, Anthem (twice); 1542-3, Anthem (twice); 1545, Antam; 1547, Anton; 1548, Anton; 1551-2, Antem; 1553-4, Anten and Anthem; 1554, Antyn; 1556, Anton (twice); 1557-8, Anton; 1558, Antan; 1617, Antom and Tanton; 1646, Antham.

The following quotations appear to supply a clue to the whole matter.

In "Bells of the Church" by the Rev. H. T. Ellacombe, p. 305, we find:—The Tantony Bell: In the churchwardens' accounts of Lampport (co. Northampton) is this entry: "22nd March, 1747, a Tantony bell rope, 9d."

In Baker's "Glossary of Northamptonshire Words and Phrases":—Tantony: The small bell over the church porch, or between the chancel and the nave; the term is also applied to any small hand bell. "Ring the Tantony" is evidently a corruption of St. Anthony, the emblem of that saint being a bell at his tau-staff, or round the neck of his accompanying pig.

Hone in his "Everyday Book" (i. 60) mentions St. Anthony's fire, an old name for erysipelas, for which St. Anthony's help was invoked, and quotes Bishop Patrick as saying that in honour of St. Anthony's power of curing pigs also, "they used in several places to tie a bell about the neck of a pig and maintain it at the common charge of the parish," whence came our English proverb of Tantony pig or t'Antony, an abridgement of the Anthony pig. "I remember," says Stow, "that the officers charged with the oversight of the markets in this city did divers times take from the market people, pigs starved, or otherwise unwholesome for man's sustenance; these they did slit in the ear. One of the Proctors for St. Anthony's (Hospital) tied a bell about the neck (of one of them) and let it feed on the dunghills; no man would hurt or take it up; but if any gave to them bread or other feeding, such they (the pigs) would know, watch for, and daily follow whining until they had somewhat given them; whereupon was raised a proverb 'Such an one will follow such an one, and whine as it were an Anthony pig.' If such a pig grew to be fat and came to good liking (as oftentimes they did) then the Proctor would take him up for the use of the hospital."

Halliwell's "Dictionary of Archaic and Provincial Words" has:—Anthony Pig: The favourite or smallest pig of the litter, a Kentish expression, according to Grose: To follow like a tantony pig; i.e., to follow close at one's heels.

The following occurs in Mrs. J. R. Green's "Town Life in the Fifteenth Century," Vol. I., p. 99:—An account book of Wm. Mucklow, merchant in the Passe Mart at Barro, Middleburg, in the Synxon Mart at Antwerp in 1511 records sales of white drapery and purchase of various goods, fustian knives, sugar ribands, leather, buckets, *Antony belles, sacks belles, sheets, etc.*

This last shows an earlier use of the word and also that these bells were imported in quantities from the celebrated bell-founders of the Low Countries as ordinary articles of merchandise. They would doubtless be well known in a mercantile centre like Chester. Ellacombe (p. 308) gives another valuable illustration:—At Eglington Church, near Alnwick, there is a small bell dated 1489. The inscription in German, when translated, is this:—

† Antony is my name. I was made in the year 1489.

The Anthem bell at St. Mary's seems to have been in constant use by the number of ropes purchased for it, and it evidently hung in the porch, for in the Churchwardens' accounts for 1557 we find:—

Peyd for nelys for mendying the howys
(house) ower the Anton bell ijd.

In concluding, I would desire to point out that Anthem bell is a standing warning of the necessity of careful investigation where old names and customs are involved.

JOSEPH C. BRIDGE.

The "Sacring bell" would seem, judging by its weight, to have been a small hand bell, though it is sometimes distinguished from the "hand bell" in the lists of church goods. In the inventory of Sir John Fastolf's property (1459) occurs "j saking bell, weiyng xj unces," and in the list of church plate, etc., bequeathed by Lady Margaret (mother of Henry VII.) to Christ's College, Cambridge, in 1509, there is included "a saking bell with a claper of siluer all white pondering v vnoces price le vnce iijjs. iiijd.—xvjs. viijd." J. B.

The "Anthem Bell" was, one might suppose, the same as the "Dagtale Bell" (? Day-telling)—a small bell formerly in Overton Church, Frodsham Parish, fixed over the chancel, in which there would be its rope. It was called by some the "Dogtail Bell!" This bell was in the church, I believe, about 34 years ago, but one cannot answer for modern "restorers." There was then also a "Book of Homilies," held to its chancel-wall desk by a rusty old chain, as old as the rather tattered first edition of the book.

F. R.

[647] CHESHIRE DOMESDAY NOTES. II.

(See No. 645.)

Areas of Manors.—The areas of woodland are usually given in Domesday Book, and in addition there are nine cases in Cheshire in which the area of the manor is given. As it is of some importance to assure ourselves of the degree of accuracy attained by the survey, we may take as a good example, the boundaries being well known, the manor of

Christleton (4b), which is said to measure two leagues by one, or 3 miles by $1\frac{1}{2}$. On consulting the map it will be found that this is as nearly exact as is possible without using smaller fractions than half a league. Christleton—the parish, not the township in this case—is about three miles from east to west, and a mile and $\frac{1}{2}$ half from north to south. This gives an acreage of 2,880, against the 3,284 acres of modern exact measurement, a loss of about 12 per cent.

Eddisbury (3b) measured one league square. This is rather less than the modern township carved out of Delamere Forest (roughly, 2 miles by $1\frac{1}{2}$), giving an acreage of 1,440 against 2,095 (Cassell's "Gazetteer;" 3,890 in the Directory).

Cheadle ("Cedde," 11b) measured two leagues by one, and had a wood one league by half a league. In this case it is not quite clear whether the Domesday manor included the whole parish or only the two townships (originally one) called Cheadle Bulkeley and Cheadle Moseley. These townships together measure $4\frac{1}{2}$ miles from north to south, and from $1\frac{1}{2}$ to 3 miles east to west, with an acreage of 4,500. The Domesday measurement gives 3 miles by $1\frac{1}{2}$ for the cultivable part of the manor and $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles by $\frac{1}{2}$ for the wood. These are much smaller than the dimensions of the two Cheadle townships, giving only 3,600 acres, a loss of one-fifth. The existence of heath or marsh, then worthless, may account for some of the difference.

(To be continued.)

QUERY.

[648] BEACH FLATTS AND PEARL WALL; FOUL LAKES.

Tho. Calley for Beach flats & Pearl Wall ... £1

The above is an extract from an assessment on the inhabitants of the parish of St. Oswald, Chester, dated April 17, 1741. In the same assessment the "Foul Lakes" are mentioned. I should very much like to know where these places were situated.

Chester.

W. H. BENNETT.

REPLY.

[649] THE SAUGHALL ROAD.

(See No. 625.)

Mr. Bennett's query as to Saughall Road, when taken in connection with the "Perambulation" of

St. Oswald's Parish Boundaries in 1620 (See Nos. 609 and 615), re-opens the question whether the old Mollington Lane was the present Saughall Road, or the Parkgate Road.

The following passage from the Perambulation document appears to favour Saughall Road:—"Over Porte poole bridge, and then about the west side of the poole heys in Blacon Lordshipp, then turninge Eastward unto the further stone bridge in Mollington Lane, followinge the water course at the ends of certaine of the said poole heys . . . wh: said water course doth there separte our parish from Trinitie parish, and cometh from the aforesaid Stone Bridge." It would be quite correct to speak of the Stone Bridge in Saughall Road as "the further Stone Bridge," as in one of the 16th century perambulations of the City, the Port Pool bridge is described as "the first stonen bridge that you come unto from the towre of this Citie." Moreover, as far as the Saughall Road Stone Bridge, the water-course does separate St Oswald's and Trinity parishes: whereas between Saughall Road and Parkgate Road the land on both sides of the brook is in St. Oswald's.

On the other hand the following passage a little later in the St. Oswald's Perambulation clearly points to Mollington Lane being Parkgate Road:—"Item from Crabhall wee returned agayne through Mollington Lane aforesaide unto the further Stone Bridge, and from thence following the east syde of the aforesaid Poole Heyes in Blacon Lordshippe, wee turned over the said Mollington Lane, and entred into Mr. Dutton's Meddowes, out of the wh: we came into the Bach ground," &c. A glance at the map will shew the reader that it would be going very much out of the way to go back to the Saughall Road bridge to get from Crabhall to Bache, but that the nearest and obvious way would be along Parkgate Road.

E. C. L.

JUNE 11, 1902.

NOTES.

[650] THE CHESTER HEARTH TAX, 1663-4. I.

After the restoration of Charles II. in 1660, Parliament had a number of difficult matters to arrange. One of these was the revenue. The feudal dues were abolished and a number of new taxes instituted, among these being the Hearth tax or "Chimney money." Says Mr. Pepys in his Diary (March 3, 1661-2)—"I am told that this day the Parliament hath voted 2s. per annum for every chimney in England, as a constant revenue for ever to the Crown." The occupier, not the owner, of the house had to pay the tax. The overseers had powers of search, in case the householder refused to state the number of hearths in his house, and a few exemp-

tions were allowed in the case of those too poor to pay the ordinary rates and taxes. The Act was amended and altered in the following year and in 1664, in order to secure a better return and prevent evasion. One authority states that this Hearth tax was an ancient one in England, though now for the first time regulated by Parliament, but Mr. Dowell in his "History of Taxation" asserts that it was copied from a French example. Under the name of Fuage or Focage (hearth money) an impost of 12d. for every fire was laid on the subjects of the duchy of Aquitaine by the Black Prince (25 Ed. III.)

The tax was farmed out, and of course the farmers did their best to make a profit from it, and therefore brought as many as possible into the contributories. To the Crown it yielded from £170,000 to £200,000 a year. In 1666 Pepys mentions a scheme for abolishing the tax at an eight years' purchase, which was estimated as worth £1,600,000. It was a very unpopular impost, the power of search being specially objectionable, and on the Revolution it was abolished "to gratify the people," as Evelyn records in his Diary (March 8, 1688-9) with a gloomy foreboding—"But what was intended to supply it, besides present great taxes on land, is not named." The landowners were, however, saved from an extra tax on land by the device of a Window tax, which in a few years replaced the Hearth tax, and was in its turn, about seventy years ago, replaced by the Inhabited House duty.

The importance of the Hearth tax from the antiquarian point of view is that, the tenant being charged, lists of householders had to be drawn up, township by township, and ward by ward, giving the number of hearths in each house; and many of these lists having been preserved it is possible to compile fairly complete directories of the various districts for the period in which the tax was levied, and to estimate the population and its degrees of prosperity as shown by its dwellings. The returns for Chester for the half year ending March 25, 1664, have been copied out for the "Sheaf" by Mr. Gilbert P. Gamon, but as they are too long to be here printed in full a selection had to be made, and only the householders with four hearths and upwards are given. The full list for Eastgate Ward for example, has 122 names of persons chargeable, and there are added 22 besides of others excused (all having one hearth each); while only 47, or about a third, come within our limit. Those excluded number 45 of one hearth (including the 22 excused), 33 of two hearths, and 19 of three hearths. The lists are signed by the constables of the wards, those for Eastgate being John Hulton, Thomas Lloyd, Randle Bingley, and Richard Matthews.

EASTGATE WARD.

John Poole Esq.		Randle Sargeant	4
(Mayor)	7	Ann Clerke Wid:	4
Robert Harrison	4	Doctr. Edward Bur-	
John Heath	4	lace	7
Mr. John Bennett ...	5	Mr. William Ouldham	5
Samuel Gerrard	5	John Travers	8

EASTGATE WARD—Continued.

Richard Townesend...	6	Calvin Bruen	4
Richard Taylor (Alder-		Richard Minshull	
man)	6	(Alderman)	7
Thomas Billington	5	John Cowles	7
Edward Bradshaw Esq	7	Mrs. Hannah Leives-	
Thomas Pickering	5	ley Wid:	12
Sarah Parnell wid:	5	Ann Salisbury Wid:	4
Thomas Hallwood	5	Margery Butler Wid:	4
Mary Ince wid:	4	Edward Lincks	4
Nathaniel Basnett	5	Thomas Jones	5
John Harrison	4	William Godfrey	5
Thomas Bruen	5	Richard Hiccock	5
John Buck	5	Dorothy Griffith Wid:	4
Samuel Bucke	6	Edward Russell	6
Thomas Hassall	9	Mary Hulton Wid:	5
George Mainwaring		Katherine Ashton	
Gent:	6	Wid:	5
Thomas Poole Gent:	5	Sarah Dod Wid:	4
Edw'd Aldersey Gent:	4	Richard Francis	4
Thomas Wright	4	Edward Hulton	7
Kath. Kerkman Wid:	5	Jonathan Crosse	4

ST. JOHN'S WARD.

Robert Bulkeley Esq.	8	Elizabeth Bridge Wid:	9
John Pulson Esq.	4	Alice Whittingham	
William Bennett		Wid:	4
(Mercer)	10	Hugh Stringer	4
Mr. John Sparke	5	Josuah Taylor	6
Mrs. Katherine Kend-		Thomas Davenport	5
rick Wid:	8	Thomas Hoole	6
Silvanus Giles	6	Robert Leivesley	4
Richard Brett	14	Richard Heath	4
Mr. Thomas Ashton	14	Jane Cotgreave Wid:	4
Thomas Baker Gent.	13	Henry Hull	7
Thomas Ashton (Beer		Mr. Peter Leigh	4
brewer)	8	James Lynne	4

TRINITY WARD.

Hugh Roberts	6	Richard Bird (Ald'n)	8
Thomas Harrison	5	Richard Leving Esq.	
Valentine Short	6	(Recorder)	8
Richard Shons	4	Richard Higginson	7
Elizabeth Nicholas	5	John Williams	4
Arthur Walley (Alder-		John Brett	6
man)	5	Richard Bird (Alder-	
Mrs. Lettice Hough-		man)	5
ton	6	Hugh Maddock	4
William Snead	4	Gawen Hudson (Mer-	
Thomas Marsh	5	chant	12
Robert Mosse	4	Ann Hulton Wid:	6
John Whittle	4	Richard Wilson (Cl'ke)	4
William Williams	4	Sarah Mothershead	7

ST. MARY'S WARD.

George Manley Gent:	5	John Bruen	4
William Wright Gent:	11	Marke Jellicoeur	5
Richard Bridge	5	Thomas Fletcher	4
John Poole (Ald'n)	4	John Taylor	4
Elizabeth Alcock	6	Edward Bridge	5

NORTHGATE WARD.

William Ince (Alder-		Katherine Ince	4
man)	5	William Wilme	19
John Ratcliffe Esq.	10	Margaret Annyon	15
Dr. Henry Bridge-		Ralph Bingley	5
man (Dean)	12	George Wilson	6
Mrs. Frances Booth	14	Richard Williamson	4
Mrs. Katherine Booth	14	Margaret Green	4
Charles Farrington	6	Elizabeth Prickett	4
Margaret King Wid:	4	William Kenyon	4

(To be continued.)

[651] BRITLAND AND HELSBY LETTER. II.

(Continued from No. 639.)

When Mr. Serjeant Britland, anciently of Britland (a small manor on the Cheshire and Derbyshire marches) a fortnight after the date of his letter, had gowned himself and adjusted his coif and bands, or put on his great big wig and gold-laced velvet Parisian coat and waistcoat, with the big cuffs and ruffs, and a large sprinkling of considerably gold-like buttons, and his three-cornered hat, short broad-bladed file sword, or rapier he had probably received the desired answer—if Mr. Richard Helsby happened to be then in town, or Mr. Serjeant Britland happened to be within the Hundred of Macclesfield—for anything that appears to show where his letter was given. But, this may be inferred from the simplest of Post Office ink-stamps in the world, which must be taken to be that of the London Chief Office. There were probably one or two sub-offices in the suburbs at that early Post Office period—the old Lombard-street office being the head one, at least, about a century after. The “John Aldcroft” of the letter, seems to have been trustee of the will, with a power of sale; and Richard Helsby, the intending purchaser, seems to have refused to part with his money till assured of a sound title—the legatees, on the one hand, and the trustee, on the other, being equally claimants of the property.

As already also referred to, the connections of Lord Bellasayse (owner of the advowson of Chiswick Church) with Sutton and the Rev. James Ellesby, and with Bellasayse's near Cheshire neighbour, the well-known Mr. Britland, and the latter with Richard Helsby, are all suggestive of a good deal, genealogically. It was not far from Sutton, on the easterly side of Cheshire, where the Sergeant-at-law had inherited or purchased his estate—which passed to generations of his descendants. His friendship with Richard, and probably with Bellasayse also, lend colour to the supposition that James Ellesby was either a remote, or a near cousin of Richard, in whose family the name of ‘James’ was introduced as early as Elizabeth's reign. And the clear, bold, well-formed letters of the signature of Ellesby, according to tracings taken by the rector of Chiswick some years ago, from some of the parish documents, bear a striking resemblance to the signatures of a few of the 17th and 18th century members of the Cheshire stock of the family.

As to this latter circumstance, it is a little reminding of the early 18th century Hollingworths of Hollingworth in Mottram-in-Longdendale. They sold the considerable remains of the cradle of their race, and departed—no one knew whither. But, in about a century after, the then heir male, a captain of Dragoons, turned up, and restored the family to Cheshire by the purchase of about half the manor of Hollingworth, then in the market, but, which, after Captain Hollingworth's death, was again

unhappily disposed of, by his brother and heir, who was annoyed at the captain's assumption of the ancient "de," with the outrageous early 17th century orthography of "Hollyngeworthe"! It seems that the heir who sold the estate in the reign of George I. or II., settled in Maidstone, Kent, through which town Chaucer's Canterbury Pilgrims passed on their way from "The Tabard" in Southwark; which very ancient tavern (pulled down a few years ago) was kept in Hen. VIII's reign by one of another Cheshire name, "William Rutter"—probably one of the Gloucestershire line that branched out of Kingsley, temp. Hen. VI.

In Maidstone Mr. Arthur Hollingworth, the vendor, became a licensed victualler and 'inn-holder'—in the early coaching days a particularly lucrative occupation. But a century earlier it had grown into disrepute with the governing classes of the country, by 'virtue' of its rascalities. It was deemed an occupation too disgraceful for a gentleman to enter upon until one did (*circa* 1620) enter upon it to the disgust of his friends until he made it, and perhaps them, pay handsomely. However, the "strange-bedfellows" of misfortune proved to be the fortune of the Hollingworths, within a generation or two after.

(*To be continued.*)

QUERY.

[652] ST. OSWALD'S PARISH BOUNDARIES IN 1620.

May I ask for information from your readers on one or two points arising out of the Perambulation document which you have published in the "Sheaf"?

1. This perambulation apparently did not include a large portion of the Township of Blaon-cum-Crabwall, which is now in St. Oswald's Parish. This portion may be roughly described as bounded as follows:—by the brook between Parkgate Road and the Saughall Road Stone Bridge, then for about half a mile by Saughall Road, thence running northwards in an almost straight line, across the fields and the Canal and over the Parkgate Road, at a point some 200 yards on the Chester side of the Canal bridge to the brook on the other side of the Parkgate Road, below the Asylum, and following the course of this brook back to Parkgate Road, and thence by Parkgate Road to the brook running to Saughall Road. Was this portion of Blaon in St. Oswald's in 1620? If not, when and how did it become attached to it? It is included in the St. Oswald's Tithe Map.

2. In Speed's Map a river or brook is shewn which runs between Stoke and Coughall, and Backford and Moston, past Chorlton, between Mollington Banastre and Upton, and past the Bache into the Dee—very much the same route as the present Shropshire Union Canal. Is anything known of the later history of this river or brook? Was it ever tidal, or navigable as Bromborough Pool is? Has

it been absorbed in whole or in part, by the Canal, or by the making of the Cop? Has its course been diverted in the last 300 years? Is it possible that before the construction of the Canal, it ran under the Parkgate Road near the Canal Bridge, and across the meadows in Blaon (mentioned above) to Saughall Road, and thence along Saughall road to Stone Bridge, joining Finchett's Gutter at that point, and not in Parkgate Road? I should like to hazard this suggestion for the consideration of those who are competent to discuss it. If it be a correct one, then the "further Stone Bridge in Mollington Lane" mentioned in the Perambulation document will refer to a bridge crossing this stream near the present Canal Bridge in Parkgate Road, and not one crossing the Bache Brook to Chester (which would be "the first stone Bridge in Mollington Lane"). This hypothesis, could it be established, would render the Perambulation document perfectly intelligible, and would not involve the omission of that portion of Blaon-cum-Crabwall, which is now in St. Oswald's Parish.

3. How near to Saughall Road used the tide to come up, before the Navigation Cop was made?

4. It would be interesting to know how the origin and meaning and the variations in spelling of all the place-names mentioned in the Perambulation document—viz., Blaon, Mollington, Crabhall, Saughall, Bach, Moston, Newton, Picton, Upton, Plemstall, Wirvin, Coughall, Chorlton, Chroughton, Stoke, Thorneton, Trafford, Hoole, Vicar's Crosse, Chrislington, Butterbach, Brewera, Warton, Audford, Huntington, Chelie, Beggars brookes, Flookers Brooke, St. Anns.

5. What is the meaning of Haigh, Intacke, Knowle, Perleway, Meere stone, Withen hey, Rake, Whiclook such?

E. C. L.

JUNE 18, 1902.

NOTES.

[653] THE CHESTER HEARTH TAX, 1663-4. II.

(*Continued from No. 650.*)

The following summary, with extracts, of the Acts passed concerning the Hearth tax will illustrate what has already been said concerning it. The tax was imposed by the Statute 14 Car. II. c.2 (1662), entitled "An Act for establishing an additional revenue upon His Majesty his Heirs and Successors for the better support of his and their crown and dignitie." It enacts that "From and after 25 March 1662 every dwelling and other house and edifice and all lodging and chambers in the Inns of Court of Chancery, Colleges and other Societies that are or hereafter shall be erected &c. shall be chargeable and by this present Act be and are charged with the annual payment &c. for every

Fire hearth and Stove within every such house &c. as aforesaid the sum of two shillings by the year to be paid yearly and every year at the Feast of St. Michael and the Feast of the Annunciation." Owners or occupiers on notice from Constables, Headboroughs, Tithingmen or other such Officers within whose precinct the said house &c. shall be are to deliver a true account in writing within six days of all hearths and stoves &c. to the said Constables &c. who must collect the "monies" and pay them over to the High Constable less 2d. in the £. The High Constable shall then hand the sum to the Sheriff deducting 1d. in the £, and the Sheriff return the same to the Exchequer, together with copies of the list of names, deducting 4d. in the £. A proviso is made that poor persons exempt from the usual taxes and contributions towards the church and poor should not be charged or chargeable with the new tax. A proviso is also made exempting occupiers of houses under 20s. per annum and not occupying land of 20s. per annum, a certificate being granted free of charge. Blowing Houses, Stamp Furnaces or Kilns or any private Oven within any of the houses hereby charged or any Hearth or Stove within the site of any Hospital or almshouse for the relief of poor people whose endowment and revenue doth not exceed in true value the sum of £100 per annum, are also exempt. The payments and duties are to be charged only on the occupier for the time being of such Hearth or Stove &c. and not on the landlord.

In 1663 an additional Act was passed "For the better ordering and collecting &c." It recites that "the revenue has been much obstructed for want of true accounts from occupiers of houses," and proceeds to impose a penalty, for not rendering a true account, of 40s. for every Hearth, Stove &c. so omitted. And the officers are empowered to "enter houses in day time and upon view compare the accounts rendered and endorse and return the same to the High Constable."

In 1664, another and final Act was passed "For Collecting the Duty arising by Hearth Money by Officers to be appointed by His Majesty." "By reason of defects in the former Acts (it states) and great negligence of the said officers and other persons in not returning exact number of Hearths &c. the said revenue is much diminished"; and therefore a series of new regulations are ordained, to the effect that—The King shall appoint officers to collect the revenues, the former officers being discharged; the new collectors are to give security and take oath; no fees are to be taken from any subject; a succeeding tenant is made liable for a broken half year; stopping up, defacing, or concealing of Chimney Hearths &c. is punishable by enforcing payment to the amount of double the value of the ordinary duty; and in default of payment of tax, a "Sale of Goods of the Party so refusing or making default" is decreed. Persons letting houses to poor persons or parcelling out the

same, to pay the duty, attempts having been made to evade the tax by dividing a house among several holders. All houses with more than two chimneys are liable, with exceptions as in the former Act. Lastly a proviso is inserted for persons formerly exempted or having paid, on producing certificate for exemption.

The Hearth tax was abolished at the beginning of William and Mary's reign (1688-9), on special petition to the King, as it was "grievous to the People." The preamble states that the "Commons do find that the said [Hearth tax] revenue cannot be so regulated but that it will occasion many difficulties and questions and that it is in itself not only a great oppression to the poorer sort but a badge of slavery upon the whole people, exposing every man's house to be entered into and searched at pleasure by persons unknown to him," and they therefore "most humbly beseech your Majesty that the said revenue of Hearth money shall be wholly taken away and abolished," prophesying that by so ordaining "your Majesty will erect a lasting monument to your goodness in every house in the kingdom."

The following lists complete the record of the householders with four hearths and more assessed in 1663-4:—

ST. MARTIN'S WARD.

Sarah Bennett Wid :	9	Thomas Massey	4
William Roberts	5	Henry Pemberton ...	4
Sarah Lewis Wid : ..	4	Sir Peter Pinder Bart:	6
John Brock	6	William Crompton ..	7
Mrs. Ann Johnson ...	6	(Alderman) ...	7
Francis Leech Gent :	15	Dr. John Wainwright	
Elizabeth Whitley ...	8	(Chancellor)	13
William Lea	4	Ann Walker Wid : ..	4
Thomas Hand	4	Edward Eaton	4
George Brittain	4	Mr. William Liptrott	4
The Lady Ellinor		John Turneour	4
Kelmorrey	16	William Houghton ...	4
Mary Hardware	6	Mr. Robert Harwar	4
Elizabeth Ravenscroft	7	William Eaton	5
Samuel Elcock	6	Sir Thomas Brereton	13
Randle Minshall	8	Hannah Whittle Wid:	4

ST. MICHAEL'S WARD.

Richard Wright ...	5	Alice Leonard Wid: ..	5
Benjamin Critchley	4	Jonathan Whitbye ..	8
Thomas Throppe		Henry Lloyd	6
(Alderman)	6	Nathaniel Cooke	4
Ellin Sproston Wid:	4	Robert Hewitt	4
Alice Mouldsworth		William Hewitt	6
Wid :	4	Thomas Spanne	9
Mathew Anderton ..	7	Alice Gartsyde Wid:	6
Thomas Aspenwall ...	4	George Lee	9

ST. BRIDGET'S WARD.

Thomas Cowper (Al-		Thomas Fernihaughe	5
derman)	5	John Witter	7
Richard Harrison		John Eaton	9
(Alderman)	5	Elizabeth Sneed	5
William Street(Ald'n)	6	Francis Skelherne ...	4
Gerrard Jones	11	John Lancaster	4
William Warrington	5	John Mottershead ...	4
William Harvey	11	Mrs. Parnell Annayon	7
William Jones	5	Robert Hide	6
John Williams	4	Hannah Elcock	5
Roger Thom . . . ?	5	Dr. Allan Pennington	6

ST. GILES' WARD.

Thomas Johnson	5	Thomas Broster	4
Mary Brown Wid:	7	William Wilson	6
Randle Oulton (Ald'n)	5	Randle Wilson	6
Richard Broster (Alderman)	6	John Oulton	4
Sarah Anderton	6	Old Robert Werden	25
Rebecca Bruen Wid:	4	Richard Annion	8
Alexander Bird	7	William Williamson	5
Richard Bennett	4	John Maddock	4
		Mr. Robert Venables	13

ST. OSWALD'S WARD.

Edward Kinsey	8	Daniel Crosse	7
Raph Burroughes	9	Thomas Stringer	4
Ellinor Philipps Wid:	12	John Wright	4
John Ireland	4	Alice Bickerton Wid:	7
Randle Bennett (Alderman)	5	Richard Davies	4
John Hulton	5	Thomas Throppe	4
Thomas Higginson	9	Thomas King	5
Hugh Barkley	6	Thomas Halliwell	5
Hugh Barkley, junr.	4	Richard Mercer	4
Isaac Swift	5	George Lord Bishop	16
Henry Yong	9	of Chester	1
Robert Bennett	7	John Oldfeild	4

ST. OLIVE'S WARD.

John Johnson	4	William Slater	5
Margaret Whickstead	4	Ann Lea Wid:	4
Alice Eaton	5	Edward Gregg	4
Mary Whittle	5	George Bulkeley	4
Thomas Welshman	5	Ann Davies Wid:	4
junr.	5	Mrs. Mary Golborne	6
Lady Mary Calvely	16	Richard Wilkinson	4
Margaret Dutton	4	Jonathan Gouldson	7
Thomas Ach	10	Edward Ashton	4
Old Nicholas Steven-son	6	John Brerewood	6
Richard Eccleston	7	John Ridge	7
Gilbert Gerrard	6	Hugh Harvey	5
Randle Holme senr.	4	Thomas Mainwaring	4
William Widdens	6	Richard Bridge	5
Randle Holme junr.	6	Robert Grey	6
Alice Birkenhead	5	Robert Morrey	9
Sir Richard Grosvenor	11	Thomas Leuesley	5
Bart.	10	Thomas John Gent	11
		John Phillipps	4

ST. THOMAS' WARD.

Richard King	5	Samuel Bonhill	4
Thomas Watt	5	Thomas Critchley	4
Joseph Glover	6		

GILBERT P. GAMON.

[654] CHESHIRE DOMESDAY NOTES. III.

(See No. 647.)

The Five-hide Unit.—Mr. Round has pointed out the importance of groups of five hides. The earliest Mercian charter in Birch's "Cartularium" (No. 32) is a grant by King Wulfhere of five hides to his kinsman Berhferthe (dated 624 for 674?); and in pre-Norman times it was held that a "ceorl" who acquired lands assessed at five hides thereby ranked as a "thane." In Cheshire in 1086 manors of five hides or multiples of this unit were not common; Broxton and three or four others in the same hundred and Halton (10 hides) being all. But there are other cases in which, by putting several adjacent manors together we can obtain such groups, and when in addition it is found that these areas form a parochial unit also we have an indication from two significant facts—the five-hide and the

parochial grouping—of the antiquity of the arrangement. A simple case is that of Waverton parish. In Domesday it has two manors—

Waverton (11a)	3
Hatton ("Etone," 11a)	2

} 5 hides.

The parish of Audlem has—

Audlem (6a)	2
Buerton (7a)	1
Tittenley (7b)	3
Wilkesley (7b)	1½

} 5 hides.

In Wirral the large parish of Neston is much divided:—

Gt. Neston (2 parts, 2b, 8a)	2
Little Neston (5b)	1
Hargrave (5b)	1
Leighton (5b)	1
Thornton Hough (5b)	½
Raby (2 parts, 2b, 8a)	1
Willaston ("Edelau," 3b)	1
Ledsham (6b)	1
Ness (6b)	1½

} 10 hides.

The chapelry of Witton in Great Budworth is worthy of particular attention. It has—

Witton (10b)	1½
Lache Dennis (8b)	½
Winnington (2 parts, 10b, 11a)	1
Hartford (10a)	2

} 5 hides.

Though this group satisfies the two conditions above laid down its manors were in two different hundreds in 1086 as to-day, and Great Budworth itself is in yet another hundred. The conclusion is inevitable that the hundreds as defined by Domesday Book were not the original divisions of the county, and indeed were not so ancient as the assessment in hides therein recorded.

(To be continued.)

REPLIES.

THE SAUGHALL ROAD.

[655]

(See No. 635.)

In continuation of my former note concerning this road, may I be allowed to give the following extract from a letter by Mr. Williams (then headmaster of Saughall School) to the "Courant" (May 23rd, 1889)? He writes:—

"A walk along King's Wood-lane leads into Fiddlers'-lane, and anyone walking towards Saughall will see on the right-hand side of the road small patches of what was once a continuous stone pavement reaching from here (i.e. Fiddlers'-lane) certainly to Woodbank-lane, a distance of two miles. It is only three or four years ago since the last of this pavement between the Lodge (Shotwick) Farm and the lane last mentioned (Woodbank-lane) was broken up. How much further the stones were continued cannot be told now, but the old road certainly crossed Woodbank-lane, as traces of it can be discerned passing the farm of Mr. Griffiths, where it turned to the left and descended into a deep ravine where it may be safely asserted was 'The Ford' within 300 yards of Shotwick Church."

Although Mr. Williams and I were very friendly the research he made on this subject was entirely unknown to me until I saw his letter in the "Courant," therefore it may be depended upon as the opinion of a most worthy, truthful, and trusty man, and should be of weight in judging "the pros and cons." in this matter.

W. H. BRADFORD.

[656] BEACH FLATTS AND PEARL WALL: FOUL LAKES.

(See No. 648.)

These names are all to be found in the Tithe Map of St. Oswald's Township.

1. Numbers 68 and 69 are respectively called "Near Bache Dale Flatt," and "Far Bache Dale Flatt." They form together a triangle bounded by the upper half of the section of the Bache brook between Liverpool and Parkgate Roads, the Liverpool Road from Bache brook to the entrance of Abbot's Park, and a line drawn from there to the brook behind Downswood. They thus include, roughly, the Pinetum of Bache Hall, and the large field between Downswood and the Liverpool Road.

2. Number 67 is called "Pearl Wall Hay," and adjoins "Near Bache Dale Flatt" on its west side.

3. Numbers 62, 63, and 64 are respectively called "Middle Fowl lake," "Furburs Fowl lakes," and "Little Fowl lake." They include the land between Liverpool and Parkgate Roads on which Latham House and Wilkinson Villa stand, with the fields below them, and also the Liverpool Road Station Coal Offices, the Tennis Ground, and the portion of the Railway between the west end of the platform and Parkgate Road.

E. C. L.

JUNE 25, 1902.

NOTES.

[657] JOHN BRUEN. VI

(Continued from No. 642.)

His fame spreading still more and more many gentlemen sought to him to sojourn with him, and at the requests of his friends he entertained divers families and personages of great place, many of which during their abode with him were truly converted, others convinced, and all much reformed in their lives. Concerning which hear what he himself saith:

"Afterwards (saith he) many more desired to table with me—the Lady Egerton, widow, daughter-in-law to the then Lord Chancellor, with her company; and my cousin Thomas Dutton of Dutton, with his wife, son, and daughter, now wife to the Lord Gerrard, being ten in that company; and four gentlewomen of Hatton who were sisters, and their

maid; which maid was at first forward against religion and religious duties, but God in mercy began first with her, for being in grievous affliction of conscience she was soundly humbled and had a comfortable conclusion; blessed be God for it. And then two of the sisters had a more easy conversion, but (I believe) true grace; the other two sisters being convinced were very honest, modest maids. And for my cousin Dutton, his condition with me was to keep the holy Sabbath with my family as well in the afternoon as in the forenoon, which he and all his did in the public congregation; all of us having a great help from a learned godly minister Mr. Robert Watts, a reverend, worthy man of God, whom we called Old Eli for his gravity and faithfulness above many, who was continually with us in my family, etc.

"At the same time my cousin Dutton was pressed and changed by some of great place to maintain his Royalty of Minstrelsy by granting licences to pipe and dance on the Sabbath Day; but my minister, my self, and family were very earnest against it, and prevailed so far with my cousin Dutton that he promised that all piping and dancing should cease on the Sabbath Days, both forenoon and afternoon, and so his licences were made and do continue until this day; by which means we had great peace and comfort together; blessed be God for it."

His second wife dies.—But in the midst of these sweet comforts the Lord again sent a tempest of grief and sorrow by taking away his gracious yoke-fellow; which not long after caused a dissolving of his family and a dispersing of that whole company, to their no small grief. The loss of this gentlewoman was so much the more grievous both to her husband and to the whole family because of the great help and comfort they had all by her. She lived ten years with her husband a faithful helper, and she a fruitful vine bearing to him nine children, sons and daughters, and continuing with him in great peace and love; a prudent wife and a wise fellow-governor in his house, much respected and beloved not only of her own but of all the gentlemen and gentlewomen that talked with them. Concerning which himself thus writes:

"When it pleased God to take away my wife from me then all mourned for her loss, as also because all my tablers must now part, being about the number of one and twenty; but we did still so well accord and so loth were we to part asunder that I requested them to stay with me that quarter more, which was very thankfully accepted. In which time we had much comfort but mourned often to think of the quarter's end; and the last day, sitting at dinner together, all were so full of heaviness that there was no meat eaten, so that I was forced to hide myself and could not take leave of them, etc.

"Then (said he) I lived a single life five years and a half; and being in debt and having four daughters and divers sons to dispose of, by advice of friends I gave over house and went to live at

Chester for a season; Master Bifield, a godly and powerful preacher, being minister there at that time. And there I lived three years having the company of Master Bifield and his wife every Wednesday and Friday at dinner with me—which were his lecture days—with some other good company besides. In which time God stirred up the hearts of many of my neighbours to come to prayer with us; which meetings were at first traduced by some; yet after a while, being well known what they were, no fault was found.

"In this time it pleased the Lord Almighty to give a great blessing—all praise to His holy Name—many converted, many confirmed, and many convinced. In these three years God also gave me a great blessing in my outward estate; I paid all my debts, I married two of my daughters and paid their portions, I preferred a son or two, I maintained the poor in my own parish in the county, allowing them all the profit of my two mills; I maintained the poor in Chester both at my gates and otherwise weekly as I was rated; all humble and hearty thanks be given unto God, Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, for evermore. Amen."

NOTE John Dutton, only son of the "cousin Dutton" above mentioned, married Elizabeth, eldest daughter of Lady Egerton who was another of the "tablers." He died in 1608 at Tarvin.

(To be continued.)

[656] RANDLE EARL OF CHESTER AT QUEEN ELEANOR'S CROWNING.

The numerous articles on the Coronation which have been published in anticipation of the solemnity at Westminster, have made us familiar with the right or duty of the ancient Palatine Earls of Chester to bear the pointless sword called Curtana before the King of England at his coronation. The following account of the separate coronation of a queen shews him exercising his office on that occasion:—

After the death of King John a council was at once convened at Winchester, under the presidency of Gualo, the papal legate. Among those present were Peter, bishop of Winchester; Jocelyn, bishop of Bath; Ranulph III., earl of Chester; and it was resolved unanimously that the young King, Henry III., should be crowned on October 28, 1216. Henry was again crowned with full solemnity at Westminster by Stephen Langton, Archbishop of Canterbury on Whit-Sunday, May 17, 1220. Early in the year 1236 Henry married the Lady Eleanor, daughter of the Count of Provence, whose beauty was celebrated by the old chroniclers, thus:—"Henry Kyng our Prince at Westminster Kirke (church). The Erllys douhter of Province, the fairest may (maid) o lif (of life). Beyond the se tha wor, (That were beyond the sea) was non suilth creatur (no such beautiful creature)." Queen Eleanor was crowned with extraordinary pomp on Sunday the 20th of January; an account of which

event I will now give from another old chronicler, who says:—

At the solemnitie of this feast and coronation of the quene, all the high peeres of the realm both spirituall and temporall were present, there to exercise there offices as to them appertained. The citizens of London were there in great arraie, bearing afore hir in solemn wise three hundred and three score cups of gold and silver, in token that they ought to wait upon hir cup. The archbishop of Canterburie (according to his dutie) crowned hir, the bishop of London assisting him as his deacon. The earle of Chester bare the sword of St. Edward before the King, in token that he was earle of the palace, and had authoritie to correct the King if he should see him to swarve from the limits of justice; his constable of Chester attended him, and remained where the presse was thicke, with his rod or warder. The earle of Pembroke, high marshall, bare the rod before the King, and made roome before him both in the church and in the hall, placing everie man and ordering every man at the table. The Wardens of the Cinque Ports bare a canopie over the King supported with four speares. The earl of Leicester held the bason when they washed. The earl of Warren in the place of the earl of Arundell, because he was under age, attended on the King's cup. M. Michael Bellet was butler by office. The earle of Hereford exercised the roome of high marshall in the King's house. The lord William of Beauchamp was the almoner. The cheefe justice of the forrests on the right of the King removed the dishes on the table, though at the first he was staid by some allegation made to the contrarie. The citizens of London served out wine to everie one in great plentie. The citizens of Winchester had oversight of the kitchen and larderie. And so everie person according to his duty exercised his roome, and bicause no trouble should arise, manie things were suffered which upon further advise taken therein were reformed. The chancellor and other ordinare officers kept their place. The feast was plentiful, so that nothing wanted that could be wished. Moreover in Tothill fields roiall justes were holden by the space of eight days together.

Another old historian confirms this account, and adds:—"Such was the multitude of peers and peeresses such the crowd of ecclesiastics, such the assemblage of the lower orders, and such the concourse of minstrels, morrice-dancers, and buffoons that the citie of London could scarcely contain them," and of the coronation feast he says that it displayed all the world could produce for glory or delight.

This is the first coronation in which we read of tournaments being introduced. It is interesting to notice the reason given, why the earl of Chester bore the sword of St. Edward, namely, that he had the right even of restraining the sovereign when he violated his royal duties.

The old chroniclers alluded to, are Langtoft, Matthew Paris, and Holinshed.

W. H. BRADFORD.

[659] THE FOREST OF WIRRAL.

The following claim of liberties for the manor of Tranmere, during the time that Wirral was under the old Forest laws, will shew something of the obstructions imposed by these laws in the way of clearing the land for tillage, and also of the obligations to house and feed the foresters on their rounds. To "assart" is to clear the land by pulling trees and bushes up by the roots. The Starkeys held one-third of Tranmere under the Barons of Halton, who here (as in Wallasey) seem to have been the successors of Robert of Rhuddlan, the tenant when Domesday Book was compiled. The translation is from the transcript of Cheshire records and evidences now in the British Museum, made probably by one of the Randle Holmes, from the originals formerly in the Prothonotary's office in Chester Castle.

Earl. MS. 2079, fo. 98a.

Tranmole Manor and Wood—Richard Starky of Tranmole claimeth that he, his men, and tenants may in his own soil dig turves, cut gorse and fern and heath at every time of the year, outside the covert at his will, within the Forest of Wyrhale. Also he claimeth to have in his Manor harriers and all manner dogs, not destroyers of the venison of the Lord the Earl, without expeditation of the feet of any one. Also he claimeth to cut down the third part of the Wood of Tranmole, at his will to burn and to build; and all dead wood, and all wood not green, to sell (or) to give, at his will, without view of the Foresters, or hindrance of anyone. Also he claimeth to assart his lands within (the devices) of his husbandry within the Forest of Wirhale, which before was (titled) without any ransom. Also he claimeth, for himself and his heirs, that he may assart his own soil within the Forest, by giving to the Lord the Earl five shillings for every acre of heath, and half a mark for every acre of wood, which by twelve lawful men shall be found that it be not to the nuisance of the Forest. Also he claimeth that he, his men and tenants be quit of all manner Sergeants receiving and feeding, except of the six Foresters without horse, and without any other suite, when it shall happen those ridings (are) to be fed. Also he claimeth within his bounds of the Manor of Tranmole, from the bounds of the Villis of Oxtan and Prenton, as far as the thread of the water of Merse, in his own soil, to make all manner Fisheries, and in the said soil to have all manner profits (except Treasure and Wreck Royal) and boats, as well in the said part of that Water of Merse, as in his own said soil, to wit, to fish and to carry, and to take all other profits over the said Water, to all manner lands being in the peace of the Lord the King. Also he claimeth that (neither) he and his men, nor his tenants, be impleaded of the Forest, for the abovesaid, unless they be found with the mainour [i.e. with proofs of the trespass upon them].

William de Tranmole, who had two-thirds of the manor under the Barons of Nantwich, made similar claims with the exception that he claimed to cut down two parts of the wood of Tranmol.

In John de Podynton's claim we find that the exception made of "treasure and wreck royal" runs more fully thus:—"Except Wreck Royal, to wit, Treasure, and Whale and Sturgeon and Thirlhead, which when they shall have been taken or cast forth from the sea shall be borne to the Castle of Chester for a fee to be paid accordingly to the custom of the country," as set forth in No. 556 of the "Sheaf."

[660] CHESHIRE DOMESDAY NOTES. IV.

(See No. 654.)

Stanleu (7b).—This manor has long since disappeared as a manor; Ormerod (iii., 509) says that the name is "now unknown," but there can be little doubt that it is preserved in Stoneleigh Green in Burland, which occurs as Stoneleigh and Stanleigh in the sixteenth century and earlier. Stanleu was assessed at "half a virgate," and the only other manor in the same hundred assessed at the same rate was "Bedele." (7b) represented by the modern Baddiley; Stoneleigh Green is now just outside the north-eastern boundary of this township, but the Stanleu of Domesday Book may have been absorbed within it. It should be added that the "Westone," of which Stanleu was a berewick or subordinate manor, was not (as Ormerod assumes) Weston in Wybunbury but Whitchurch in Shropshire.

Here it may be convenient to state that the phrase "omitted in Domesday Book" which occurs so frequently in Ormerod must be taken to mean no more than "not expressly mentioned by name in Domesday Book." It is very doubtful whether any portion of the land of the county was overlooked by the surveyors in 1086. Ashton-on-Mersey and Sale may possibly have been omitted not only in name but in fact; but this is the only instance that can be named definitely, and there may be an explanation for it.

(To be continued.)

REPLY.

[661] ALTARS IN ST. WERBURGH'S.

(See No. 631.)

It appears that there was an altar of St. Leonard within the monastery church, for according to the Chartulary Simon, Abbot of St. Werburgh's, bound himself, among other things, to maintain a chaplain and a lamp at that altar, in consequence of a grant of land at Crabwall made by John Arneway (d. 1278). This altar was on the south side of the church. There was also a chapel of St. Erasmus in the choir. See Ormerod (ii., 577, and i., 253, 383).

A. B. C.

JULY 2, 1902.

NOTES.

[662] THE COTGRAVE FAMILY. III.

(Continued from No. 634.)

In addition to the previous pedigrees he has sent from the Harleian Collection Mr. Gamon has kindly looked at the copy of the Visitation of Cheshire in 1612-13 in the same Collection (Harl. MS. 1536) and transcribed the pedigree (fo. 92) of the family of Cotgrave of Hargrave therein registered by the heralds. This of course carries the descents a generation lower than the printed Visitation of 1586, and it is in other respects more complete. It supplies in the earlier portion the following additional notes and corrections to the last article of this series: (i) Randle Cotgrave is called the second son of Hugh Cotgrave of Cotgrave; (iii) Randle Cotgrave is given instead of Ralph, confirming the suggestion offered above; and a second son Robert is assigned to him; (iv) Richard Cotgrave's wife is described as "eldest daughter and coheir" of Richard Rosengrave; his eldest son Randle is said to have married Cecily, daughter of William Cheney of Willaston (not, Henry Wolston). The pedigree of Chanu or Cheney (O. iii. 490) does not at that stage shew either a William or a Henry, nor any Cotgrave marriage. At the end of the first article (No. 620) it was stated that nothing was known of a Robert FitzNigel who had land in Christleton. There was, however, an abbot of St. Werburgh's of this name (d. 1174), so that there was probably a local family of FitzNigel. A Nigel was rector of West Kirby about 1150; and a Nelesbrother occurs at Little Mouldsworth in 28 and 29 Ed. I. (O. ii., 329).

The line of Richard Cotgrave's eldest son Randle having been already traced we turn to his younger son

v. Hugh, or Hopkin, who according to the argument already stated, must have been born about 1440. He married Alice, daughter and heir of Thomas Bostock of Huntington near Chester. Judging by the dates and the parallelism of descent this Thomas Bostock was the grandson of William Bostock of Huntington, "whose heir general married a Cotgrave" (O. iii. 259). The link between Thomas and William Bostock does not occur. The latter was said to be "aged 60" in 1433, so that he would be a contemporary of William Cotgrave (ii. above); but he married an Alice Milneton in 1412, when he must have been over 40 years of age, so that the above Thomas may have been his son (O. iii. 255). By this marriage Hugh Cotgrave and his descendants added two quarterings to the family coat of arms: (1) Bostock, and (2) "Gules, a chevron argent, fretty sable, between three mullets of the second," probably the coat of Moulton of Moulton

quartered by the Bostocks. (Of the arms of Sir Thomas Moulson, in No. 577 of the "Sheaf" and O. iii. 108). The son of Hugh and Alice Cotgrave was vi. John Cotgrave, described as "of Hargrave" in Foulk Stapleford. He married Eleanor daughter of Roger Bird (or Delbird) of Clopton (called Thomas Bird in the printed Visitation, p. 24) and had three sons and two daughters—James, "of Hargrave"; Robert, "of Stubbs" or "of Christleton"; Richard; Jane; and Margaret. At the proof of age of Richard Clive of Huxley (November, 1491), John Cotgrave, aged 30 or more, was one of those who witnessed to his baptism at Waverton, when they carried the ewer, etc., for washing the hands of the priest and godparents (O. ii. 799). John Cotgrave, aged 44 or more, also gave evidence in March, 1502, at the proof of age of Richard son of Thomas Gerard of Crewwood; he was one of those who carried the candles and torches at the baptism of the said Richard in the church of Tarvin (O. ii. 127). This would fix John Cotgrave's birth year as 1458, very near to that (1440) conjecturally assigned above for his father's birth. The agreement, however, seems to be sufficient to enable us to assume that this John Cotgrave is the one mentioned in the pedigree.

Here may conveniently be interpolated some notices of other Cotgraves occurring in the fifteenth century.

Richard Cotgrave; aged 40, in 1 Hy. VII., 40 in 5 Hy. VII., and "over 40" 7 Hy. VII. (O. ii. 126), iii. 257, ii. 799). These entries may all refer to the same person; in the first and second cases he occurs along with Robert Cotgrave; in the third with the above John Cotgrave (Richard Clive's proof of age). He may be the Richard Cotgrave who was collector of a subsidy in Broxton Hundred in 1489 (O. ii. 746); and belongs to the same generation as the above Hugh Cotgrave.

Robert Cotgrave, age 50 or more in 22 Ed. IV. (and therefore born before 1433), may be the "second son" of Randle Cotgrave (iii) mentioned in the first paragraph. He gave evidence at the proof of age of John Done of the Flaxyards (May, 1482); he was one of those who at the baptism in Tarvin Church had carried the candles and torches (O. ii. 239).

Robert Cotgrave, aged 40 in 1 Hy. VII., 40 in 5 Hy. VII., and 50 in 17 Hy. VII., if all these refer to the same person, was of the same generation as the above-named Richard and Hugh. He gave evidence, together with Richard Cotgrave, at the proof of age of Thomas Gerard in November, 1485 (O. ii. 126), and of William Bostock in October, 1489 (O. iii. 257). In the latter instance the two Cotgraves said they were in the company of Sir William Stanley and others when Ralph Bostock, the father of the claimant, asked Sir William to be one of the godfathers of his new-born son. In March, 1502, he (like John Cotgrave above) gave evidence in the proof of age of Richard Gerard; one of the other witnesses with him was Thomas Chanu of Willaston near Nantwich.

Robert Cotgrave occurs, aged 40 in 20 Hy. VII, at the proof of age of Philip Egerton in December, 1504 (O ii. 625). He may, of course, be the same as the preceding, for "over 40" does not exclude "over 50." He was one of those present at the baptism of Philip Egerton at the Church of St. Mary of Budworth in le Frith. In 11 Ed. IV (1471-2) a Robert Cotgrave was one of the sureties for Philip Egerton, grandfather of the last named Philip (O. ii. 624)

A Robert Cotgrave, perhaps the one mentioned in the last article (under "iii. Ralph"), was one of the jurors who inquired into the grievances of Chester in 28 Hy. VI (1449-50); and the same was probably the collector of a subsidy in Broxton Hundred in 1443 (O. i. 471; Dep. Keeper's 37th Report). In the Chester inquiry a Richard C..... (supposed to be Cotgrave) was another of the jurors.

The name Robert Cotgrave also occurs as surety for William Tussingham in December, 1484; as a juror, among other gentry of Broxton Hundred, in 1485-6 (O. i. 471); and, described as "of Christleton," as having a suit with Simon, Abbot of St. Werburgh's in 1491. Robert, indeed, appears to have been a very favourite Christian name in the family.

Erratum.—In the last article, in the 7th line from the end, read "his father Richard's," not "Ralph's."

(To be continued.)

[663] KELHAM AND COTGRAVE.

In the notes on the Cotgrave family (No. 620) "Kelum" of Allington (Lincs.) is mentioned. This name is a corruption of Kelham. See the pedigree of Aldersey of Aldersey in Ormerod's History of Cheshire (2nd edit., ii. 740) where, in the last descents, the late Mr. Augustus Kelham, of Chester, is named. His elder brother, of co. Notts., represented in the male line the family of Sir Marmaduke Langdale, and in the female line the Kelhams of Kelham. This line of the Langdales somewhat restored the family 120 or 130 years ago, by the enterprising character of Mr. Langdale of that day, as a distiller in London. He was identical (Mr. Augustus Kelham always said) with the fine character of a man noticed in Dickens's "Barnaby Rudge," as owner of the establishment in Holborn, burnt down in the Gordon riots of 1780.

X.

[664] "HORNS MILL."

This is not, as repeatedly stated, in Dunham-o'-th'-Hill, or "Stony Dunham," but in Helsby, on the borders of both. The Water-Mill was built by Sir Wm. de Helleby, in conjunction with Robert de Frodesham (called Robert le Chaumberlayne) who held lands in the neighbourhood, about the end of the 13th century; and they agreed to divide between them the fish in the pool and the rivulet which supplies it still. The Wind-Mill, alongside the one turned by water, is (or was) of a much later date.

X.

[665] OLD COLLECTIONS IN ST. OSWALD'S. I.

The following lists of Collections in St. Oswald's may be of interest to some readers of the "Sheaf." Among them may be pointed out the collections for a college in Virginia and that for the restoration of Stratford-on-Avon. Shakespeare was living in the town in 1614.

E. C. L.

1607-8.—Received of the Churchwardens of St. Oswaltes Willm. Fisher & Hughe Mottram towards the building of the Church of Hartehill

xija. vijd. ob.

By me John Dedde.

Collected in our parish church Anno dom. 1614-15 for the Use of Certayne poore people whose names are hereunder written.

Imp'mis Collected the xijth of June for Elizabeth Cowper a lame woman borne in Crabball xs. vijd.

Item Collected the xxvjth of June for Michell Ridley of Cainton in the Countie of Salop. xs. ijd.

Item Collected the xth of Julie towards the buildinge of a Church in Frankendall xiiija. id. ob.

Item Collected the 29 of August for John Bowker a poore man in our parish having bene longe sicke

ixs. vijd.

Item Collected towards the repairinge of Tiverton in devonshire the xxvjth of September

xjs. ijd. ob.

Item Collected the ixth of October for Robt. Weaver of Newton near Middlewich who had losse by fyre vjs. iijd.

Item Collected the xjth of December for David Wright who had bene longe tyme Lame vs. vijd.

Item Collected the xxvth of december for Law: Burrowes of Wymynshaw near Northwich who had lost much by fyre xiiija. xd.

Item Collected the xijth of Februarie for Thomas Mort a Citizen and hauinge bene longe tyme blynde vijs. ijd.

1616-17.—Monney Collected in our parish and paid for ye Releefe of diuers poore people and others as hereafter appeareth.

Imprimis Collected the xvijth day of June for Anthony Done and Thomas Wisse of the parish of Redreth in ye Countie of Surrey who greate losse by fyre ixs. iiijd.

Item Collected the xiiijth of Julie towards the erectinge of a Colledge in Virginia beinge the first Collection of the fowre Collections Commaunded by the Arch Bishop of Yorke as by his letters may appeare viijs. viijd.

Item Collected the xvijth of November towards the Repayringe of Stratford upon Auon, a greate pt. whereof was consumed by fyre the xiiijth of Julie 1614 the some Collected was viijs. ixd.

Item Collected the ixth of Februarie towards the erectinge of a Colledge in Virginia beinge the second Collection for the same vjs. vijd.

Item Collected the second day of March for the Releefe of John Johnes and his Children who were all sicke at the same tyme xiijs. vijd.

Item Collected the vith of Aprill 1617 towards the Releefe of diuerse Inhabitants in Lancaster who had greete losses by fyre and the Monney Collected was payd unto Thomas Turner and Wm. Lawrence Inhabitants there the somme of ...xijs. jd.

(To be continued.)

[666] CHESHIRE DOMESDAY NOTES. V.

(See No. 660.)

Areas of Manors (ii).—The following are the measurements of the first three of Robert Fitz-Hugh's manors (4b):—

Bettisfield, corresponding with the parish of Hanmer, had a wood 3 leagues by two, and beside the wood it was 2 leagues long and the same broad. The first part ($4\frac{1}{2}$ miles by 3) may be the south-eastern portion of the parish including the townships of Bettisfield, Bronington and Hanmer (half); and the second part (3 miles by 3) the townships of Halghton, Willington, Tybroughton, and the remainder of Hanmer. The two hides claimed by the bishop were probably around Hanmer itself, the church's dedication to St. Chad seeming to point to an early connection with the see of Lichfield (compare Farndon and Wybunbury), just as Bettisfield may preserve the name of one of the early evangelists of Mercia, Cedd (brother of St. Chad), Adda (? Atiscross), Betti, and Diuma (Bede iii., 21). The Domesday measurement is equivalent to 14,490 acres; the area of Hanmer is now given as 14,808 acres.

"Burwardestone" measured 2 leagues by 1 (3 miles by $1\frac{1}{2}$). The name of this manor seems to have disappeared completely, but there cannot be the slightest doubt that the township of Iscoyd represents it in the main. The proximity to Bettisfield, the presence of a salt-making station (the Dirlwiches), and the claim of the bishop to a share of it (the chapelry of Whitewell) all point in one direction, and the measurements given confirm it. Two or three of the townships now within Cheshire—Stockton, Wychough, and Wigland—may have been included in the old "Burwardestone," but they are not in the chapelry. An area 3 miles by $1\frac{1}{2}$ has an acreage of 2,880; the acreage of Iscoyd is only 2,662, and those of the three townships mentioned are 263, 323, and 562 respectively—1,148 in all.

Worthenbury's dimensions were the same as those of the last manor—3 miles by $1\frac{1}{2}$. Comparison with the map will shew that this is reasonably exact; the corresponding acreage would be 2,880 as above, whereas 3,420 is recorded in the Gazetteer, shewing what allowance may have to be made for marsh and other unprofitable lands.

The old boundary of the hundred thus marched in an almost straight line, north-west from Bettisfield to the Dee.

(To be continued.)

QUERY.

SHOTWICK FORD.

[667]

The extracts from the diary of Nicholas Blundell printed some years ago in the "Sheaf" (3rd series, ii. 20) show that he crossed the Dee from somewhere near Flint to Shotwick, and that the passage was called Shotwick Ford. It also appears that the tenant of Crabwall in Blacon was bound, among other services, to assist in defending "the ford of the Dee" in time of war. This would make Shotwick Ford an infinitely more important passage than that of a small brook running through the village of Shotwick. Can any of the readers of the "Sheaf" give some positive information which will make the point clear?

B.

JULY 9, 1902.

NOTES.

[668]

OLD CHESHIRE FORGES.

An interesting old pamphlet (26 pages) came the other day into the writer's hands, entitled "The Interest of Great Britain, in supplying herself with Iron: Impartially considered." Undated, and without name or place of printer or author it seems from internal evidence to have been written about the year 1725. There is a folding table at the end, with the list of forges, and the watermark on this sheet is I. Honig with the lion and unicorn supporting a shield on which the royal initials GHR take the place of the usual arms; this may assist in fixing the date.

Great Britain, says the writer, has plenty of iron; Lancashire and Cumberland alone could supply not only the kingdom but the universe, if their deposits were worked; but the country cannot avail itself of this wealth (1) because the woods have been cleared and (2) because of the high prices of material and labour in contrast with Sweden and Russia and "our plantations in America." Swedish iron cost less than English, even when the export duty was added, and foreign deals undersold home timber; American competition was also feared, the New England government giving bounties on nails and scythes made there; "since the erection of ironworks there New England now not only furnishes herself but the colonies likewise with sundry sorts of iron-ware." The English iron trade was in fact on the brink of irretrievable ruin, and the only remedies the author could think of were (1) an import duty on Swedish and other foreign iron and (2) suppression of the American forges. To enforce his argument he gives in tabular form a list of the forges in England and Wales—he could obtain no information as to Scotland—with two columns headed "Have made.....tons" (A) and "Do make

.....tons" (s) shewing the great falling off in the manufacture. The totals shew that "Forges do now make 12,190 tons; but have made 19,435 tons; and so decreased in the making 7,235 tons. N.B.—The making of British iron hath gradually decreased in proportion to the increase of the importation of foreign." The table shews the following forges at work in this district:—

Cheshire.		Denbighshire	
	A B		A B
Cranege	200 100	Pontabluw	200 150
Warrington ..	120 100	Wrexham	90 —
Lea	140 90	<i>Flintshire.</i>	
Tip Green	140 —	Bodferry	200 130
Acton	100 —	Hollywell	120 —

Lea is in Wybunbury parish.

"Pontyblew forge" is mentioned in the "Cambrian Traveller's Guide" (1813) as being near Brynkinnalt, Chirk. An account of the Beraham Forge near Wrexham will be found in the Cymmrodorion Society's Transactions for 1897-8.

J. B.

[669] BRITLAND AND HELSBY LETTER. III.

(Continued from No. 651.)

The arrogance of Charles I. and the ingratitude of Charles II. revolutionised old feelings—and trades occasionally became fashionable as politics and decay drove hither and thither their victims. But when a greater stimulant to travel came in the form of mail and other improved coaches, with the greatly improved 'King's highways,' mine host of the King's Head Hostel, with the groom of the stables, or 'ostler' (who, like the Revnd. Mr. Elleby also 'dropped his H's'), rose to the importance of the occasion. Mr. Hollingworth, as we have said, made a large fortune. He died many years after; and the signature to a will (irrespective of ancient documents in his possession) clearly proved his identity over a century afterwards. This is only one of many such instances in every county. And there are others equally as curious as creditable, where "the issue of the servile classes had saved enough through the risen cotton, silk, and woollen trades, &c., to buy the cast-off estates of their ancient lords;" which is very instructive, but by no means new.

But, in regard to the question with which we set out, touching the popular custom of dubbing low-class proprietors 'esquires'—as now, sometimes, this personal title we hear used too much as if it were a territorial one, in speaking of and even writing "the Squire of Muddleton" for instance—it first became the custom early in the reign of James I. The strict rules of the mediæval Guilds-Mercatory practically confined the exercise of all trades not of the very humblest and most purely mechanical, to persons of gentle descent—of whom were the 15th century Whittington and Montagues (Montacutes) for example. These were then, in Britain, as, still, on the Continent, known as the minor-nobles; who in our day, when 'major-nobles'

are no more—to all intents and purposes (save mere titular and court precedence, with the privilege of an hereditary vote)—are the only true *maiores nobiles*. It is also to be noticed that we may not hug ourselves with the idea, as some do, that each of the Montagues and Whittingtons, &c., was the *novus homo* of modern days. But in their mediæval times, they had a much harder and more revolting apprenticeship than the humblest have now.

This 'esquire' title, however, like that of the now long-degraded 'knight,' is an equally very ancient and purely military one—unlike baron, or lord, which are almost purely territorial and civil. 'Esquire' was thus formerly confined, by prescriptive right, to the heirs male of those who had borne an esquire's armorials on the battlefields of the heroic ages, so long as none save gentlemen in the Johnsonian sense (which has always been well understood, and recognised long before Dr. Johnson's time), and not in the vulgar sense, were the bearers; the second rank of esquires were those who became the heirs male of the ancient knight, in perpetual succession, as stated by Sir William Blackstone in his Commentaries. But, 300 years ago the entirely newly-enriched of the times by the rising tide of trade (as well as some few of those of Norman estate and descent, who, being poor, still stuck to the old agency of traffic, and, where needed, received 'confirmation of their armorial coats,') flocked to "Heralds' College"—to get a little knowledge. The latter, at first, were dubbed "esquires of trade" (in still earlier times there was such a rare thing as "scutifer literatus"!). These ex-trader 'armiger' titles, however, then as common as post-office pensioners, soon fell into desuetude, and the very wealthy of them have ever since, through popular interests, been 'taken for esquires.' In Elizabeth's reign, or James I.'s, they were so regarded if they possessed the rarity of £500 a year—then an income equal to about £5,000, modern, on an average of values. But, it must be recollected that, at this date, the admixture of the lowest and highest classes—masters and servants—Normans and Saxons and Danes—by centuries of marriage and descent, had produced a very different servile class from that which at any time previously had obtained; so that, although few of them could show a descent of three generations, it became morally certain that from all armigerous, gentilitary and noble ranks, as well as chiefly perhaps, from those of villeins and serfs, descended a class, and classes, which first began in Elizabeth's day to "make modern Britain." But, they could personally prove no title to the old-time titles of esquire and gentleman.

Other titles of "Esquire" are merely civil official, such as those (1) specially created by patent without slightest court precedence, (2) counsel, or barristers, at law, as higher officers of the King's great courts of law and equity, (3) the petit Justices, or Police Magistrates, (4) other officials of a certain rank in the service of the Crown; and

lastly, and not least, but which rule secured, the military and naval officers not under the rank of Captain. All these, and others unnamed, hold life-estates only, in the title; which, with them, has between the hereditary and the common-courtesy title, of Esquire; and are quite different, as a property, from the title of Esquire of ancient original user and descent. The "Squire" of so many acres, if a lordship (manor) may be *Lord* of the place, but he derives no title of Esquire from manor or money.

To abridge the theme, however (for many pages more might easily be written), and to revert to the Richard and John of this article, the former had no claim at all to the title of esquire, either by descent, or indeed, even by wealth. For, Richard was not an elder son; and as to John, there existed another and (from Jac. I. to Car. II.) an elder line, which later on fell into the richer yeoman ranks. This was represented by John Helsby of Kingsley Hurst, in fee; who, and whose son, were wardens in the church in 1642-3 and 1671-2. These being heirs male of the family, and, moreover, in a direct line of descent from its last known knight, Sir Richard de Helleby, temp. Edw. III., were alone truly entitled to the rank of esquire, though always distinguished as gentlemen. But, as this line terminated some 40 or 50 years before the death of the "John Helsby, Esq.," of 1731 or 1728, the latter, becoming heir male, became its true successor. However the popular trading custom of the last two or three centuries has pretty well shovelled all that lore into the ditch of small points which constantly crop up in old genealogical pursuits. And some of these questions are beyond doubt owing to the negligence of the 17th and 18th century parish clerks, wardens, and clergy, who often, like the heralds, carried memoranda in their pockets in order to make a lot of entries at a less-busy time, and on some day better suiting their convenience, and of course made numerous errors of omission and commission, which their successors in office often had to correct, or to re-write, especially after the ruin effected all over the land by the Great Civil War.

Of this short elder line, which appears to have decayed all the more rapidly from some ill-considered marriages, some memoranda from the wardens' books of accounts shew that in 1642-3 (the opening of the Civil War) Robert Blinston was the vicar's warden and 'Mayst'r' (sic) John Helsby parishioners' warden. Blinston, a yeoman, was, with Dr. Heywood, then vicar, probably a Royalist. The other warden was a Parliamentarian, as were all the family. In April, 1671, the renowned and Rev. John Davie was vicar. He was always in debt, and had to bolt, from the Sheriff's men, to Frodsham Castle, where he was protected by Earl Rivers. On that date, "Mr. Vicar" chose "Mr. Will. Hyde of frod." as his warden—the

parishioners choosing "Mr. John Helsbie of Kingsley"—who was aged 34, and was son of the John who was chosen warden 30 years before when aged 33. The preceding wardens delivered possession of the church goods on 1 May, 1671, to "Mrs. [Masters] William Hyde and John Helsbie." Then come "The accompts of William Hyde," and those of John Helsbie. The brace were again chosen for the year following, viz., 1672-3.

X.

[670] CHESHIRE DOMESDAY NOTES. VI.

(See No 666.)

The County Boundary.—The principal change in the county boundary since Domesday Book was compiled is the removal of some border manors on the west which are now in Denbighshire and Flintshire. The remainder of the boundary line is practically unaltered; for the county being made a palatinate, its limits would be jealously guarded lest any "foreign" district should unlawfully share its privileges or any integral portion escape its peculiar jurisdiction.

There is, however, one group of manors which shows that some time before 1086 the boundary of the county had been altered so as to include them—Marbury (1½ hides), Norbury (1½ hides), and Wirswall (1 hide), which are described as having been in 1066 berewicks or dependent manors of "Westone" or Whitechurch in Shropshire (7a), all being then held by Earl Harold. Parochially also they were parts of Whitechurch, so that both civil and ecclesiastical arrangements testify that they belonged properly to Shropshire; and it may be added that their 4 hides are not needed in Cheshire. There is unfortunately nothing to indicate when or why the transference was made.

Perhaps it may be replied that Stanleu or Stoneleigh (see No. 660) was also a berewick of Westone and was held by Harold. Stanleu, however, is entered independently in another column, next after Baddiley; and the significant concurrence of parochial and manorial boundaries is in its case wanting. Probably therefore this small piece of land coming into Harold's possession was by him arbitrarily attached to his manor of Whitechurch.

(To be continued.)

QUERIES.

[671] FLOODCOTT AND ITS TREES.

This name occurs three times in the St. Oswald's Churchwardens' accounts for 1575. Mr. Thomas Lynial gave a tree to the parish worth xs. to hang the bell upon; then follow:—

Item paid for the hire of a horse with his meate to ride to Floodcott about the same treesxvjd.

Item paid for the hire of a horse to ride to Floodcott to gett three trees squared xijd.

Item spent upon the waine for their diners and drinking at carriage of two trees from Floodcott to Chestervis. viijd.

Does the name Floodcott still survive? or can any of your readers identify the place?

E. C. L.

[672] FINCHETT AND FINCHETT'S GUTTERS.

Who was the Finchett from whom Finchett's Gutter takes its name? There seem indeed to be two watercourses so called. One is marked on an old map as reaching from Blacon Point to near the north-west corner of Chester, apparently marking the old coast line (the Port Pool) before Sealand was reclaimed from the Dee. The other, as I gather from Mr. Bennett's letter (No. 641), ran southward from Little Mollington. Was Finchett the owner or tenant of the land which these "Gutters" bounded, or was he a contractor for the work of reclaiming the bed of the river? Was the Stone Bridge at the beginning of Saughall Road the Port Pool Bridge, the "further Stone Bridge" being that in Parkgate Road (formerly Mollington Lane)?

Q.

REPLY.

[673]

ALDFORD BRIDGE.

(See No. 628.)

The Aldford Bridge mentioned in the Perambulation of St. Oswald's is clearly not a bridge over the Dee, but that over the Lea or Aldford Brook east of the church, marked on Speed's map and mentioned also in Webb's Itinerary: "Beneath this demesne [Calveley Hall] comes that water which began not far from Beeston Castle; and here, not far off, means to empty itself into the Dee; we must therefore step over a fair stone bridge at Aldford, and so by the church there . . . we go along by Hull Hall, and so by the goodly cornfields to Churton."

A. B. C.

JULY 16, 1902.

NOTES.

[674]

CHURCH MONUMENTS. IV.

The following notes of the monuments in churches in the Nantwich district, unrecorded in Ormerod, are continued from those in previous volumes of the "Cheshire Sheaf" (i, 76, 79 and ii, 9).

BADDILEY CHURCH.

"As plain as way to parish church" says Shakespeare in "Henry V." and in "Othello": but the proverb, which was old in the great dramatist's day, could never apply to Baddiley parish church; for the way thereto is neither plain nor easy to find. It is true a road leads to the church; and indeed, ends there; but it is a circuitous by-lane that branches off from the high road between Nantwich and

Wrenbury. Most of the worshippers wend their way to the church across wide pasture fields, that, since the removal of many old hedgerows, present nowadays a very park-like appearance. In bad weather, however, when the field ways are uncomfortable and almost impassable, the worshippers are few; while the rector under such circumstances is obliged to drive to prayers; and on those occasions he is compelled to make a circuit of five and a half miles in order to reach his church, although the rectory is scarcely more than a mile away as the crow flies.

Baddiley is a parish of one township 1,980 acres in extent. It has only 43 houses and a population (1891) of 246. The church, dedicated to St. Michael, stands on a mound-like elevation as churches dedicated to that saint usually do. It consists of a nave and chancel, and is one of the smallest in the county. Originally, like many other small Cheshire churches, it was built of timber and had a thatched roof. A sketch of it drawn by Dr. Foote Gower about the year 1780 was in the possession of the late Mr. J. P. Earwaker. In the year 1811 that quaint and picturesque building was encased with brick, and the roof covered with tiles; so that now, its plain, barn-like exterior is relieved only by a few perpendicular beams in the chancel wall, and in the west-end gable. The original timber bell-cot at the west-end remains, and contains two bells that have hung there since 1622. Of course the old windows were destroyed, and with them the ancient memorial glass except such fragments as were removed to the Mainwaring chapel of St. Lawrence Church, at Over Peover.

Baddiley and Wrenbury are the only churches in South Cheshire that still retain their old-fashioned high-backed pews and west gallery. On the south side of the nave aisle at Baddiley is the Hall-pew decorated with the painted arms of Sir Thomas Mainwaring, Bart., the resident lord of the manor, and patron of the church in the 17th century. Opposite is the "three decker" pulpit. Inside the chancel are visible bits of bowed timbers, the supports of the arched roof that is now hidden by a flat ceiling of plaster. The altar-rail is dated 1701; but a bench-end with carved finial is of much older date. The nave is divided from the chancel by a timber screen of perpendicular beams with mouldings; and above, painted in old English black-letter, are the Commandments, Creed, and Lord's Prayer, with the text Romans xiii., 1; and in colours the King's Arms 1663, and the Mainwaring Arms of that date with quarterings; which it will be necessary to describe in detail because of some incorrect heraldry. This shield represents the Mainwaring quarterings impaling Delves quarterings.

Mainwaring quarterings: 1 & 4 Argent, 2 bars Gules, on a canton the Badge of Ulster (Mainwaring); 2 & 3 Azure, 3 garbs Or (Blundeville, earl of Chester).

Sir Peter Leycester says (Ormerod i. 483) "the herald in temp. Queen Elizabeth placed the Earl of Chester's coat in the Mainwaring quarterings, but absurdly, and not right." Here, at Baddiley, the absurdity has been perpetuated.

Delves quarterings: 1 & 4. Argent, a chevron Gules fretty Or, between 3 delves or turves Sable, on a canton the Badge Ulster (Delves); 2 & 3. Argent, three bends wavy Azure (Wilbraham).

To these quarterings is added an escoccheon, or shield of pretence, strangely depicting Mainwaring impaling Delves! This however, is bogus heraldry: for if Mary Delves, the wife of Sir Thomas Mainwaring, had been an heiress the escoccheon of pretence should have been only her father's arms, and not an impalement. And if she were not an heiress, then there should not have been an escoccheon at all; but only an impalement of her father's arms and quarterings. In no case could it have been correct for an escoccheon of pretence to contain an impaled coat: and therefore the person who painted this decoration of arms in 1663 could not have been well versed in heraldry.

There is neither line nor stone at Baddiley to record the decease or interment of this Sir Thomas Mainwaring; but I think he died on 28 June, 1689, and was most likely buried at Peover. The Baddiley register, however, states that his wife, Lady Mary, died at Baddiley on 1 March, and was interred on 6 March, 1670, at Peover.

To his grandson, the last male heir, Sir Thomas Mainwaring, Kt. and Bart., who was interred at Baddiley on 24 Sept., 1726, there is here a very fine white marble monument of classical design, having Corinthian pillars supporting a segmental arch. Above are represented his arms, helmet affronté, and crest; and below the family motto and a long epitaph correctly given by Dr. Ormerod (iii., 457).

Also, a small altar tomb, with black marble top; and on the edge this inscription partly defaced as to date which is here supplied from the parish register:—

Here lieth JANE | MAINWARING the daughter of
PHILIP | MAINWARING, Esqr. | She was buried
26 July 1631.

The following memorials are omitted in Ormerod's History of Cheshire:—

1-4. In the nave aisle are four flat stones, two of them illegible, but all apparently relating to the Davenport family of the Blackhurst in Baddiley. The inscriptions on the other two read thus:—

Heere lyeth the body of Ellen, late wyfe of
Richard Davenport of Blackhurst, and daughter
of John Babington of Chorley. Shee dyed the
28 day of January Anno Dom. 1645 Being the
70 years of her age.

Heere lyeth the body of Richard Davenport, of
Blackhurst, gent. who dyed the 21 of September
Anno Domini 1663 in the 87 years of his age.

5. On the north wall is a mural tablet with painted arms and inscription:—

Richard Davenport of Blackhurst Gentleman had
yssue foure sonnes and ten daughters. He dyed
on ye 21 daye of Septem. 1653 *Ætatis* 87.

Arms Quarterly:—1. Argent on a chevron between 3 cross-crosslets fitchée Sable an annulet of the field; in chief point a crescent Gules for difference (Davenport of Henbury); 2. Barry nebulée of six Or and Sable, within a bordure componée Argent and Gules; 3. Quarterly—(1) Argent, a fleur-de-lys Sable; (2 and 3) Gules a fret Or; (4) Argent [unfinished by the painter]; over all at centre a crescent Or for difference; 4. Argent, 2 bars Sable, with crescent of the field for difference; in the fess point an annulet Gules.

6. On the chancel floor is a flat stone, partly illegible, to the memory of:—

Elizabeth late | wife of Humphrey | Milton who
was | here interred | the 10th day of November |
Anno Dni. 1655 |.

A notice of this family appears in my History of Nantwich, pp. 475-6.

Nantwich.

JAMES HALL.

[675] OLD COLLECTIONS IN ST. OSWALD'S. II.

(Continued from No. 665.)

The collections for ransoming Christians held prisoners by the Turks and Algerians deserve some notice; as well as the large number for losses by fire. The College in Virginia appears to have been destroyed a few years later in an Indian rising.

1617-18.—Monney Collected in our parish and paid for the Raleefe of divers poore people and others as hereafter followeth.

Imp'mis Collected the xxijth of June for Peter Kelsall of Rushton in Torpley p'ish who had greatesse losse by fyre..... ixs. iijd. ob.

Item Collected the xxijth of Nouember for John Thomson of yorke Baker who had greatesse losse by fyre xs. viijd. ob.

Item Collected for Marie Balford towards the Ransom of Charles Balford her husband late of Redris in the Countie of Surrey Marriner then prisoner w'th the Turke viijs. xjd.

Item Collected the xxijth of december for Theodore Pallandine a Grecian ixs. vjd. ob.

Item Collected the xxvijth of decemb. for John Bould of Ashton under Lyne who had sustayned greatesse losse by suertieshipp vjs. viijd.

Item Collected the first of Januarie for Edward Botocke of Dauenham parish who was hurte by the fall of a Tree xjs.

Item Collected the vijth of Februarie for widdowe Potter a poore woman in Chester xs.

Item Collected the xxijth of March for Barthlam Fryer a poore decayed Inhabitant in Chester

xijs. vjd. ob.

Item Collected the xxth of Julii towards the erectinge of a Colledge in Virginia beinge the third Collection vjs. xjd.

Item Collected the xvijth of Januarie towards the erectinge of the same Colledge beinge the iijth Collectionvjs. viijd.

All the afore saide sommes thus Collected were paid to severall persons who were authorised for the receipt of the same.

Annodom:1618.—Monney Collected in our parish and paid towards the Release of these persons here under written.

Imprimis the xth of May Collected and paid to Hugh Johnson of greate Budworth who was fallen into pouertie by Reason of a fistula in his sidexiijs. iiijd.

Item the ixth Julie Collected and paid to Edward Easham of Barnestable in the Countie of denon M'chant towards the Redeeming of a great number of distressed Captives in Argierxs.

Item the xvth of August Collected and paid for the use of Richard Anglizer alias Clarke a Citizen and was fallen into great pouertie by reason of longe sicknessxs. ijd.

Item the xxxth of August Collected and paid to Richard Nichols of Waltham in the Countie of Leicester who had sustayned greates losses by bad debtors, by theenes and by fyreixs. vijd.

Item Collected and paid to John Morfee a Laedemonionxs. viijd. ob.

Item the xxth of december Collected and paid to John Price of this Citie laborer who had sustayned greate Miserie by reason of longe sicknessixs. iiijd.

Item the xvijth of Februarie Collected and paid towards the p'ferment of John Thomas unto the universitie beinge a scholler in the free schoole and the sonne of a poore manxjs. viijd.

Item the vijth of Februarie Collected and paid to Eliz Hughs who had bestowed all her meanes upon the Curinge of one of her leggs w'ch was broken by a fallxiijs. vijd.

Item the xxvijth of Februarie Collected and paid towards the settinge of Thomas downeham to be an Apprentice beinge a poore yonge man and a parishner bornexiijs. ixd.

Item the vijth of March Collected and paid towards the Release of the Inhabitants of Welling-ton in the Countie of Salop who had great losses by fyrexvs. viijd.

(To be continued.)

[676] CHESHIRE DOMESDAY NOTES. VII.

(See No. 670.)

Manors Unidentified.—The following are the manors which have not yet been identified satisfactorily. Readers of the "Sheaf" may contribute something to clear up these difficulties, and it is hoped that by their help each name may be traced and each locality fixed.

In Atiscros Hundred (i.e., the Hawarden district) were Claitone, Edritone, and Radintone (13b). The first of these occurs also in the charter of St. Werburgh's (1091).

In Dudestan Hundred most probably was Calvin-tone (6a). A question has already been asked about its position (No. 568), but no one has attempted a reply. The neighbourhood of Coddington and Broxton is a likely one.

In Hamestan (or Macclesfield) Hundred was Laitone (4a). From the connection in which it is mentioned it was probably in the Werneth or Hyde district. A place called Lawton is given in Bryant's map (1831) on the borders of Stayley and Tintwistle. The locality is suitable, but one would expect Layton, or Leighton, rather than Lawton to be the modern form of the old Laitone.

Cepmundewiche (10b) was somewhere in Over Peover, but according to Mr. Beaumont no trace of the name can now be discovered there. It existed as Cepmondwich in the fourteenth century (Ormerod, i. 478).

Aldredelie, Done, and Kenardeslie (3a) were lost by the formation of Delamere Forest, but the last-named, as Conewardsley Grange, was known down to the dissolution of Vale Royal Abbey. Ormerod (ii. 173) gives the position of the other "granges," but appears ignorant of that of Conewardsley, which does not occur on Bryant's or the Ordnance map.

Cocle (9b) and Ulvre (6b) were in Risedon (or South Eddisbury) Hundred. Catesclough and Calveley respectively would be probable localities for them, but the names do not appear to have survived.

Besides these manors the places from which the following hundreds took their names are unknown:—Exestan (Gresford), Dudestan (Broxton), Hamestan (Macclesfield), Tunendune (Halton), and War-mundestrou (Nantwich).

(To be continued.)

JULY 23, 1902.

NOTES.

[677] THE MONEYERS OF CHESTER.

The restoration of Chester to the rank of a walled city took place, according to the Anglo-Saxon Chronicle, in 907; and about the same time probably the county area was defined and Chester became the shire-burh. The notion that the town had lain absolutely waste and deserted since the raid of Ethelfrith of Northumbria in 607 may be rejected as inaccurate, but Chester has no written history from that date until 875, when according to the Chronicle of St. Werburgh's the men of Hanbury conveyed the saint's body to Chester, as a place of safety from the Danes. The story of the erection of St. John's Church in 689 by King Ethelred is too doubtful to be the basis of an argument. A few years after St. Werburgh's body had been brought to Chester the dreaded Northmen

seized the place (in 894) and held it against Alfred for some little time. The place is then called a fort (geweorc). Once "renewed," however, Chester seems to have become very quickly a flourishing centre of trade, to judge only by the large number of moneyers whose coins bear witness to their presence and work there in the reign of Athelstan (925-940). Artificers in the precious metals—the moneyers were probably goldsmiths also—do not flourish in a wilderness, and in those turbulent times the protection of a walled city was necessary for their craft. The following lists of the Chester moneyers down to the Norman Conquest have been compiled from the British Museum Catalogue of Anglo-Saxon coins, in which will be found details and fac-similes of many examples. Some uncertainty is caused by the various forms of the same name, due to the carelessness of the die-cutters or their diverse ideas as to the correct spelling; it is quite possible, for example, that Mælsuthan (see Edgar) and Macsuthan (under Canute) are the same name, the C and L being square-shaped and differing only by a short cross-stroke at the head of the former letter. It will be observed that many of the names occur in various places all over the kingdom. No argument can be founded on the commoner ones, such as Ælfstan, but when we find Sigewine at Chester and Worcester, or Sæwine at Chester and Bristol, it is natural to conclude that the same man struck his coins at both places, travelling from one to the other as he found his services required. The names found only on Chester coins are of great interest, being those of the earliest recorded citizens; Snel, in particular, which occurs over and over again for a century, appears to be a local name, for Snelson near Alderley is Snel's-tun (D. B. Senlestone). There is also a Snelston in Derbyshire.

The following is the detailed list of the Chester moneyers:—

<i>Athelstan</i> (925-940).	
Abba	Mærtene
Ælfwine	Megred
Æthered (Ch., Lon.)	Oslac
Beorard (? Beorneard)	Osle (for Osle or Osulf)
Boiga, Boiglet (Ch., Dy.)	Paul, Paulas
Cenapa, Cnapa	Rænulf, Rægenulf
Cnath	Salces (?)
Deorerd	Sigeferth
Deorulf, Diorulf	Snel
Eadlfe (for Eadlaf or Eadulf)	Tidgar, Tidger
Eadmund (Ch., Shrews.)	Tiotes, Totes
Efrard, Erard, Frard	Wiard
Mældomen	Wlfgar
	Wlfstan
<i>Edmund</i> 940-946).	
Ulf (coin described as "barbarous")	
<i>Edgar</i> (959-975).	
Ælfsige (Bed., Ch., &c.)	Eoroth
Ælfstan (Ch., Der., Ex.)	Flodger
Æscman (Ch., Ex., &c.)	Frothric, Frothric
Bogo, Boga, &c. (Canterbury, Ches., Wilt.)	Gillus, Gillys, Gyllis
Deorlaf (? Deorulf)	(Chester, Hereford)
Edmund	Mælsuthan
	Thurmod

Edward II. (975-979).

Boga, Boiga, &c. (Canterbury, Chester, &c.)

Most of the above occur at Chester only, some exceptions being noted, but very often the place of minting is not given on the coin, especially between Athelstan and Edgar. In the following lists, names which occur at *Chester only* are marked with an *asterisk*. It should be noted that names beginning with Æ are often spelt with A or E only.

Ethelred II. (979-1016).

Ælewine, Elewine	Goda, Godda
(? Ælfwine)	*Gunleof, Gunnleof
Ælfnoth	Leofman, *Leofmon
Ælfwine, Alfwine	Leofnod, Liofnoth, &c.
*Alcsige	Leofwine, Liofwine
Boga, Boiga, &c.	Oacetal, Oskytel, &c.
*Dufnelm	Othulf (Chester & York)
Eadric, Edric	Riculf (Ch., Shrews.)
Ehwine (? Eلفwine)	Sigewine (Ch., Worc.)
*Elemod, Elenoth (may be variants of Ælfnoth above)	*Swegen (Ch., Linc.)
Elfstán, Ælfstan	*Thorald
	Wulfic
	*Wullaf, Wyllaf

Canute (1016-1035).

Ægelric	Leofa, Lefa (Ch., Lew.)
Ælfnoth	Leofnoth, Liofnoth, &c.
Ælfric, Ælric, &c.	Leofsi, Leofsi, &c.
Ælfsige, Ælfsie, &c.	Leofwi, *Leowi, Leofwig
Ælfward, Ælward, &c.	Leofwine, Liofwine, &c.
Ælfwine, Ælwine, &c.	*Leowidi
Ætheric, Æthelric	Lifinc, Leofinc, &c.
Alcsi, Alfsi (? Alcsige)	*Liwine (? Liofwine)
Ceolnoth, Oilnoth, &c.	*Macutha(n)
*Croc, Crocl, Crofl	*Snel(l)
*Colbein	Swartinc, Swartinc
*Endiwerin	Swegen
Godric, Goodric, &c.	*Trofan
Godwi (? Godwine)	Wulfnoth, Wulnoth, &c.
Godwine	Wulfsi
*Gunleof, Cunleof	

Harold I. (1035-1040).

Ælfsige (Ch., Glouc.)	Sæwine (Ch., Bristol).
Ælfwine, Alfwine, &c.	*Snel, Snell, Snell.
*Cille	Sumerled, &c. (Chester and Lincoln).
*Croc, Crocc.	*Sumerlr (? Sumerled).
Gyldewine (Chester and Canterbury).	Swartinc, Swertinc.
Leofnoth, Lefenath, &c.	Swegen (Ch. & York).
Leofwig.	Wulnoth.
Leofwine, Leowine, &c.	Wulwne (for Wulfwine).

Hardicanute (1040-1042).

Ælfsige (Ch., Glouc.)	Leofnoth, Lefenoth, &c.
Ælfstan (Ch., Exeter).	Leofwine, Lofwine, &c.
*Cillecris (for Gillecris).	*Snell.

Edward the Confessor (1042-1066).

Ælfgar (Ch., London).	Godric, Goderic, &c.
Ælfsig, Elfsig, &c.	*Huscarl.
Ælfsie, Alfsie, Elfsie.	Leofn (Ch. & Glouc.)
*Alrxi (? Alfsi or Alcsi).	Leofnoth, Liofnoth, &c.
Arngrim, Ærgrim, &c.	Leofwi, Lefwi
Brunning, Brunnice,	(for Leofwin or Leofwig).
Brunning.	Leofwig, Lofwig, &c.
*Brunnusel.	Leofwine, &c.
*Colbrand.	Sweartool, Swartool, &c.
Dunning, Dunning	(Chester and York)
(Chester & Hastings).	*Wirwyn
Færgim, Færgim	Wulfnoth, Wulnoth, &c.
(Chester & Stamford).	

*Harold II. (1066).***Alxxi.*

A special interest attaches to the names under Edward the Confessor, because we learn from Domesday Book that during his reign the legal number of moneyers at Chester was seven only. This limitation may indeed have been made by Edward's order, for a considerable reduction in the number of moneyers recorded seems to have taken place after the time of Canute, the latter king's reign of 19 years (1016—1035) yielding about thirty names while Edward's longer one shows but twenty. But Domesday Book may carry us further than this, for it gives the names of the holders of land in the county in 1066, and on comparing them with the names of the moneyers it will be found that there are exactly seven coincidences, as follows:—

Coin.	Domesday Book.
Alxxi	Alsi.
Arngrim or Ærngrim	Aregrim or Haregrim (for Arengrim).
Dunninc	Dunning
Godric	Godric
Leafwine	Leuvin (for Lefwin)
Leafnoth	Leuenot (for Lefenoth)
Wulfnoth or Wulnoth	Unod (for Wulnoth)

It looks at first as if we had here the seven moneyers of Chester who were at work at the time of Edward's death; and Alxxi was certainly living then, for (as may be seen in the list) some coins of his are extant which belong to the next reign. We may go a little further. It appears from Domesday Book that Unod and Leuvin had each a carucate or plough-land at Handbridge; they are thus associated with the city and with each other. Further Alsi and Haregrim divided between them the manor of Wharton, on the Weaver near Middlewich, and so they also were partners. Dunning, if there were only one Cheshire landholder of that name, had a few manors in different parts of the county, e.g., at Sandbach and at Storeton; and if, as his possession of Kingsley might imply, he was an official of the earls of Mercia, he might also have had a licence to coin money at Chester. The other names are too common to allow the assumption that all the manors held by a Godric or a Leuenot in 1066 were the property of one man; but it may be noticed that a Leuenot held Snelson, suggesting at least some connection with Snel, a former Chester moneyer. Thus in four or five of the names a plausible case has been made out for identifying the moneyers with certain of the landholders of 1066 recorded in Domesday Book; and the plausibility is not diminished when we notice further that two names are associated with Chester and two with the saltmaking districts along the Weaver. These would be exactly the places where coined money was wanted for trade—the general merchant business of Chester and the important salt traffic of the Wiches. There seems nothing improbable in the supposition that the Chester moneyers—no doubt men of character and wealth—would also appear among the holders of land; and beyond probability it is impossible to go, in the absence of positive evidence.

J. B.

*[678] OLD COLLECTIONS IN ST. OSWALD'S. III.**(Continued from No. 675.)*

Anno dom: 1619.—Monney Collected in our parish and paid towards the releefe of these persons hereunder written.

Imprimis Collected and paid to Thomas Steward towards the redeeming of certain persons that were taken prisoners by the Turkesxxvjs. ijd.

Item the xvijth of May Collected and paid to Isaac James towards the scowringe of the River at Bridport in the Countie of Dorsett xs. xd. ob.

Item the xxiiijth of May Collected and paid for the releefe of John Sutton a poore parishioner, and fallen into great miserie by reason of a longe sicknes xixs.

Item Collected and paid to Francis Emmerton towards the repaire of Barton upon Humber wch was consumed by fyre xxijs. xd. ob.

Item the xxth of June Collected and paid to Roger Haslhurst of Awlem parish who had sustayned greate losses by fyre xvjs.

Item the xxijth of August Collected and paid to Thom: Moorecroft for the releefe of Thomas Hartsteere of Kingston upon hull who was greatlly impoverished xvs. iiijd. ob.

Item the xxixth of August Collected and paid to Rich: Hale for the releefe of Richard Hodgkin of Wolstan in the Countie of Salop who had sustained great losses xs. ixd.

Item the xixth of September Collected and paid towards the scowringe of a River called Fosse dike in Lincolneshire xs. iiijd.

Item the xxvth of September Collected and paid towards the repairing of the haven townes of donwich, Southwold and Walberswicke in Suffolke xxvijs.

Item the xth of October Collected and paid to Ales Delahey a poore woman of St. Peter's parish who was fallen into greate povertie xijs.

Item the xxvth of October Collected and paid to David Cowford of Wappinge in Middlesex who had sustained great losses xs. vijd.

Item the vijth of November Collected and paid to John Beetles for the use of John Nettles of Malpasse parish who had sustained great losse by fyre xiijs.

Item the xvijth of November Collected and paid to Morrice Powell of the parish of Dreiton in hales in the Countie of Salop who had greate losse by fyre xs. ixd. ob.

Item Collected and paid to Thomas Barrell towards the redeeming of William Ramsey of Chattam in Kent, John Richardson and Robert Shrode who were taken prisoners by the Turkes xvjs.

Item the xxth of Februarie Collected and deliuered to John Moreton towards the releefe of John davie of St. Kathrens who was fallen into greate wante xijs.

Item the xxviijth of Januarie Collected and paid to wid: Cowper a poore parishner beinge a lame woman xiijs. ijd.

Item the vijth of Februarie Collected and paid to Benjamin Slare, towards the releefe of Henrie Hughes gent: who was taken prisoner by the Spaniards in the Archdukes Countreyxs.
 Item the xxth of Februarie Collected and paid to Willm. Garnons of Baywill in the Countie of Yorke gen. who had sustained great losses by Imprisonm't &c.xijs. ijd.
 Item the xijth of March Collected and paid to Richard Clatterwicke of Wet sledall who had sustained greate losse by fyrexvs.
 Item the xixth of March Collected and paid to John ap Richard of Poole in Mongomerie who had sustained great losse by fyrexjs.
 E. C. L.

JULY 30, 1902.

NOTES.

[679]

JOHN BRUEN. VII.

(Continued from No. 657.)

The three years being expired he returned home to Stapleford; he married another wife, by whom he had one daughter that died and one son living; and encouraging himself in the ways of God he daily performed these four duties:

First, Meditation for the increase of knowledge, and good affections towards God and good things. And for his help herein he carried about him some part of the Bible, or notes of sermons, when he went into the fields; within doors he read much in the Scriptures and made collections of the promises, precepts, comforts, prohibitions, &c.; and these he made the subject of his meditations. For this end also he read oft the works of divers learned men and drew into heads and common-places what was most worthy of observation in them.

Amongst the rest he was much delighted and refreshed with Dr. Hall's "Contemplations" and "Meditations," Mr. Greenham's works, Mr. Rogers his seven treatises, which for his better help and greater comfort he had abridged and epitomised almost all, till he was informed that another godly man and worthy divine (Mr. Paul Banes) had already done it to his hand. And afterwards when Mr. Egerton's "Practice of Christianity," containing the sum and substance of that book, came forth he applied himself to make the best use of that part of it touching the art and exercise of this divine meditation; wherein he profited so well that he was very able according to those places and rules of directions to enlarge his meditations upon any subject that did usually fall within his reach and compass.

The Fruits of it.—And he found much benefit by these meditations; as, the killing of noisome lusts, the dislodging of many worldly cares. It wrought in

him a godly care over his thoughts, words, and actions; it ministered to him counsel and strength for spiritual combats; it brought to him a heaven upon earth and made him go about earthly affairs with a heavenly mind; it kept his heart in possession of his integrity, whereby he kept faith and a good conscience in everything; it wrought his soul to a gracious tenderness, lowliness, and meekness, to be very sensible of other men's sins and sorrows as well as of his own; it enabled him wheresoever he came to leave a sweet savour of his grace and virtues behind him; and it was as a sovereign preservative against all enticements and allurements to sin.

(2) His Observation of God's Works.—In the next place he was very careful to observe God's works both of mercy and judgments, for which end he observed and recorded many of them. Hear him speaking in his own words:

Return of Prayer.—"Some few years before my brother Hardware died he had a manservant (as many thought) bewitched, and grew daily weaker and weaker, so that my brother sent to me and my family to spend a day with him in fasting and prayer. At that time I had good Mr. Watts, the preacher, with me. We went to the house, where we found the man was very sick and weak and like an anatomy, having nothing but skin and bones, not like to live a day longer. He was brought and laid in a bed in the chamber where we prayed, and the same evening he began to amend; the next morning he walked abroad, and the third day was so strong that he fell to his work and labour. All laud and praise to God for it!"

God's Mercy.—"Anno 1601, my servant going with his cart laden, fell down and the wheels (being iron-bound) went over his leg, yet hurt him not at all. Laus Deo—praised be God!"

"Anno 1602, my son John going into the field, took up a scythe to see how he could mow; the scythe entered into his stocking to the shin bone, shaving the hair, and came out at the back side of his leg, and touched no flesh nor skin. Laus Deo—praised be God!"

God's Judgment on a Swearer.—"Anno 1603, one that dwelt in my farm in Wimbolds Trafford, seeing two godly persons going in the way, said to one with him, 'I will dance, swagger, and swear to anger yonder two Puritans'; and so he did, to their great grief. But presently the avenging hand of God was upon him, so that immediately he fell sick, was carried home in a cart, and within three days died most fearfully. All glory to God!"

(To be continued.)

[680] ST. OSWALD'S CHURCH, 1575-1625.

I. THE SEATING ARRANGEMENTS.

It is proposed to give, in the series of articles, of which this is the first, a collection of extracts from the earlier Churchwardens' Accounts and Vestry

Books of St. Oswald's, Chester, which will, it is hoped, be of interest to readers of the "Sheaf," as throwing light, not only on the past history of the building—the newly-restored South Transept of the Cathedral—but also on the manners and customs of former days.

Hemingway says, "Previous to the year 1525, there were no seats in this church, excepting those appropriated to the mayor and corporation." In the "Sheaf" of July 24, 1878, there was published an Order by the Commissioners appointed by the Archbishop of York to enquire into the state of the Church of St. Oswald, and its fitness for the celebration of divine service therein. From this decree, which is dated 27th August, 1633, the following passages may be quoted as bearing upon the seating arrangements which had been adopted:—"Forasmuch as that, upon a diligent view taken by the said Commission'rs of the said Church of St. Oswald, it did appeare unto them that the said Church was very undecent and unseemly, the stalls thereof being patched and peeced and some broken, and some higher than other. . . . The said Comission'rs did order and enjoinne the said Churchwardens . . . to take p'sent Order that the Toppe or peeces w'ch were added to some stalls should be taken downe, and these Stalls and the rest of the Stalls in the same Church should be made uniforme and decent one yard in height and noe more, and that the same Stalls should bee decently flagged or boarded w'thin . . . and likewise to pave or flagge the Isle w'ch they call their Quire, wherein the Co'ion table standeth: and that the seats adjoyning to the wall beyond the Comunion Table bee removed and taken away and the communion Table sett upp close to the wall." This indication of the state of things is fully borne out by the Churchwardens' Accounts of the previous fifty years. On the very first page of the earliest extant accounts (1575) there occur three items for the making of pews, the differences of price being hardly suggestive of uniformity of style. Thus—

One pewe under the pulpitt made by Mr. Birchley Churchwarden of this parish vijs.

For two pews being under the pulpitt for Mr. Thantrelle of the bache come to iijs.

More for one pewe being under the saide pulpitt for Nicholas Massey come to viijs. viijd.

Then follow more than four pages of appropriations of seats, their situations being roughly indicated under the following heads:—

The ranckes next to the Church doore;

Hereafter followeth the Charges and placing of three ranckes of Wainscott pews (1575);

The ranckes placed behind Mr. Maiors pewe;

The second rancke of pews next unto the Minister (Minster?);

The rancke next unto the Minister;

The third rancke of pews next unto the Church doore.

In the same year these items occur—

Paid to Dannot Hall and an other w'th Seftons wifie for carrying out the muck and making cleane the Church before the pews were sette xxd.

Paid for nailes to Mr. Walle and Henry Houghton for the pews ixs.

Paid for boards and neales to neale upp the pews w'ch be unset iiijd.

Paid for neales to neale the foreparte of the benches before the Pews vjd.

In 1593 we find "For making cleane two pews in the Chansell, iiijd.;" and in 1607, "Paid to Stanayes mane for setinge upe the longe benche close to the waulle behinde the fonstone and for spares and nayles, xiiijd." But as time went on, and fresh benches kept being added, it was apparently necessary to define their position more precisely. Thus in 1609 we have these three receipts:—

Willm. Hinkes for one duble forme next adioynings unto the Chappell doore 2s. 0d.

John Pierson for the xiiijth forme in the seconde Ranke next the minster 1s. 0d.

John Johnes for the iiijth forme in the ixth Ranke from the minster 1s. 0d.

In 1610 there occurs—"Wm. Liniall for one forme next before the Vicar's seate in the Chansell, xijd.;" in 1612, "Richard Taylor for one p'te of a forme next the scoole, xijd.;" and in 1613, "Widdow Buttler for one forme next unto the scoole doore, ijs.;" and "Rec. of Sr. George Booth for one forme in the Chappell next unto the minster and for repaying of it, iijs. vjd."

The Churchwardens' Pew was set up in 1586:—Item paid to Taeker for one pewe of Syled Worke w'ch is by the Fonte, for the Churchwardens to sett in to ou'see the misdemeane's w'ch happen in Church at service time xvs. vjd.

This evidently proved a success as a similar seat was provided two years later for the sworn-men, "on the other side of the pillar w'ch is by the Fonte," at a cost of xs. viijd. In 1592 we find—"To the Woman for dressing the Churchwardens pewe, xijd.;" and in 1607—"For the repayinge of the Churchwardenes' forme yt. the sit in at Ester, xvijd.;" in 1608—"For a newe seate or forme for the Sworne men, xvijd.;" "For greate nayles for ye same seate & amendinge the doore, jd.;" and "To ye mason for cuttinge the pillar, ijd."

In 1612, vjd. "is paid to a Mason for makinge holes to sett formes fast."

(To be continued.)

[681] CHESHIRE DOMESDAY NOTES. VIII.

(See No. 676.)

Areas of Manors (iii).—The following manors of Robert Fitz Hugh's have also the measurement recorded:—

Malpas ("Depenbech," 4b), which became the principal manor and gave a title to the barony, was two leagues long and one broad. If the length be

taken north and south the dimensions will be satisfied by including with the present township of Malpas those of Wychough, Stockton, and Wigland. There are other possible solutions.

Tilston (4b), one league by one league, seems to mean the four townships of Tilston and Carden, Grafton and Stretton, for the division line between these pairs is about a mile and a half in length. In this instance considerable tracts of land on the eastern and western borders are omitted, probably as waste. The township of Horton in Tilston parish, may be reckoned in the Domesday manor of Shooklach (5a). The bishop's claim to a half hide may mean that there was an endowed church at Tilston; but "the county" did not support him.

Larkton (5a) is credited with an area of four leagues square. The township being only about one league by a half, some explanation is needed. It will be found that from the southern border of Edge, Hampton, and Bickley to the northern boundary of Broxton and Burwardsley is about six miles, and that much the same distance separates the western boundary of Edge and Duckington from the eastern limit of Cholmondeley; so that the measurement of this district, all in the hands of Robert Fitz Hugh, has been attached (for convenience merely) to Larkton as the central manor.

Here may also be noticed the great wood of Acton by Nantwich, six leagues long by one broad. Taking the "thread" or middle line of the district formed by the townships of Faddiley, Brindley and Burland, Hurleston, Henhull, Acton, Edlaston, and Beddington, it will be found to measure about nine miles, not in a straight line of course, with a breadth of from one and a half to two miles. This district then, with the town of Nantwich, seems to be what is meant by "Actune" (7a), the wood being cleared in various places for settlements from which the present townships have sprung.

(To be continued.)

QUERY.

[682] CENTRAL PIERS OF THE CATHEDRAL.

Can anyone explain the meaning of the curious bases of the pillars which support the Cathedral tower? They look as if solid walls bounding the old nave had been cut through to give a passage north and south.

Q.

AUGUST 6, 1902.

NOTES.

[683] THE REV. EBEN. WHITE.

The following extract from a review in the "Evangelical Magazine" of November, 1812, may be of interest. Possibly some reader of the

"Sheaf" may be able to give further particulars of Mr. White's history and an account of his "Remains."

Select Remains of the late Rev. Eben. White, of Chester: to which are prefixed Memoirs of his Life and extracts from his correspondence. By Joseph Fletcher, A.M. With a Preface, and a short Obituary of Mr. White's Mother. By the Rev. W. B. Collyer, D.D. 8vo. Price 5s. 6d.

Exalted pre-eminence in any of the departments of human life is the portion of few. . . . But it should not be forgotten that every man of integrity and virtue is of importance in his own sphere; and every man who, by the power of vital religion, pursues a steady course of holiness and usefulness is worthy of being held up to general imitation. Such a person was the Rev. Eb. White, of whom we have a concise account in this little volume, and some of whose productions are here exhibited to the public. In the memoirs will be found what is chiefly interesting to those in whose society the deceased once lived. The extracts from his correspondence and his theological pieces contain proofs of a sound judgment; and several of the poetical selections, though they do not sparkle brightly with genius, will afford the reader innocent amusement and devout pleasure. We cannot but regret that the editors, whose talents and virtues we highly respect, should have consulted so little the literary reputation of their departed friend as to have inserted in this volume the piece entitled "Paraleipomena." There are some passages in it which, had he been living, he would rather have thrown into the flames than have given them publicity. We wish the selection of all the poems had been as judicious as that of the "Æolian Harp," which we doubt not it will gratify our readers to peruse.

Unaided by Cecilian art,
Sweet chorister, thy notes impart
Sincere delight to me.
Thy simple octave entertains
With all the mellow-flowing strains
Of wild variety.

[There are five more verses.]

The work closes with a short obituary of the excellent mother of Mr. White, whose end seems to have been accelerated by the loss of a son whom she "loved as her own soul."

[684] THE ANTHEM BELL.

(See No. 646.)

Since sending the query about the Anthem Bell to the "Sheaf" (No. 583), I have had the opportunity of referring to the rough draft of the St. Oswald's Churchwardens' Accounts from which the extract was taken; and I find that what appears as "Anthem Bell" in the Vestry Book is written "Anthome bell" in the draft—yet another variant in the spelling, and one tending to confirm Dr. Bridge's interesting explanation. E. C. L.

[685] ST. OSWALD'S CHURCH, 1575-1625.

I. THE SEATING ARRANGEMENTS.

(Continued from No. 680.)

The following item occurs in 1583:—"Spent in goinge aboute the p'ish to take the names of those that want kneelinge places the first of July 1583, iiijd."; and for the next few years there are frequent receipts from parishioners, varying from 6d. to 2s. each, for their 'wives' kneeling-places; also frequent payments for the goodwill of pews: e.g. in 1583—

To Richard Ince's Wiefe for her good will to lett Richard Tilstons wiefe kneele with her xviiijd.

To Mrs. Pillen for her good will of her pewe ijs. viiijd.

A few items will suffice to show what an absence of anything like uniformity there was in the sittings:—

(1593) For mending of a pew w'ch hath a backe &c.

(1594) For seaven new pewes of Joyners Worke xxxvs. iiijd.

To Hughe Kenrigg for c'taine benches w'ch is between the said new pews and the wall, for people to sitt upon iijjs. iiijd.

(1586) For a new longe forme in the lower end of the Church xxijs. iiijd.

(1590) For a benche to Mrs. Chat'erton pew and to the Workmen viijd.

(1591) For hinges for the Churchwardens pew, and for setting them on iijd.

(1592) For a plancke to the Churchwardens pew and for the Workmanship xiijd.

(1596) To Arrat Watt for setting up five formes w'ch were broken downe xiijd.

(1599) Paid for making a doore into the vicares seate with locke and hinges ijs.

(1600) Paid to Henry Pye for making of foure pews quarto decem' 1600 xxixs.

Paid Stockton for hinges for the pew doors .. iijjs.

Paid for dressing of the pew where the Font stands vjd.

(1603) Paid to Robert Sewell for setting upp one bench in the Church iijd.

Paid to Myles Henshawe for setting upp one benche iijd.

Paid to Thomas Woodnett for setting up one bench and for nayles vd.

[The last three are successive items, and three different workmen are employed!]

(1606) For a kay for the Cupboard in the Vicar's pewe iijd.

In 1615 the Auditors made the following recommendations:—

"Item wee doe thinke fittinge that the Churchwardens shall enioy the forme by them lately repaired, or else to receaue for the use of the parish of Widdow Worrall who doth make tittle to the same forme the somme of xijs. iiijd, w'ch hath bene disbursed for repairac'on of the same forme if by

course of lawe ye same pue or forme bee taken from them." "That every parishner shall repair their own forme and that noe repairac'ons to bee hereafter made by the Churchwardens upon the charge of the parish for anie forme or pue graunted to anie priuled p'son."

This recommendation was, however, ignored, as in the very next year's accounts are these items:

Paid for mending of the back of the Seat beyond the Font viijd.

Paid the third p't of the charges towards the bording of the Maiors seate ixs. vjd.

Paid for mending seu'all seats and formes in the Church ijs. viiijd.

In 1622 there occurs:—"Paid for the making of two pews in the Church, the one for the Aldermen's wives and the other for the sheriffs-peeres ... lijs. vjd."

There is an item in 1608 for "amendinge the Aldermen's seats," and one in 1619 "for mendinge the Bishops Pue."

The whole question of the disposal of seats evidently gave rise to a good deal of dissatisfaction, and at last, in 1618, we find:—"Item, paid for a Comission for the Authorisinge of diuerse gentlemen of our parish to dispose of the seates in the church—xiiijd." The following resolution in the Vestry Book gives an idea of the kind of knotty questions which the Commissioners were called upon to settle:

The second day of April 1620.

Whereas a Survey of the Seates and formes in our Church Taken the day of Anno. dom. 1618 by divers Comissioners nominated and Authorised by the Ordinarie for the ordering and disposinge of the said seats and formes, it then appeared to the said Comissioners, that one of the seats under the Pulpit, w'ch mr. Francis Hawarden of Boughton did then enioy, had formerlie bene supplied by two parishioners, namelie by the said Mr. Hawarden, and one Edward Fox then inhabitinge in Boughton aforesaid. And also the saide Comissioners at the same survey understandinge that the said Edward Fox was then removed out of our parish, And that Mr. John Hardware (who w'ch manie other parishioners of good note beinge then unprovided of a seate in our Church) had purchased the Capitall Messuage or dwellinge house and parte of the Lands belonginge to the said Edward Fox in Boughton aforesaide and did then dwell upon the same Capitall Messuage Therefore the said Comissioners did then order That the said Mr. Francis Hawarden and Mr. John Hardware should enioy the same seate ioyntlie betweene them both. And nowe forasmuch as the said Mr. Francis Hawarden hath denyed that the said mr. Hardware should be his partner in the said seate accordinge to the order of the said Comissioners And that thereupon (customable warninge havinge bene given in the Church) many of the parishioners are at this tyme assembled, before whom the matter in variance was now in

question, and divers alligations were alleadged by the said Mr. Francis Hawarden to prove that the same seate hath formerlie bene supplied but onelie wth one parishioner at once, Yet notwithstandinge because it appeareth both by the mappes of the seates in our Church and also by other bookes remaininge in the custodie of the Churchwardens of our parish, then openlie seene and p^used, That the same seate hath formerlie bene a duble seate and supplied by the said Mr. Hawarden and Edward Fox as aforesaid. Therefore by most of the parishioners now present it is agreed upon, that the said Mr John Hardware shall have and enioy parte of the aforesaid seate, wth the said Mr. Francis Hawarden joynately together accordinge to the order of the aforesaid Comissioners and the Custome of the parish.

It would seem from the above that the seats were, some of them, very short ones. And having regard to the fact that the church is only 78 feet long from north to south, and that there were nine "ranks" of seats from north to south ("from the Minster"), the average length, allowing for aisles and passages, cannot have been much more than six feet.

In 1622 the two following items occur:—

Paid for the charges of those that went the first time to my Lo: Bp: at Wigan about mr. Ince's seat and for horsehirexxvjs. 8d.

Paid for the expenses of the Churchw: and one other in going the second time to Wigan to deli^u a Pre to my Lo: Bp: and for horsehire xxs.

[Bishop Bridgeman at this time resided at the Rectory at Wigan.]

This somewhat lengthy notice may fitly conclude by mentioning that on 13th July, 1624, a meeting of householders was held in the Church, at which "the Churchwardens did make known that diu's parishon's of good note" requested seats for themselves and their families, which they were unable to provide for them; and it appeared from "the draught or mapp" of the seats "that diu's parishon's of meaner sort . . . did get such seats as were fitter for parishon's of better Ranck." Commissioners were therefore appointed "for the ordering and disposing of all the seats" in the Church: and it was resolved "that the Churchw: should p^cure a Comission under the Episcopall Seales to authorise them or the more part of them to order and dispose of all the said seats in such manner as to them shall seeme fitt and convenient."

The Commission was granted by Bishop Bridgeman on Sept. 3rd, 1624, but the high-handed proceedings of the Commissioners and of the above named Mr. Ince in particular, led to a painful dispute between the Bishop and civic authorities to which we shall have occasion to refer again. [See Rev. F. Sanders' Historic Notes on the Bishops of Chester, in Chester Diocesan Gazette for February, 1891; Hemingway's Chester, vol. ii, p. 65, 66.]

E. C. L.

(To be continued.)

[686] CHESHIRE DOMESDAY NOTES. IX.

(See No. 681.)

Nether Peover.—"Pevre" occurs four times in Domesday Book, as divided among the following tenants of the Earl of Chester:—

- (1) William FitzNigel (Halton barony) ... $\frac{3}{4}$ hide (8a)
- (2) Gilbert Venables (Kinderton, ,,)2 bov. (10a)
- (3) Randle (ancestor of Mainwarings) ... $\frac{1}{4}$ hide (10b)
- (4) Ditto2 bov. (10b)

Of these (3) seems to be undoubtedly Over Peover in Roestherne parish, while the others together form the chapelry of Nether Peover in Great Budworth, which is thus divided into townships:—

Little Peover, chiefly belonging to the barony of Halton, but partly, it would appear, to the Earl's manor of Weaverham;

Plumley, belonging partly to Halton, and partly to the Mainwarings who gave it to St. Werburgh's;

Allstock (Over Lostock), belonging chiefly to the Grosvenors, and held under Weaverham.

Comparing this statement of the manorial history (Ormerod i, 667-9, iii, 140-5) it will be seen at once that (1) refers to portions of Little Peover and the adjoining townships held under the barons of Halton; (4) to the Mainwaring share of Plumley; and there is left (2), which may accordingly include the Grosvenors' holding in Allstock. The tradition of their descent from Gilbert de Venables (or Venator) is to this extent supported by the witness of Domesday Book that their lands may have originally belonged to this Gilbert. It would have to be supposed that the Earl resumed his grant in this case, no doubt giving compensation elsewhere.

(To be continued.)

QUERY.

[687] "MY LADY BUSHELL."

The following entry occurs in the St. Oswald's Churchwardens' Book:

1607. Given by my Ladye Bushell the xxijth of August late Wife to the Bavand of Kindertone to the pores Boxe and put in ther by her man xs.

Is anything known of this benevolent lady's two husbands? E. C. L.

AUGUST 13, 1902.

NOTES.

[688] FRODSHAM CHURCH ROLL, 1495.

The following record of the arrangement of the seats in Frodsham Church in 1495 is taken from the original parchment roll preserved in the parish chest. A copy was made some thirty years ago for Mr. Edward Herford and published, with some remarks by him, in "The Church of the People," a

magazine he established to support his crusade against "the pew system." The seats were arranged in six rows, three on each side of the centre-line of the church, and yet in pairs according to the sexes—men and women alternately. The enumerator is supposed to be standing on the chancel steps and looking down the church, so that he begins with the southernmost row and ends with the northernmost. The roll is headed—

"YE KIRCHE ROLE OF FRODESH: of alle ye seates on the Kyrke of S. Ilaur' ther' & ye Chappelles threof in Vigil' Assenc' dom. Anno rr' Henrici Sepmi X." [May 27, 1495].

Over the first three rows (A, B, C) is the heading—

"Att ye fyrste rancke of fforimes on ye Southe side the Kyrke & Weste of the Mayst' Rotter hys chapell & the second & iiii rankes on ye same side."

and over the other three (D, E, F)—

"Att the fyrste rancke of fforims on ye northe syde the Kirke & Weste of the Mast' Hellesby hys chappyll syttes and the ii. & iii. rankes ye sayme syde."

The names run thus:

A	B
Rafe Rotter' gen. for ye brokehowse	Vxor ye sayd Rafe & yr' servautes & other gentylls
Ihon Bothe, gen. hys servaunte & or' gentylle strangers	Vx' ye sayde Ihon & yr' servautes & or' gentyll strayingners
Will. Smythe, gen. & or' gentilles strangers	Vx' ye sayde Will.
James Hellesby, gen. for Hellesbyhowse	Vx' ye sayde James & or' gentyll strayingners
Rafe Mydleton and strangers	The ternautes' wynshes of ye sayde Rafe that dwellyn with hym
The Tenautes of ye Banckhowse	The Tenautes of ye Banck house
The servaunt menne of ye tenantes	The servaunte maydes of ye Tenautes
Ihon Asshetone	Vx' ye sayde Ihon
Ihon Jannysonne	Vx' ye sayde Ihon
Rycharde Whytteleghe	Vx' ye sayde Rychd. Strangers
Ihon ffletcher & straing'	Vx' ye sayde Thomas
Thomas Norton	Widowe Broune
Robertt Blymeston	Wydowe Hylle & strang'
John Nannygreve	Vx' ye sayde Edwarde
William Hylle & straing'	Vx' ye sd Rycharde
Edwarde Myllner	Vx' ye sayde Wylliam
Rycharde Broundende	Wydowe Hellesbye
William Harrysonne	Vx' ye sayde Rycharte
Xpof Banckes	Vx' ye said Roberte
Richarde Jenkysone	ffor ye straungers
Robarte Marscer	Vx' ye sayde Lawrence
Hugh Daynetreth	Harry Leche
Lawrence Thomassone	Samuel Tailyer
Henrie Boweyerde	
Gyllys Rotter	

C	D
Rafe Arderne, gen. & gentylle strangers	Vx' ye sayde Rafe Ardene & gentyll strangers
James Mandleye, gen. & the menn servautes of ye halle	Vx' ye sayde Jamys & ye Wimmenn servaintes of Mandleye halle
Rafe Kyngesleye, gen.	The Tenautes of ye Hyllehowse

Gryffyne Neutthalle, gen.	Vx' ye sayde Gryffynn & other gentyll str'
Pyerres Trafford, gen.	Ye ternautes of ye Raikeshowse
The Tenautes of ye Parsonne	The Tenautes of ye Personne
John Gryffyne, gen.	Vx' ye sayde Johan & or' gentle straing'
Thomas Crue, gen.	Vx' ye sayd Thomas
Peter Wutter	Vx' ye sayde Peeter
Janykyn Grymesdiche	Vx' ye saide Jankynn
Gylles Lyttlemore	Vx' ye sayde Gylles
James Bradeleigh	Vx' ye sayde Jamys & yr' servautes & str'
James Bradeleigh	The wywnshes of ye sayde Roger
Roger Symmekok	Vx' ye saide Edwarde
Edward Wallker	The servautes of ye sayde Harrye
Harrye Haryes	Vx' ye saide George
George Knowelles	Vx' ye saide Jeffre
Jeffre Bassenette	Vx' ye sayde Peeter
Peeter Backer	Vx' ye sayde Robarte
Robert Croke	The Wenshes of ye sayde Hamette
Hamnett Whytte	Vx' ye sd Ihon Costard
Ihon Goosetarde	Wydowe Orryche
Tomas Burgess	Vx' ye sd Ihon Pick
John Horryche	
Ihon Pickes	

E	F
Ihon Hellesbye, gen. & or' gentyll strangers	Vx' ye sayde Hughe & gentyll straing'
Randle ffrodysam, gen.	The womenne servaunts of Hellesby Halle
& gentyll strang'	Vx' the saide Pyerres
Pyers Hellesby, gen.	Vx' the sayde Rycharte & other gentyll straing'
Rycharde Gerrarde, gen. & other gentyll straing'	The ternautes' wynshes
The tenants of ye Raykehouse	The sayde Robarte & yr' servautes
Roberte Newtonne, gen. & or' gentille straing'	Vx' ye sayde Peers & yr' servautes
Peers Dutton, gen.	The suster of ye saide Thomas
Thomas Gerrarte, gen.	Vx' the sayde Heven & yr' servautes
Heven ap Madoke	Vx' ye sayde Wylliam & yr' servautes & or' gentyll straing'
William Hyrelonde	
Johan Oocklestone	Vx' ye sayde Wylliam
Will Whytteleye, gen.	Vx' ye sayde Geffrey
Geffre Hattone, gen.	Yr' wywnnene servautes of ye sayde Geffre
Roger Pyche	Vx' ye sayd Rafe
John Arderne	Vx' ye sayd Geffrey
Thomas Knowllys	Vx' ye sd Jamys
Rafe Sparcke	Vx' ye sd Edwarde
Jeffre Hellesby	Vx' ye sayd Robart
James Wooddys	Vx' ye sayd Ihon
Edwarde Woodeward	Vx' ye sayde Mylles
Robarte Stretyche	Vx' ye sd Petre
John Coke	Vx' ye sd Rycharte.
Mylles Burgess	
Peeter Mannleighe	
Rycharte Mannleighe	
Ye Heyres of Johan Monnleighe, gen.	

Mr. Herford observes that these appropriated seats occupy only half the available space on the floor, so that there was plenty of room for the other parishioners. Later "Seat rolls" exist—for 1637,

1747, 1784, and 1791—and from the extracts given from the parish books it would appear that these rolls were frequently revised and re-written. Thus in 1608-9: "Paid to the clerk for writing of the presentments at the triennial Visitation (xj billets), the register for the last year, a note of the forms, and for other accounts—4s." And in 1634 are these items:

Paid for fetching the forms and syleing (*sic*) which stand behind the church door 2s.

Paid to a clerk in Chester for writing over the new form book 2s.

Paid for the workmanship and timber for below the aisle from the south to the north door, reserved for young men of the parish that want seats, servants, and strangers 14s.

He also refers to an earlier seat roll of the manorial church or chapel of the Asshetons (printed by the Chetham Society), where the women only are seated.

[689] CHESHIRE DOMESDAY NOTES. X.

(See No. 686.)

The Bovates.—In Cheshire the unit for "geld" or assessment is the hide (*hida geldabilis*), which is regularly subdivided into virgates or quarters; while the estimate of the "land" is given in carucates or ploughlands (*terra n carucis*), subdivided into bovates or oxgangs, each one-eighth of the carucate. It is therefore an anomaly to find bovates described as geldable, and in each of the few instances in which this anomaly occurs there is something peculiar or irregular in the assessment.

Bovates are thus employed at Pool in Wirral (6b), Over and Nether Tabley (8a, 10b), Lower Peover chapelry (10a, 10b), and Sutton near Middlewich (4a). The first-named instance may give the key. Here the form of the entry itself is peculiar, and the 4 bovates appear to supply a defect of $\frac{3}{4}$ hide in the adjoining manor of Hooton; so in Lower Peover the $\frac{3}{4}$ hide (8a) and 4 bovates would seem to have formed originally one hide; while at Sutton the four bovates of the Earl are joined with 3 virgates and 16 acres held by Bigot (9b), this being the only case in Cheshire in which "acres" are used in the assessment.

The explanation may be, not that 12 bovates were reckoned to the hide or the like, which would involve further irregularities, but that the Earls of Mercia in allowing these subdivisions of old manors used the opportunity to increase the assessment, in order probably to counterbalance losses which had occurred elsewhere by other subdivisions. Thus at Hooton and Pool and in Lower Peover there would be gains of one-sixth of a hide, and of 16 acres. The case of the Tableys is less clear, for here it might seem there had been a loss. The use of the bovaté may also signify that the subdivision is comparatively late.

(To be continued)

REPLY.

[690] THE STONE BRIDGE IN MOLLINGTON LANE.
(See No. 672.)

Q.'s suggestion that the Stone Bridge in Saughall Road was the Port Pool Bridge is a most interesting one, for, if correct, it throws a new light upon the opening section of the St. Oswald's Perambulation document, and renders it quite intelligible without the omission of that portion of the Parish which is in Blacon Township, referred to in Mr. Bennett's Query (No. 641). But Q. does not go far enough when he adds that "the further Stone Bridge" is "that in Parkgate Road (formerly Mollington Lane)." The point is, *which* bridge in Parkgate Road? for there are two—the one a little below the railway bridge, under which the Bache Brook flows—and the other beyond Abbot's Meads, a little before reaching the Canal bridge. My contention (No. 652) is, that, in the expression "the further stone bridge in Mollington lane," the word "further" is to be emphasised, and that the bridge referred to is the further of the two bridges in Parkgate Road. This bridge is, as a matter of fact, on the boundary line of the Blacon portion of St. Oswald's Parish.

We will now try to follow the description, of the boundary in Blacon (see No. 609) with Q.'s suggestion in view. So far as the "newe Towre" (now known as the Water Tower), all is clear. The "saltgrasse" would include the flat, low-lying, and then marshy land below Cambrian View, stretching from the Water Tower to the Stone Bridge in Saughall Road. This bridge, which we are assuming to be the Port Pool Bridge, is crossed. The next question is, what are "the poole heyres in Blacon Lordshipp"? A glance at the map shews that they can only be the meadows skirted by the plantation in Saughall Road and those in which Blacon House and farm buildings now stand. There were no other meadows in St. Oswald's Parish which were both in Blacon Lordship and near the Port Pool. The perambulators then go "about the west side" of these heys, and then turn "Eastward unto the further stone bridge in Mollington Lane." Now, in going along the boundary of these meadows, from the Stone Bridge to the further end of the plantation, one goes almost due west—strictly WNW—and from that point to the further stone bridge in Parkgate Road NNE. But a comparison of Speed's map with a modern one will shew that at the time of the Perambulation document, accuracy with regard to the points of the compass was not a strong point, even with map-makers: one can therefore hardly be surprised if a vicar, churchwarden, or parish clerk, in writing an account of the perambulation, loosely describes as "eastward" what we should call NNE. In the Tithe Map, Saughall Road is shewn as running north, which would be "about the west side of the poole heyres"; and at the end of the plantation the boundary line turns off due east to

the further stone bridge in Parkgate Road: but possibly the points of the compass are purposely disregarded in it.

Finally, in thus turning "eastward," the perambulators are said to have followed "the water course at the ends of Certaine of the said poole heys . . . wh: said water course doth there separate our parish from Trinitie parish, and cometh from the aforesaid Stone Bridge." Now from this latter Stone Bridge a stream still flows along the St. Oswald's boundary, and under the present Canal: but as soon as it has passed under the Canal it bends away to the north-west. It is, however, my belief that this stream at one time continued to flow along, and to form, the St. Oswald's boundary right down to the far end of the plantation in Saughall Road. If any one will stand on the railway embankment, just above that end of the plantation, and let his eye travel along the boundary between St. Oswald's and Trinity parishes to the point where the stream passes under the Canal, he will notice just such a depression in the land as he would expect to find from the gradual filling up, in the course of agricultural operations, of a watercourse which had been dry and disused for a hundred years or more.

E. C. L.

AUGUST 20, 1902.

NOTES.

[691] OLD CHESTER INNS.

The following fragmentary notes on the inns, &c. situated in the parish of St. Oswald are based on a list obtained from the rate assessment books between A.D. 1741 and 1758. The number of houses makes one think that the parishioners were more than well provided for; but as in 1782 there were about 140 inns and public-houses in the city, and the extent of this parish was great, it would seem that proportionately the other parishes were equally well supplied with hostleries. Of course Chester being on the main route between England and Ireland would render a large number of such houses necessary for the accommodation of travellers.

The following are the houses mentioned in the assessments:—

Falcon	Pyd Bull
Duke of Ormond's Head	Coach and Horses
Bull and Gate	Wheat Sheaf
George	Crown
White Lyon	Eagle and Child
Black Swan	Barley Mow
Cross Keys	Peacock
Bull and Dog	Boot
Plow	Cross Foxes
Bull's Head	Hen and Chickens
	Without the Northgate.
Suck and Coulter	Postchaise

	Eastgate Street.
Green Dragon	Unicorn
	St. Werburg Lane.
Mitre	Horse and Groom
	The other side of Eastgate Street.
Golden Talbot	White Talbot

Mention is also made of a "Coffee House."

The Pied Bull still exists in Northgate Street. It was a coaching house in the old days and on one of the supports of its front upper storeys is to be seen an old painted notice advertising the running of coaches to London, Worcester, Ludlow, Bristol, and Bath. There is a house bearing the sign The Coach and Horses near the Town Hall, but if it is the one existing in 1758 it has been, at least, refronted. The White Lion, one of the principal inns of the city at one time, stood on the site of the Market Hall and was pulled down to make room for that building.

The Cross Keys is still to be seen in Shoemakers Row, and the Boot on the north side of Eastgate Street in what, I think, has been called the Dark Row. Until a few years ago a small public house called the Bull's Head was in existence in Northgate Street near the Abbey Gateway, but it was pulled down and shops were opened in its place. A similar fate overtook the Green Dragon in Eastgate Street about 15 years ago, when Messrs. Dicksons altered their premises. A new house in Foregate Street now bears the sign.

The Grosvenor marks the spot where either the Golden Talbot or the White Talbot once stood, possibly where both stood, as I imagine they were close together. The sign is a significant local one—the crest of the Grosvenor family being a golden talbot and the supporters of their arms two golden talbots—and it has not been allowed to fall into disuse as it is now borne by a house close to. Inns bearing several of the other signs exist in various parts of the city, but on sites which could not be identical with those of the old houses in question, and the signs have probably been transferred.

There is a quaint old inn in Northgate Street called the Blue Bell bearing the inscription "Licensed A.D. 1494" on its gabled front, the upper storey of which is altogether of wood covered with stucco. This inn is not mentioned in the assessments and from this it would appear that in the course of time its sign has been changed. The upper storey of the house projects over the lower and is supported by pillars etc., forming a sheltered side walk, as in many other instances in Chester. There are signs that the house was once of larger extent and was a posting station of considerable importance; the detached room on the other side of the side walk, now in the occupation of a barber, having probably been used as a coaching office. In the early and middle portions of the last century this inn was much patronised by the city councillors.

On the site of the present Town Hall and adjoining the old White Lion were, I understand, three inns, but I have only been able to ascertain that one of them was named the Saracen's Head. Prior to some alterations in Canal Street seventeen years ago there existed at the junction with Northgate Street an old house called the Brown Cow, and on the other side of the last named street was the old Bull and Stirrup, a flat whitewashed building with several stone steps leading up to its doorway.

J. H. E. BENNETT.

[602] ST. OSWALD'S CHURCH, 1575-1626.

(Continued from No. 685.)

II. THE CHANCEL.

In trying to reconstruct in imagination the Chancel of St. Oswald's Church, as it was in the early part of the 17th century, we must first endeavour to decide where the chancel was. What data have we to help us? In Lysons' "Magna Britannia" (ii., 452) there is given a plan of the Monastery of St. Werburgh in Chester, as it remained a short time after its dissolution, taken from the Holmes' Collections in the British Museum (Harl. MSS 2073). According to this plan, the southernmost of the four bays of the east aisle was St. Nicholas' Chapel, the northernmost (next to the Cathedral) was St. Mary Magdalen's Chapel. (Sir George Booth had a form in the latter in 1613). Did the chancel consist of one, or both, of the intervening bays? The plan referred to marks the one next to St. Mary Magdalen's Chapel only as being the chancel, and gives no indication of what the other bay was used for. It seems most probable to the present writer that the chancel did consist of that one bay only, as the Mayor's seat, which was shared by the Bishop, was, at the period we are considering, in the "4th rank from the Minster"; and as there were nine ranks of seats, the fourth, assuming the seats to have been of about the same length, would be in front of this bay. May not the altar of St. Anthony have been in the other bay before the Reformation? It is mentioned in 1530 in the will of Thomas Ball of Boughton, thus:—"Also I giffe and beqweeth toward the cou'ynge of Sanct Anthonies alt' within the Paryoh Church of Sanct Oswaldes in Chest' iij*s* iiij*d* to be payd by my said executors" ("Lancs. and Cheshire Wills," p. 169).

What was this remaining bay, between the chancel and St. Nicholas' Chapel, used for in the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries? For a school. We find—

1611. Paid for mending the partition betwixt the Chancell and the schoole iij*d*.

1612. Payde for making a hole in a pillar of stone and for sodering a peece of Iron therein to hould upp the partition between the Chancell and the scoole xij*d*.

Paide to Thomas Eaton for Iron to houlde uppe the partition betweene the scoole and the Church xij*d*.

The decree of the Archbishop of York's Commissioners in 1633, quoted in the previous article, directed the pariahioners "to pave or flagge the Isle w'ch they call their Quire, wherein the Co'ion table standeth: and that the seats adjoyning to the wall beyond the Communion Table bee removed and taken away and the communion Table sett upp close to the wa.l." The Communion table seems to have stood somewhere in the middle of the chancel. We find a few items relating to its furniture—

1586. For five yards of fine Lynnen cloth of xviij*d*. a yard for a table cloth vijs. vid.

1594. To Richard Garfeild for setting upp of the syling ou' the Comunion table w'ch was fallen downe and for mending o'taine parts of it w'ch was broken xxd.

1607. For a deske for the Comunione tabell agaynst Ester ijs. vjd. For a box yt the parsons doth knelle one At the Com'tabell iij*d*.

1613. Paid for a Carpett for the Comunion table and settinge it together xxvs. iij*d*.

The Chancel was flagged, but the paving was seemingly out of repair; and in 1618 there was "paid for layinge certayne flaggs euen in the Chancell—xij*d*."

There was a form in front of the Communion table for the Communicants to kneel at:

1589. For timber to the Forme that the Communicants kneele at vjd.

1593. To little Davie for mending the forme before the Comunion table and for nailes to mend the same vjd.

But in 1620 we find "for sparrs nyles and workmanshipp for the mending of the deske for the Communicants in the Chansell—vs. xd."

At first the Communicants knelt on rushes; and there is a payment in 1609: "Itm. the xiiijteene of Aprill beinge good frydaye for Rushes for the Communicants to kneele one in the chauncell yt. daye, Easter Eve, and Easter daye—iij*d*." There are further items for rushes for the Communicants in 1610, 1611, 1615, and 1616: but in 1617 this becomes "Paid for matts for Communicants to kneele upon and for two booses—2*s*. 10*d*."

From the subjoined items it appears that the vicar's seat, which had a back and a desk, was in the chancel, probably also the clerk's seat, and the rest of the space was filled with benches both in front of and beyond the Communion table: room was found for certain chests and wine settles. Possibly there was a screen, in which doors were placed in 1620.

1575. Paid to Henry Denwall for a Case for the Comunion Cupp xxd.

1593. For making cleane two pewes in the Chansell iij*d*.

1599. Paid for mending a longe forme in the Chansell and for nyles iij*d*.

1603. For mendinge the Wine settells in the Chancell vjd.
 1604. For mendinge the pews in the Chancell and nayles to the same xixd.
 1606. Paid for setting upp the benches before the Comunion table xijd.
 1606. Paid for a key for one of the Chists in ye Chancell iijd.
 1608. The xvteene of december for tow pillars to sett upp the vicars forme, his seate and backe w'th nayles ijs. ijd.
 1609. Paid for xxiijor foote of half sparres w'ch made the feete for the formes before the Comunion table xijd.
 Paid for washinge the formes and makinge the Chancell cleane viijd.
 1610. Wm. Liniall for one forme next before the vicar's seate in Chancell xijd.
 1611. Paide unto the Smith for mendinge the lock upon the Chancell doore and for a keie to the same locke iijjd.
 1613. Paide for makinge a new deske for the Clarke xxiijd.
 1614. Paide for a newe Chest to keepe the Byble and other Church ornaments ix s
 Paid for one paire of hinges, viij. bandes of Iron single spikes and a locke and a key for the same chest ijs. vjd.
 1616. Paid for makinge ye newe seates for communicants in ye Chancell and for Timber, stone and Workmanship iijli. ijs.
 1620. For doores for the Chancell containing two yeards wanting one foote of wainscott and for a seate in the Clarks forme ix s. iijd.
 For hinges nailles locks and other Iron Worke for the same doores iij s. iijd.
 1625. Paid for wainscott of the Vicar's seate and Clarke's seate vijs. iijjd.

The decree already quoted, of 1633, contains these passages:—"And because the Comunion table there was found to bee undecent and unseemely, not befitting soe holy an use, they did Order and enjoyne the said Churchwardens to provide a decent and seemly table for the Comunion. . . . And that a decent Raile with Pillasters bee made, one yard in height; reaching from the Comunion Table to the pillar against w'ch the pulpit leaneth, and soe from that pillar to the other pillar ouer against that, and soe up to the Comunion Table againe."

E. C. L.

(To be continued.)

[693] CHESHIRE DOMESDAY NOTES. XI.

(See No. 689).

Spelling.—The English place-names they had to record gave infinite trouble to the Norman surveyors; *th* and *sh* were almost impossible, and *w* was frequently avoided; the initial aspirate *h* is sometimes omitted and sometimes prefixed wrongly, and the guttural *h* (usually represented in our modern orthography by *gh*, unsounded) was either

omitted or represented by *g* or *s*. The liquids *l*, *n*, *r* were interchangeable; but this may not have been a Norman peculiarity, as we now say "kernel" for "colonel," the pronunciation being as good as the spelling.

Hurdingterrie (4b) Worthenbury shows the superfluous *h* initial, the *w* avoided, and *d* for *th*; Torentone (9b) has *t* for *th*; Etone (11a) and Odealie (2b) omit the aspirate, standing for Hatton and Hoseley (near Gresford). Sibroc (6a) and Sotowiche (2b) are examples of the difficulty of *sh*; Shipbrook and Shotwick have probably not changed much in pronunciation. In Hoiloch (10b) the first *h* stands for the rough initial represented usually by *wh*, but sometimes by *qu* or *quh* as in the Scotch quhilk. The transposition of the liquids is shewn in Wanetune (6a) for Wharton, Elveldelie (11b) for Alvanley, Boleberie (5a) for Bunbury, and Berdeltune (7b) for Bartherton.

Essetune (7b), for Essentune, seems to represent Austerson near Nantwich, this modern name being just as far from the original *Ælfstanestun*; the mediæval Alstanton and Alstanston shew the mode of change.

After the first difficulty was overcome—that of representing the English sounds—came the second—that of deciphering the words when Domesday Book had to be compiled from the various county rolls. Here it is curious to notice many of the same difficulties as those which present themselves in making out unfamiliar names in a modern handwriting. Thus Tuiguelle (6b) stands for Tinguelle, Tereth (7b) for Fereth, Aldredelic (8b) for Aldredelie, Cedde (11b) for Cedele and Enelelei (8b) for Endelei (Endley, or Hendley near Halton).

(To be continued.)

QUERIES.

[694] ST. PETER'S CHURCH.

Can any of the readers of the "Sheaf" say, in reference to St. Peter's Church (the Cross), Chester,

1. What is the date of the present building?
2. Did an earlier church stand on the present site?
3. If the latter: does any part of it remain, forming portion of the present one?

W. H.

[695] ST. OSWALD'S CHURCHYARD.

Can any of your readers tell me where I shall be likely to obtain any information as to the history of St. Oswald's Churchyard and the adjoining streets, and the changes which have taken place in the neighbourhood of the south and west sides of the Cathedral? There are numerous items in the Churchwardens' Accounts from 1575 to 1626 for work done in and about the churchyard, which are not intelligible without a general idea of the state of things which then existed. When was the grass-plot between the south transept and the south-

west door first enclosed? Did any buildings ever stand upon that part? Did the lane from the west door to the Music Hall run parallel to Northgate Street before present street was made? When was the east entrance to the Music Hall added? I shall be glad of any information on the subject.

E. C. L.

AUGUST 27, 1902.

NOTES.

[696]

JOHN BRUEN. VIII.

(Continued from No. 679.)

A Boy possessed with the Devil.—But he took the greatest pains in recording the passages about a boy (Thomas Harrison), about eleven or twelve years old, at Northwich, who was so strangely and wonderfully afflicted and tormented that many held him to be really possessed with the devil. About this he wrote much; some of the passages were these:—

By his torments he was brought so low, weak, and feeble that he was almost nothing but skin and bones, yet for the space of four and twenty hours every day—having only one half-hour respite, which they called his awaking time and wherein they gave him a little food—he was of that extraordinary strength that if he folded his hands together no man could pull them asunder; if he rolled his head or tossed his whole body, as usually he did, no man could stay or restrain him. He would, to the great astonishment of the hearers, howl like a dog, mew like a cat, roar like a bear, froth like a boar. When any prayed with him his passions were strongest and his rage and violence greatest, ready to fly in their faces and to drown their voices by his yellings and outcries. If one came near him with a Bible, though under his cloak and never so secret, he would run upon him and use great violence to get it from him; and when he could get any he rent them in pieces. Sometimes he would lie along as if he had been stark dead, his colour gone, his mouth so wide open that he would on a sudden thrust both his hands into it. And notwithstanding his great weakness he would leap and skip from his bed to the window, from the window to the table, and so to bed again, and that with such agility as no tumbler could do the like; and yet all this while his legs were grown up close to his buttocks so that he could not use them. Sometimes we saw his chin drawn up to his nose that his mouth could scarce be seen; sometimes his chin and forehead drawn almost together like a bended bow; his countenance fearful by yawning, mowing, &c.

The bishop [Richard Vaughan, 1597-1604] hearing of the strange torments of this poor child, sent for him. His parents brought him, and once the bishop prayed with him; but the boy was so outrageous that he flew out of his bed and so frightened

the bishop's men that one of them fell into a swoon, and the bishop was glad to lay hold on the boy, who ramped at the window to have gotten out. Hereupon this bishop granted a license for a private fast in the child's father's house, for his help and release, and that in these words:

Having seen the bodily affliction of this child and observed in sundry fits very strange effects and operations, either proceeding from some natural and unknown causes or of some diabolical practices, We think it fit and convenient for the ease and deliverance of the said child from his sad, grievous affliction that prayer be made publicly for him by the minister of the parish, &c., and that certain preachers—namely these following: Mr. Gerrard, Mr. Harvey, Mr. Peirson, &c.—these and none other to repair to the said child by turns, as their leisure will serve, and to use their discretion for private prayer and fasting for the ease and comfort of the afflicted.

RICHARD CESTREN.

DAVID YALE.

GRIFFITH VAUGHAN.

HUGH BARCHES.

Which accordingly was performed by two godly ministers (Mr. Harvey and Mr. Peirson) and by Master Bruen, with divers others; yet God gave not deliverance at that time.

When he was in his fits, without understanding and knowledge of what he did or said, he would often say—"Jesus saith (for so he began all his speeches) the devil when he comes takes away my hearing, seeing, understanding, hands, legs, that I should have no senses nor limbs to glorify God withal." [About a folio page of these utterances is printed; then our author proceeds:] Many other of these strange speeches did he utter, which for brevity's sake are here omitted, though recorded by Mr. Bruen.

NOTE.—An account of this boy may be seen in Mr. Axon's "Cheshire Gleanings." The year is given as 1602.

(To be continued.)

[697] ST. OSWALD'S CHURCH, 1575-1625.

(Continued from No. 692.)

III. THE PULPIT.

Though the position of the pulpit at the beginning of the 17th century is not shown on any plan, we are not left entirely to conjecture as to where it stood. On Bishop Bridgeman's return to Chester in October, 1626, after two years' absence, he found that the parishioners "had now removed the pulpit to the middle pillar, and had so placed the seat wherein he (the Bishop) and the Mayor of Chester used to sit, that now he was no longer to sit directly before the pulpit as he and his predecessors were wont to do, but the Mayor now sat in the midst of that seat, and he (the Bishop) was shouldered to the end thereof: . . . and for the quire-men, they were by this removal of the pulpit placed so far off that they could not hear the sermons." Now the Mayor's seat (as mentioned in the last article)

sense, must be made, as will be seen by comparison with the same charter as printed in Dugdale's "Monasticon" (vol. v.):—After the words "manerii de Dernehale" on the seventh line add—"in comitatu Cestrensi, et nos ad procuracionem abbatis et monachorum abbatis prae dictae abbatiæ illam in aptiore loco non longe a loco praedicto de Dernehale"; then follows "qui Whetenehalewes et Munecheneswro vocabatur" etc., as in the print.

[700] CHESHIRE DOMESDAY NOTES. XII.

(See No. 693.)

Cedde (11b).—It has been assumed in previous notes (Nos. 647 and 693) that Mr. Beaumont's identification of this manor with Cheadle is correct, though formerly it was supposed to be Chadkirk in Romiley. As the matter is not beyond dispute it may be useful to set forth the arguments for and against each.

In the case of Cheadle neither name nor area creates any serious difficulty, and if, as commonly asserted, this parish was originally a portion of Stockport, then it must either be "Cedde" or be a real case of omission from the Domesday survey. If the identification be allowed there was here in 1086 what may be called an "English District"—Cheadle, Wilmalow, Mottram St. Andrew, and part of Ollerton—held by Ulric and Gamul, the former a pre-Norman tenant and the latter the son of another. If, however, Cheadle was originally within the parish of Prestbury it may have been part of the manor of Adlington, and the great wood, 16½ miles long by 3 broad, would stretch from Cheadle through Poynton to Taxal. On the other hand it is possible to justify this measurement without Cheadle, viz., by taking the extreme boundary of the old parish of Prestbury from Woodford, through Poynton, Lyme Handley, and Whaley, to the south of Taxal. That Cheadle seems to have been at one time held under the forest of Macclesfield is not to the point, as this arrangement does not necessarily go back so early as 1086.

For Chadkirk it may be argued that the name is in its favour. The area of "Cedde," however, 3 miles by 1½, with a wood 1½ miles long, does create a difficulty. Romiley itself and the surrounding townships are duly accounted for in Domesday Book, with the exception of Marple and Disley. These would give the area required, and as Chadkirk, though within Romiley, is close to the boundary of Marple, it is not impossible that here we may have the manor of "Cedde" itself and a reason or tradition of its name. These townships were within the parish of Stockport, although like Cheadle they were at one time held under the forest of Macclesfield. The difficulty arises from the adjacent manor of "Nordberie" (9b), which certainly included the townships of Norbury, Torkington, and Offerton—these continuing to form part of the Aldford fee—and which appears also to

require for its extensive wood (7½ by 4½ miles) the inclusion of Marple and Disley, for even with them this measurement is an extreme one. The matter, however, is doubtful because if these townships were originally part of "Nordberie" they must have been surrendered to the Earl when he wanted them for his forest. It may be that such a surrender took place and that Gawsworth was given in exchange, this manor early becoming part of the Aldford fee, though in 1086 it was in the Earl's hand. The Gawsworth charter gives no hint of such an exchange.

On the whole it would appear that Cheadle is the more probable identification, and a clear indication that it was formerly within the parish of Stockport would decide the question in its favour.

(To be continued.)

SEPTEMBER 3, 1902.

NOTES.

[701] ST. OSWALD'S CHURCH, 1575-1625.

(Continued from No. 697.)

IV. THE FONT.

We have nothing to guide us as to the position of the Font, except the usual custom of placing it near the entrance of the Church, and the fact that in 1585 a pew of "Syled Worke," was set up "by the Fonte, for the Churchwardens to sett in to ou'see the misdemeaners w'ch happen in the Church at service time;" and two years later a similar seat was provided for the sworn-men "on the other side of the pillar w'ch is by the Fonte." Now the Church door was at the south end of the western aisle, and the font would therefore probably stand near the pillar nearest to the door. The Churchwardens, by sitting just to the east of it, would command a view of the whole congregation, and be able to oversee the misdemeanours which happened in the Church. We know nothing of the Font itself beyond what can be gathered from the entries given below. It appears to have been of stone, with a top or head of wood, and to have been lined with lead, and provided with a wooden cover. At first it was seemingly adorned by being covered with "listinge," but later was painted.

- 1583. For a Stoope..... xijd.
- 1593. To the masons for removing of the font...iij s.
- Item for six Yards of Listinge for the cou'ing of the Fonte and for Workmanshippeviij d.
- 1607. Paid to William Fowres for the mendinge of the Fonstone and for soderviij d.
- 1608. For amendinge the heade of ye fonte and iiij pewesiiiiij d.
- 1609. Payde for amending the Couer of the fonte and two beeres and certayne formes and for nayles for the same workeviij d.

1611. Paid George Salt for soderinge the fonte ixd.
 1616. Paid for mendinge and sodringe the fonte xvjd.
 1618. Paide for layinge the fonte in Couller...vjs.
 E. C. L.

(*To be continued.*)

[702] THE COTGRAVE FAMILY. IV.

(*Continued from No. 682.*)

As already stated the children of John Cotgrave of Hargrave and Eleanor his wife were James, Robert, Richard, Jane, and Margaret. The marriages and descendants of the three last-named are thus given in the pedigrees:

Richard Cotgrave, the third son, married a daughter of Molyneux of Sefton, and left two sons, Robert and William. Robert, the elder, married Elinor daughter of Hugh (alias Richard) Rogerson of Stapleford, and had issue—Alice (married Robert Smith), John, and Margery. William, the younger, is described as "of Mouldsworth," and may be the William Cotgrave mentioned in the will of Henry Hardware (d. 1583) as one of his tenants at Great Mouldsworth (Picoope's "Wills," iii. 25).

Jane, the elder daughter, married Richard Butler, son of a natural son of a Butler of Bewsey, near Warrington; and *Margaret*, the other daughter, married William Molyneux of Mouldsworth and had a daughter Eleanor who married Henry Somersford of Tarvin.

We may now proceed with the main line.

vii. James, eldest son of John Cotgrave, and described as "of Hargrave," married Maud, natural daughter of [? Sir] Piers Dutton of Hatton in Waverton. He gave evidence in 1524 at the proof of age of Thomas Daniell of Over Tabley, so that in 1503 he must have been himself nine or ten years old at least, placing the time of his birth somewhere near 1490. This agrees with the year 1458 assigned above for his father's birth. James Cotgrave gave similar evidence in other cases; from that of Dorothy Harper (aged 14 in 12 Hy. VIII.) it might be inferred that he was one of the jury at the inquisition after her father's death in 1509, in which case he must have been at least of full age in that year; nothing further can be inferred from the "proof of age" of William Sherd in 1533. He was still living in 1534 (O., i. 473, iii. 366, 831, ii. 805). Four children appear in the pedigrees, Peter, William, Richard, and Margaret. Of Richard nothing but the name is recorded; Margaret married Richard Aldersey of Picton, fourth son of Henry Aldersey of Aldersey (O., ii. 739). The eldest son and heir—

viii. (1). Peter or Piers Cotgrave of Hargrave is mentioned in 1534 as "son and heir apparent of James Cotgrave" (O., ii. 805). He married Margery daughter of — Johnson of Waverton and had issue William, also "of Hargrave"; this last married Eleanor daughter of — Walsh of Overpool in

Wirral, and they had three children, William, Peter, and Alice. These three are recorded in the Visitation of 1580, and appear, without further addition, in that of 1613. It is possible that the second of these sons may be the Peter Cotgrave of Foulk Stapleford, yeoman, whose will (dated June 21, 1636) was proved in August, 1636, by his daughter Katharine

The second son of James Cotgrave was viii. (2). William, described as "of Christleton." He married Margery, daughter of John Smith of Waverton, and had issue—Randle, registrar to the Bishop of Chester; William, mayor of Chester (1589); and three daughters, viz., Jane, unmarried, probably the Jane Cotgrave mentioned in her brother William's will; Elizabeth, who married John Segerston of Nantwich (O., iii. 429); and Margaret, married to John Ball of Dublin, who may have been one of the Boughton family (O., ii. 658). William Cotgrave of Christleton must have been born about 1510, and so it is possible that he was still living in 1579, when one of this name held part of the lands of the dissolved abbey of St. Werburgh (O., i. 290)—this latter may, however, have been his cousin, "of Hargrave"; and he is, no doubt, the William Cotgrave of Christleton, junior, who joined in the presentation of Randle Cotgrave to St. Peter's, Chester, in 1541 (O., i. 337). It is scarcely possible that this Randle can be the same as the Bishop's registrar (see "Sheaf," No. 591), but he may have been a brother of William's and seems to belong to that generation; he continued at St. Peter's till the end of Bishop Scott's time, and therefore could not have married in the reign of Edward VI.; later he appears as a minor canon of the cathedral, and may be identified with the "Randle Cotgreyy" who signed the Declaration of Supremacy in 1563 ("Sheaf," i. 34). He is mentioned in two wills of the time: John Hewitt, a prebendary (d. 1543), left "to Sir Randle Cotgrave a surplice, 'cheamlett' doublet, and Josephus De Antiquitatibus Temporum"; and John Massie, late Abbot of Combermere (1564), left him "a pair of flaxen sheets" (Picoope, "Wills," ii. 151, 56). William Cotgrave's elder son—

ix. (1). Randle, became, as already stated, registrar to the Bishop of Chester. His handwriting, however, though it appears at the beginning of Elizabeth's reign, does not go so far back as 1541 (see No. 591); and after acting as assistant to John Chetham for some time Randle Cotgrave, who was also a notary public, succeeded him in 1565 and continued to hold the office for about thirty years. A very young man would scarcely be appointed to such a responsible office, and the conjectural date of his father's birth makes "about 1535" probable for his own. It has already been remarked that such a date for his birth would make the chronology of the whole pedigree much easier, but there is still probably some error in the earlier stages, a brother having perhaps been transformed into a son. Randle Cotgrave married Ellen

daughter of — Taylor of Chester and according to the pedigrees had four sons, William, Randle, Robert, and Alexander, and a daughter Mary; in one version, however, a daughter Alice replaces Alexander. Nothing definite appears to be known of the subsequent history of these children, and the only point of interest is the possible identification of the second son Randle with the author of the French Dictionary published in 1611.

The argument may be stated thus: If we suppose the registrar to have married about the time when he was appointed to his office his second son might have been born about 1570, and therefore would be 17 years of age when a certain Randle Cotgrave was admitted to a foundation scholarship in St. John's College, Cambridge. The form, so Mr. R. F. Scott, fellow of the College, has kindly informed us, runs in the following words:—

Ego Ranulphus Cotgrauus Cestriensis admissus
sum discipulus pro Domina Fundatrice.

(Nov. 10, 1587.)

"Cestriensis" no doubt means born in the county (not city or diocese) of Chester, and though there were other Randle Cotgraves in the county at the time (one at least will be mentioned later), the usual age of a scholar and the position of the registrar render it probable that this was the registrar's son. Further the Cecil family then took such an interest in the College that it seems quite in the ordinary course of things to find one of its promising men taken into their household; and in Lord Burleigh's service the author of the Dictionary was at the time of its publication and had been for many years previously, as his dedicatory epistle testifies. This, so far as appears at present, is the utmost that can be urged in favour of the double identification of (1) the author of the Dictionary with the scholar of St. John's, and (2) this latter with the son of the Chester registrar; the identifications are independent, and one may be true while the other is not. Further, to connect the first and last of these we have the armorial device on the seal used by the author, directly connecting him with the family of the registrar; and if "anthem bell" be a local name for the saints or sanctus bell its use in the Dictionary (see No. 602) would be a further indication of a Chester origin. On the other hand it may be said that though a number of wills of the local Cotgraves have been examined no allusion has been found to this Randle Cotgrave. The will of the registrar does not seem to have been preserved.

In the "Cheshire Funeral Certificates" (Record Society) there is a record of the burial in the Cathedral of a George Cotgrave, gent., in 1603; he is described as "third son of Mr. Randolph Cotgrave of Chester, deceased." Though he is not mentioned in the pedigree it is quite possible that he was a son of the registrar, for if he be the George Cotgrave whose will was proved in 1612 he was a near relative of William the registrar's brother, speaking of his children as "cousins."

Among the gentlemen of Chester contributing to its New Haven in 1568 was Mr. Randle Cotgrave, who gave 1d.; the Bishop gave 6d.

(To be continued.)

[703]

NIXON'S LOCALITIES.

(See No. 630.)

An early account of the first battle of St. Albans (Thursday, May 22, 1455) gives *Sandiford* as the place where King Henry VI. set up his standard before the battle: "Oure seyde sovereyne Lord the Kyng, heryng and knowyng of the seyde Dukes comyng with other Lordes afore seyde [i.e., the Duke of York, the Earls of Salisbury and Warwick, &c.] pygth his baner at the place called Boalawe in Seynt Petrus Strete, whych place was called afore tyme past Sandeforde, and commaundeth the warde and barrers to be kept in stronge wyse." The pointed way in which the old name of the position is brought in seems to shew that the writer had in his mind the current prophecies, some of them afterwards incorporated in the "Cheshire Prophecy," pointing out "Sandiford" as a place where some decisive battle would be fought (see No. 567). The account of the battle is reprinted in Gairdner's "Paston Letters" (No. 239) from the "Archæologia" (xx., 519).

To this may be added the notice of Sandiford near Sandbach in King's "Vale Royal" (Ormerod i., 138), though it has often been printed before, as it shews that this place had some legend attached to it; thus Cheshire folk would naturally suppose that the Sandiford of the old "prophecies" incorporated in Nixon, referred to it:

"In the market place [of Sandbach] do stand, hard together, two square crosses of stone, on steps, with certain images and writings thereon graven; which, as they say, a man cannot read except he be holden with his head downwards; and this verse (as they hold opinion) is engraved thereon—

In Sandbach, in the Sandy Ford,
Lieth the ninth part of Dublin's hoard.
Nine to, or Nine fro,
Take me down or else I fall.

They also affirm that the said crosses were set up there before the birth of Christ; but that is not so, for the story of the Passion is graven thereon; but whether the said verses be written thereon or no I know not. Certain I am that on Sunday morning, the 1st of November, 1561, there were three chests of tin or such like metal found near the said river, but nothing in them. On the covers were certain letters or characters engraved; which chests were carried to the sheriffs." J. B.

[704]

GEORGE MARSH.

In the articles on George Marsh (burnt at Chester in 1555) which appeared in the last volume of the "Sheaf" his academic status was questioned (iii., 38 and 49). It is but right, therefore, that it should be stated here, from information kindly supplied by Dr. Peile, Master of Christ's College,

Cambridge, that Marsh was a scholar on that foundation, matriculating in November, 1551, and taking his degree as B.A. in or before the following January. Further he was ordained deacon by Ridley at London on Sunday, May 15, 1552. In the bishop's register he is said to have been born at Halliwell (near Bolton), and is described as "fellow" of Christ's College. Probably this is a mistake for "scholar"; the fellows received their stipends quarterly, and as Marsh's name does not appear in the College accounts he could not have been fellow on any of the quarter days; it is just possible, however, but unlikely that he was elected to a fellowship in April, 1552, and resigned it in May. J. B.

[705] CHESHIRE DOMESDAY NOTES. XIII.

(See No. 700.)

Mills.—Twenty-two mills are recorded as existing in 1086; one of these (at Worthenbury) is described as "new," so that the others were no doubt ancient. In only a few manors is the mill's annual value given separately. The mill at Allington near Gresford (9b) paid 4s., the two at Barrow near Chester (8a) 10s., that at Bowdon (9a) 16d., Brereton (10a), 12d., Christleton (4b) 12s., Tilston near Malpas (4b) 8s., and Witton (10b) 3s. Only one miller is mentioned, at Tilston. Two of the mills were available only in the winter, those at Frodsham and Golborne Bellow. The other places at which mills existed were—Acton by Nantwich, Aldford, Aston by Frodsham, Great Budworth, Coddington, Eastham (probably at Bromborough Pool), Gresford, Macclesfield, Prenton, Fulke Stapleford, and Weaverham.

(To be continued.)

REPLY.

[706] "MY LADY BUSHELL."

(See No. 687.)

Some information about this lady will be found in Mr. Rylands' "Funeral Certificates" published by the Record Society (p. 55). Anne, daughter of Sir Cotton Gargrave of Nostell in Yorkshire, married (1) Thomas Venables, baron (not Bavand) of Kinderton, who died Dec. 8, 1606; and (2) Sir Edward Bushell, kt. She died at Northwich in 1634 and was buried in Middlewich Church.

A. B. C

SEPTEMBER 10, 1902.

NOTES.

[707] ST. OSWALD'S CHURCH, 1575-1625.

(Continued from No. 701.)

V. SUNDRY FURNITURE.

The following entries need no description, but they help us to picture to ourselves the old St. Oswald's of the beginning of the 17th century:—

1575.—Paid to Hugh Stockton for a key to the Clarkes cofferiijd.

1609.—For wpyng downe the wyndowes and washinge the picturesiijd.

Paid for a ladder for the use of the Church

xiijs. iijd.

Payde for a standinge frame to beare the Corpes of yonge Children come to be buried ...ijs. iijd.

1611.—Paid to Pue for makinge a new top for the beereijs. ix.

1614.—Paide for a frame for the Table of Marriagesviij.

Paid to the Clarke for writinge down all the Monuments and Epitaphs in the Church as it was appointed by the Bishoppijs. vjd.

1616.—Paid for mendinge the pew next to the Poore mans Boxijs.

1618.—Paide for a new deske for the vicars seate, for mendinge the beere, and for a table to hange ouer the poore mans boxvijs. vjd.

1624.—Paid to Mr. Holmes for the Kings Armes, Princes Armes, Cittys Armes, and for the Armes of the 12 tribes and also for writing the Comandem'ts new ou' and for Cloth to write the Comandem'ts upon.....vjli vjs. vjd

For painting the Armes of the Dean and Chapter in the new window.....vjs. viij.

Paid for Brick, Sandlime, and workmanshipp about the window.....ijs. vjd.

1625.—Paid unto Thornely for writing upon two tables at either end of the Armes of the 12 tribesvs.

The decree of the Visitors appointed by the Archbishop of York in 1633 ordered "that all the scutcheions in the same church should forthw'th bee taken downe."

E. C. L.

(To be continued.)

[708] CHESTER ORDINATIONS, 1542-1558. I.

The first Ordination Book of the diocese of Chester (Record Society) may very properly receive some notice in the "Sheaf." The see was founded by Henry VIII. at the end of 1541, and this list of clergy ordained begins abruptly with the last of the subdeacons' names for the Lent (or Easter) ordination in 1542, so that very little can be missing. The record proceeds regularly till the Lent ordination of 1547, just two months after the accession of Edward VI.; next follow two special ordinations for a few candidates only in the same year; and then, though there is no defect in the manuscript, nothing is recorded till March, 1555, when Bishop Cotes held his first ordination. After his death (in the following December) there is another interval, this time of a year or more, while Bishop Scott was apparently too busy in restoring "the old religion" at Cambridge to attend to his diocese. Probably there were one or two ordinations in this interval at York or Lichfield for Chester men, as the sub-

deacons and deacons made in September, 1555, do not, with one or two exceptions, appear in Bishop Scott's lists; and Lawrence Pilkington, then ordained subdeacon, is made priest in 1557, shewing that he had been ordained deacon elsewhere in the meantime. Mr. Frere's book on the "Marian Reaction" records a number of men from the diocese of Chester as ordained at Durham; but in only two instances is the defect of the Chester list thus supplied, viz., Robert Margerison, subdeacon at Chester in September, 1555, and priest at Durham in the following September (deacon, no doubt, in the meantime); and William Ustanson, deacon at Chester at Easter, 1555, and priest at Durham a year later.

The following table gives the dates and the number of candidates of the different ordinations contained in the volume:—

John Bird: Bishop 1541-1554 (depr.)

	A.	B.	S.	D.	D.	Priests.
1542—[? Mch 25]	-	...	? 4*	...	28	21
September 23	15	...	21	...	18	25
Dec. 23	...	...	...	...	4	2
						—48
1543—March 10	26	...	23	...	16	25
Sept. 22	...	13	...	23	...	16
						—41
1544—Mch. 29	...	...	1	...	1	3
June 7	26	...	13	...	21	17
Sept. 20	12	...	22	...	12	18
						—38
1545—March 21	22	...	21	...	21	16
April 4	...	...	2	...	4	2
May 30	2	...	2	...	2	4
						—22
1546—April 10	16	...	14	...	15	20
April 24	...	...	...	...	2	1
Sept. 18	9	...	18	...	12	17
Dec. 18	...	...	...	...	5	6
						—44
1547—March 26	21	...	21	...	18	11
[? April 9]	...	...	...	...	9	-
Dec. 17	...	...	...	...	2	3
						—14

George Cotes: Bishop 1554-1555 (died).

1555—March 30	18	...	8	...	2	4
April 13	2	...	11	...	7	1
* Sept. 21	14	...	11	...	10	7
						—12

Cuthbert Scott: Bishop 1556-1559 (depr.)

1557—April 3	14	...	5	...	1	3
April 17	11	...	3	...	4	4
June 12	16	...	14	...	4	6
Sept. 18	13	...	15	...	10	4
						—17
1558—March 26	25	...	25	...	11	13
April 9	4	...	6	...	20	6
June 4	16	...	20	...	9	21
Sept. 24	10	...	12	...	18	? 9
Dec. 17	8	...	8	...	5	19
						—68

* Imperfect.

A number of the priests (35 in all) belonged to other dioceses, about half of them to St. Asaph; indeed, some of the St. Asaph candidates were advanced regularly through all the grades at Chester, as if no ordinations at all were held in their own diocese. To the acolytes in the first column the "benets" (exorcists) have been added; they are given separately on two occasions. The ordinations were usually held in the Cathedral, but sometimes in the bishop's private chapel; also once at Manchester and once at Preston.

It thus appears that there were two "general ordinations" in each year, on the Saturday before Passion Sunday and on the Ember Saturday in September; but "special ordinations" were held at other times—Easter Eve, and the Ember Saturdays in Whit Week and Advent. Bishop Scott, in his last year, availed himself of all five. The number of priests ordained annually was about forty. This is a very large number for Chester. Few became beneficed in the diocese; what then became of most? It seems to have been the rule for an acolyte ordained (say) in Lent to have been made subdeacon in the following September, and deacon and priest at the Lent and September ordinations in the next year; but there were numerous exceptions to this rule. It will be observed that Bishop Scott restored the average number of priests ordained; but he was working at high pressure to repair the failure of many years, and this cannot be better shewn than by an examination of his last ordination of priests in December, 1558, just after Elizabeth's accession. There were nineteen in all; of these six had been ordained acolyte and subdeacon in the previous June, three were made acolytes in April and four in March; so that thirteen of the nineteen were passed through all the grades of the ministry within nine months.

Little information is to be gained from the record as to the age or qualifications of the candidates. In one or two cases the degree is mentioned, but as a rule nothing is said of this; e.g. James Pilkington, when he was made acolyte and subdeacon in September, 1544, was B.A. and fellow of St. John's, Cambridge, but this is not mentioned; he was then 23 or 24 years of age. There is a Bachelor of Arts on p. 56 and a Bachelor of Theology on p. 74. In some cases "parum doctus" is written against a name.

The "title" on which ordination was given seems to have been usually the nomination of one of the landed gentry; lands of £5 or even five marks per annum are in several cases specified as qualifying the holder to give such a nomination. Henry Trafford was ordained with his rectory of Wilmslow as title; he was rector from 1542 to 1591, and made priest in March, 1544. In the days of Bishops Cotes and Scott it is curious to find the revenues of the dissolved Abbeys of Dieulacres and Meryvale affording titles; a more significant case may be that of Richard Hargreve, ordained on the title of the

burgesses of Nantwich, for it would seem that once again, as in the old days, the burgesses and other townsmen were willing to subscribe the stipend of a priest to minister among them. Henry Pendleton had his title from Brasenose College, Oxford; and John Estwich from a prebend in St. David's, being ordained acolyte and subdeacon on Sept. 21, 1557, and deacon on the following day by letters of dispensation. Letters of dispensation are mentioned in a previous case, as issued by Archbishop Cranmer (p. 32). Q.

(To be continued.)

[709] CHESHIRE DOMESDAY NOTES. XIV.

(See No. 705.)

Willaston.—This township, divided between the two parishes of Nantwich and Wybunbury, used to be known also by a second name with an extraordinary variety of spellings—Wightreston, Wisterston, Wigstanton, Wixterston, &c. The latter name probably fell into disuse because it was liable to be confused with the adjacent township of Wistaston, and Willaston (Wiglaf's-ton) prevailed, the Wirral township of Willaston (Wiglaf's-stone?) being formerly too distant to lead to mistakes, though it is otherwise now. But while the township was thus denoted by either of the names indifferently it would appear from various surviving indications that Willaston is properly speaking the name of the Wybunbury portion, and Wightreston that of the Nantwich portion. This is borne out by the Domesday record, thus:

Wilavestune (7a) or Willaston ... 1 virgate

Wistetestune (7b) or Wightreston ... 3 virgates

The parts had different names and different owners (Ulviot for the former, and Levuin and Osmer for the latter), and were in different parishes, and yet their connection is shewn by their assessment together amounting to 1 hide; and as the hidage is probably very ancient, there must always have been some sort of unity between them. It should be added that "Wistetestune" probably includes the greater part of the parish of Nantwich, its wood, half a league square, being perhaps represented by Wolstan Wood, while Leighton and Nantwich-Willaston may be the "two manors" of Levuin and Osmer.

(To be continued.)

REPLY.

[710] FRITH AS A PLACE-NAME.

(See No. 636.)

Not being satisfied with the various meanings of the word "frith," already given, may I be excused saying (from an old writer, and agreeing with him) "that the introduction of double letters to express one sound is monstrous?" At any rate it has been most confusing; hence has arisen such outrageous

confusion that the same word "frith" could mean an estuary of the sea, a wood, and peace. Well, to begin with, we will deal with the word "frith," as meaning an arm of the sea, which looks like a corruption of the Latin word *fretum*. Then we have the word "frith," as in *frithstoll* (Saxon) with various debased forms like *freedstoll* and *fridstole*, all of which words have the same meaning, relating to a place of peace or sanctuary, as at Hexham.

The word "frith" has a wider application to "a croft," or "a field." But we have been off the scent of the true meaning of the word, possibly, even, by such men as Chaucer, Skelton, and others, who have used or defined the word "frith" to mean wood, and woody. The real meaning does not depend upon the croft or field abounding in trees, but is a "frith" ("frid") only, on condition that it has been taken out of a common, or common land, and enclosed. These enclosed portions of land, whether taken out of forests, or mountain slopes, or elsewhere, became sanctuaries, or places of peace and safety to the cattle, or stock of those who possessed them, i.e., they were safe in the "frith."

W. H. BRADFORD.

Very full accounts of the various "friths" may be seen in the *New English Dictionary* (Oxford) and the *English Dialect Dictionary*. There seem to be at least three different originals:—

(1) Frith, meaning peace—hence a place of safety; leading to the use of the word for a game preserve. The old combinations frith-guild, frith-silver, and frith-soken are also referred to this word (Green's "Short History," c. iv., sec. 4).

(2) Frith, a wood, or wooded country; coming to mean underwood, hedge, and "frith-work" (i.e. wattling). It is suggested that the original form was *firth*, and had reference to a fir wood. The Welsh *frith* has been borrowed from the English. A large number of illustrative quotations are given; e.g. from Drayton—"As overholt and heath, as through frith [margin: high wood] and fell." In Cumberland it means unused pasture lands.

(3) Frith, an arm of the sea; a transposition of *firth*, and probably borrowed from Scotland.—[Ed.]

SEPTEMBER 17, 1902.

NOTES.

[711] FRODSHAM CHARITIES.

The following copy of an interesting old letter was taken many years ago, from the original (I believe), in the Parish Chest:—

London 25th 7ber 1673.

Couzen Waine,—As for ye money of frodscham parish there was 22li. 12s. given by ye Alderman to be distributed as followeth; Ten pounds thereof to Tho: Moseley, Clerk, so long of ye Lease as hee

shall live, by half yearly payments, ye other 10li. together with: ye sd: 10li. after Moseley's death to be distributed on Christmas day in every year, by 10 of ye ablest parishioners amongst such poor of the Parish as they, or ye greater number of them shall think fit, and ye Remaining 2li. 12s. is to buy 2 dozen of Bread to stand on a shelve to be put in ye side wall of ye Ile next to ye Quier every Sunday Morning, and delivered to 24 poor people after Morning service is over, by ye Church-Wardens. I pray pay according to ye direction of ye Will Unto ye Vicar and Church-Wardens ye first half-year due att Lady day last being eleven pounds six shillings, to be distributed as above, and take acquittance from them as is here inclosed, and return it, and I shall allow it in yr: Rent, and rest your assured friend and kinsman—THOMAS BUCKLER.

Indifferent handwriting, but with a well-written signature.

It may help a little to dispose of some of Shakespeare's critics, shewing, as it does slightly, some knowledge of legal business, including terms that are now law terms only, but which two or three centuries since were common to all people.

On the fly-leaf is the draft of another letter, as follows:—

11 Aprill 1704.

Mr. Croxton,—I Rec'd: yr: 2 Letters of ye 3d. & 4th Instant & the Bill of 79li. on Mr. John Capper who this day accepted it. I think you have done Miracles in Making them pay so soon, w'ch I did not expect, but am very glad they have w'thout any trouble, w'ch I desire not to put 'em too, nor I perceive you neither, though it be against yr: Interest; Pray tell 'em by ye begining of May I must needes have ye rest w'ch I hope they'l take Care to pay without further trouble and charge to themselves, as otherwise they must come into, I am glad you have made them agree amongst them selves in paying ye Gift w'ch I should think did not commence till Michaelmas 1672, my father dying but a little before; I have not his Will by me att present to see, but will Look into it; You say they desire to put part of ye money into a stock & that I may Consent to it without Prejudice, as I Conceive none, Therefore they May doe as they think fitt, & hereby have ye ffree-will of y'r Loving ffriend

NATHANIEL WALL.

Mr. Croxton was a flourishing Chester attorney-at-law, of the family of Croxton Green. His great-grandson was Sheriff of the county, and husband of the sister and heiress of the last Warburton of Warburton: Sir Peter Warburton, of Arley.

On a slip of paper:—"Mr. frodshams and Robt. Newalls part of Alderman Walls Legacy due att Lady day 1707, being the Sum'e of 05li. 13s. 00d." The following is from Alderman Wall's Will of A.D.1672:—"A true Coppel of the Legacy given

by John Wall, Esqr. by his Will to the Vicar, Churchwardens and parish of frodsham in Cheshire (vist.)

"Item I give and bequeath unto the Vicar and Churchwardens of the Parish of frodsham in Cheshire (where I was borne) and their successors Vicars and Churchwardens of the said parish, the sum'e of Two and Twenty pounds and Twelve shillings of lawfull money of England to be Issueing and paid out of my Lands and Tenem'ts held by Lease in the said parish dureing the Continuance of the pr'sent Leases att Two Quarter dayes (vist.) Lady day and Mich'as in every yeare Vpon trust by them to be distributed as followeth (vist.) Ten pounds thereof to Thomas Mosely, Clerk of the said parish dureing soe long time of the Term of my Leases as hee shall live, by halfe yearely paym'ts on the dayes aforesaid. Other Ten pounds thereof together with the said Ten pounds soe bequeathed to the said Mosely Imediately from his Death to be distributed on Christmas Day in every yeare by Ten of the ablest of the Parishioners of the said parish unto and amongst such poore of the said parish as they or the greater number of them shall thinke fit, And the remaineing Two pounds Twelve shillings to buy One Dozen of Bread to stand on A Shelve to be put in the side wall' of the Isle next the Quire in the said Church every Sunday Morning & Delivered to fflower and Twenty poore people after the morning service of the church is over by the Churchwardens. And for Default of payment I give the said Vicar & Churchwardens power to Distreynes for the same upon the said Land."

"A true copy Ex'ed P. Hercules Com'ander by the probate in Mr. Buckloes (sic) hands, one of ye Executors."

The Walls were of Helsby, from the early part of the 14th to about the middle of the 18th century, and were a yeoman family. An account of them may be seen in the Chester Visitation of 1591 printed by the Harleian Society, and the arms of Alderman Robert Wall (father of Nathaniel) have been given in the "Sheaf" (ii. 18).

X.

[712] CHESTER ORDINATIONS, 1542-1558. II.

(Continued from No. 708).

The apparent cessation of ordinations in the reign of Edward VI. deserves more particular attention. No ordinations according to the new form are recorded here till 1562, and it would appear that none took place. There were many reasons why there should have been such a cessation. The abolition of chantries and similar foundations at the end of Henry VIII's reign and the beginning of Edward VI's would deprive a large number of priests of work and stipend, and the bishop would be anxious to provide for them before ordaining more. The ruthless spoliation of Church property made an ecclesiastical career the reverse of inviting;

no one could tell, in fact, whether after ordination he would have even the barest sustenance allowed him from the revenues of his benefice. Moreover, the religious changes impending must have had an overwhelming effect. The rector of Grappenhall in 1554 was probably expressing the general sentiment of the district when in speaking of the second Prayer-book of Edward VI. he said, "This last Communion was the most devilish thing that ever was devised" ("Sheaf," iii. 40); religious-minded youths would not be anxious for ordination to qualify them to perform such rites. What then became of those who were ordained subdeacons and deacons according to the old forms at the beginning of Edward VI's reign? There were several courses open: (1) They might go on ministering the new offices without further ordination; (2) they might accept ordination according to the new form, to be rejected later by Bishop Cotes or Scott; (3) they might definitely renounce the ecclesiastical state—e.g. by marrying—or (4) retire from ministering till a better day should dawn.

Of the eighteen deacons ordained in March, 1547, two went on to the priesthood in the following December, and four (Christopher Proctor, John Smyth, and John Holland of Bangor diocese and John Mirike of St. Asaph diocese) were made priests many years afterwards (1554-8); of the nine deacons of Easter (or Pentecost), 1547, one was made priest in the following December, and another (John Melington) occurs in the London ordinations of 1554 (pref., p. vi); and of the two ordained in December one (William Herdman) was advanced to the priesthood by Bishop Cotes more than seven years afterwards. One is curious to know what had been the history of these men in the meantime. The first two of the courses suggested above raise the question of Anglican ordinations, which excited so much interest a few years ago that an appeal for an authoritative decision was made to the Pope, who ordered inquiry to be made and then pronounced against them. It is obvious that similar questions might be asked as to the subdeacons and deacons ordained by Bishop Scott at the end of 1558.

Three cases in the diocese of Chester may have a bearing on the question, how were the ordinations by the new service of Edward VI. regarded by the Marian bishops? The three local cases are those of John Estwich, mentioned above, George Marsh, and Thomas Boswell. Estwich was made rector of a moiety of Wolford and prebendary of St. David's in 1551 (Foster's "Alumni Ox."), yet he does not come up for ordination until September, 1557; so that either his Edwardine orders were deemed null or he had received none of any kind; we see therefore how long a defect could be concealed—quite three years in this instance. George Marsh's story is given with great fulness by Foxe (see "Sheaf," vol. iii.), but not a word is said about any ceremony of degradation from orders; indeed

Marsh himself, though a priest according to the new rite, expressly denied that he was of that order according to the old one. Thomas Boswell, M.A. 1547 (Foster's "Al. Ox."), was appointed Vicar of Great Budworth in 1550. It seems unlikely that the Dean of Christ Church, Oxford, would appoint a mere layman to a College benefice; yet Boswell was ordained from the beginning at London in December, 1553, apparently another case of the rejection of the new Ordinal. Q.

[713] ST. OSWALD'S CHURCH, 1575-1625.

(Continued from No. 707.)

VI. BOOKS.

The following extracts shew what were the earliest books provided for the Church:—

1583.—For a Biblexxvijs.

This would be the version called the Bishops'

Bible, published in 1568, and revised in 1572.

"Of all the Versions it had probably the least success. It did not command the respect of scholars: and its size and cost (27s. 8d.) were far from meeting the wants of the people."

Bible Dict.

1600.—Paid for a booke for the p'ish intituled a defence of the Apologie of the Church of England ijs.

Bishop Jewel's "Apology" was published in 1562, and a copy of it was ordered by Elizabeth to be kept in every Parish Church throughout England and Wales. His "Defence of the Apology" was written in reply to the attacks of Harding and published 1567.

1605.—For binding the Bibleiijjs. iiijd.

1610.—Paid for a seruise booke for the Vicar . vs.

1613.—Paid for a New Byble and stringes to bee a register for itls. ijd.

The Authorised Version of 1611.

1614.—Paid the xxvth of August for a service book iiijjs. viijd.

Paide for Bishopp Jewells worksxxiijs.

Paide for a deske for the same bookevs. xd.

For a locke and key, and two paire of hinges for same deskexiiijd.

Paide for layinge the foresaide deske in Coulter and oyleijs. iiijd.

Paide for remoueing Jewell's Booke and the deskexd.

1616.—Paide for a large service booke for the Vicarviijjs.

1619.—Paid for a booke of Cannonsxvj d.

Published 1604.

E. C. L.

(To be continued.)

[714] CHESHIRE DOMESDAY NOTES. XV.

(See No. 709.)

Rostherne.—Something has already been said (see No. 689) of the unsatisfactory use of the bovate in the ancient assessment. Generally speaking, something like six bovates to the hide (instead of eight) would balance deficiencies, but there is one case in which, if a certain assumption be allowed,

an even number of hides results when the bovatē is reckoned as the eighth part of the hide. This case, which may be the exception to prove the rule, is the parish of Rostherne. We have

Manor	D.B. Holder	h. v. b.
Rostherne (10a)	Venables	1
High Legh (10a)	do.	1
Mere (10a)	do.	1
Millington (8a)	Fitz Nigel	$\frac{1}{2}$
Tatton (8a)	do.	1
" (10b)	Rannulf	1-6
Over Tabley (8a)	Fitz Nigel	$\frac{1}{2}$
do. (8a)	do.	$\frac{1}{2}$
do. (?) (11a)	Fitz Tezzon	$\frac{1}{2}$
Knutsford (8a)	Fitz Nigel	$\frac{1}{2}$
Ollerton (3a)	Earl Hugh	1
do. (9b)	Hamo	$1\frac{1}{2}$
do. (10b)	Rannulf	$\frac{1}{2}$
do. (11b)	Ulvre	$\frac{1}{2}$
Over Peover (10b)	Rannulf	$\frac{1}{2}$
"Cepmundewiche" (10b)	do.	$\frac{1}{2}$
Snelson (10b)	do.	1

$6\frac{1}{2}$ $5\frac{1}{2}$ 1

Here, if the solitary bovatē is taken to be the eighth of a hide (i.e., $\frac{1}{8}$ virgate) the whole assessment of the parish will be exactly 8 hides. This result is the more noteworthy from the large number of subdivisions which have to be gathered together—nineteen, in 1066.

What, then, is the assumption from which this desirable result comes? It is that the $\frac{1}{8}$ virgate mentioned under Grappenhall (11a)—where "two manors" formerly had 1 hide and $\frac{1}{8}$ virgate was really in Over Tabley. According to Sir Peter Leycester (Ormerod, i. 470) Tabley was held in three portions—one under the barons of Halton (Fitz Nigel), one under the Mainwarings (Rannulf), and one under the Boydells (Fitz Tezzon). Domesday Book apparently shows only the first of these; but the Mainwaring part is probably the sixth part of a hide entered in the adjacent Tatton, in which township the Mainwarings seem to have had no share; and the assumption here made is that Boydell part, though physically in Tabley, was recorded under Grappenhall, at the will and for the convenience of its Norman owner. A somewhat similar case is that of Stoneley (see No. 670).

It is, however, possible that the half-virgate in Grappenhall is not the only portion of Rostherne which had been arbitrarily transferred to some other manor.

(To be continued.)

SEPTEMBER 24, 1902.

NOTES.

[715] CHESHIRE DOMESDAY NOTES. XVI.

(See No. 714.)

Deanery Hidages.—The normal hidage of the county being 500 one would expect to find its area divided into five "hundreds" each of 100 hides. Domesday Book, however, shews twelve hundreds,

the assessments of which vary from 20 to 120 hides. How can a more satisfactory arrangement be made? It has already been observed that the parochial overstep the hundred boundaries in a manner proving the former to be the more ancient (see No. 664), and following the clue so afforded it seems possible to restore the primitive limits of the English colonies in this district.

In the medieval Church arrangements an arch-deaconry usually corresponded with a county, and a deanery with a hundred or group of hundreds. In Cheshire, however, Eddisbury Hundred was parted among four separate deaneries—Chester, Frodsham, Middlewich, and Nantwich; and by utilising the deanery boundaries it will be found that a very even distribution of the assessment results:—

Chester Deanery (including	Hides
Backford, but excluding	
Hawarden, Dodleston, and	
Farndon)	94 $\frac{1}{2}$
Wirral Deanery (excluding	
Backford)	83
Atiscros (Hawarden, &c.)	17
Malpas and Bangor Deaneries	
(including Farndon) with	
Exestan (20 hides)	100
Frodsham Deanery	69 $\frac{1}{2}$
Macclesfield Deanery	20 $\frac{1}{2}$
Nantwich Deanery	49 $\frac{1}{2}$
Middlewich Deanery (including	
Delamere, extra-par.) ...	49 $\frac{1}{2}$
	492 $\frac{1}{2}$

The principal deviations from the strict deanery limits are indicated in this table, and there are one or two minor adjustments which will be explained later. Further it must be stated that the unidentified "Cocle" and "Ulvre" (both in Risedon Hundred) have been assigned respectively to Over and Bunbury parishes, and "Calvintone" to Malpas deanery. The reason for including Backford with Chester rather than with Wirral has been given already in the "Sheaf" (No. 579); Farndon belongs physically to Malpas, and its inclusion in the Chester deanery was probably an arbitrary act of the bishop's. The most violent alteration of the boundaries is the attachment of Atiscros Hundred to Wirral instead of to Chester; yet, apart from the numerical success of this arrangement, several other reasons may be urged in its favour, as that the Dee would, in the general lack of roads, be rather a connecting link than a partition; from Neston it would probably be quite as easy to go to Hawarden as to Eastham. The bovatē has been reckoned as the eighth of a hide (except that in Wirral "the land for four oxen geldable" at Overpool has been assessed at the third part of a hide—see No. 689) and the 16 acres at Sutton in Middlewich have been excluded. The fragment of Whitechurch lying within the county has, of course, been omitted.

In looking at the totals it will be noticed that the only serious defect is in the Chester Deanery—5 $\frac{1}{2}$ hides. Now so far nothing whatever has been allowed for the city proper, and if five hides be

attributed to it as the original assessment, only a few odd fractions will be wanting in the whole county, such as might be the result of subdivisions, or of small errors on the part of the Domesday surveyors. An ascription of only five hides to Chester seems to carry the hidage very far back indeed; but the case of Manchester affords a parallel. Each was the representative and continuation of an ancient Roman settlement and a trading centre on well-established routes; and thus, if the vill of Manchester was assessed at one hide (or six carucates), the corresponding assessment for Chester would be five hides. Then the original five hundreds of the district, each of 100 hides, will appear clearly, thus:—

I. Chester.....	100 hides.
II. Wirral and Atiscros	100 "
III. Malpas and Erestan	100 "
IV. Frodsham and Macclesfield ...	100 "
V. Nantwich and Middlewich ...	100 "

In an article above referred to an attempt was made to trace out the original extent of the parish of Chester. Of the districts there left in doubt Christleton should probably be included within old Chester, for in 1091 its church was only a "capella," whereas Waverton had an "ecclesia." The border township of Croughton, which (afterwards, at least) was claimed both by Stoke and St. Oswald's, has here been included with the latter; and the hidage of the (assumed) original parish then works out with a most persuasive symmetry:—

Northern half.		Southern half.	
	h.		h.
Chester City.....	? 5	Boughton	3
Upton	4½	Christleton	7
Mollington (2)...	2½		—
Lea.....	1	Lache	½
Blacon	2	Marlston	½
	—	Claverton	2
Redcliff (2)	1	Handbridge (3)..	1
Newton.....	1	Overleigh	½
Gldn. Sutton ...	1	Netherleigh	½
M. Trafford	2	Huntington	3
B. Trafford ...	1	Cheaveley ...	3
Picton	1		—
Wervin (2)	2	Saighton	2
Croughton	1	Lea Newb. (3) ..	3
	—		—
	10		5
	25		25

The remainder of the deanery may be summarised as follows:—Tarvin and Barrow (with Willington), 24 hides; Thornton and Ince, 11 hides; Waverton, 5 hides; Eccleston and Pulford, 9½ hides. The missing ½ hide would therefore appear to be in the last-named group. The name Eccleston shows that there must have been an ancient church there, yet neither church nor priest is mentioned in Domesday Book; and as with a like silence ½ hide is missing in the Prestbury district and ½ hide in Stockport,

it seems at least possible that the churches in these places had originally been endowed with lands "free from all secular service" and allowance made by deductions of a quarter or half a hide, but that long before 1086 the church lands had been lost in the upheavals of the time, without, however, the State recovering the allowances made for them.

The following is a detailed statement for one of the suggested original hundreds (V):—

NANTWICH DEANERY.

Wybunbury portion—		h.	h.
Barthomley (7b) 1, Crews (6a) 1, Alsager (4a) ½, Balterley (from Staffordshire) ½ ...		2½	
Blakenhall (10b) 3½, Walgherton (7a) 1½, Hatherton (7a) 1, Bartherton (7b) ½, Stapeley (7a) ½, Willaston (7a) ½, Wistaston (7a) 1, Coppenhall (7b) 1, Wybunbury (2a) ½, Basford (7a) 1, Chorlton (7a) ½ ...		11½	
Audlem (6a) 2, Buerton (7a) 1, Tittenley (7b) ½, Wilkesley (7b) 1½		5	19

Acton portion—

Acton (7a) 8, Cholmondeston (8a) 1, Pool (7b, 8a) ½, Aston-juxta-Mondrum (8a) ½, Church Minshull (7a) 1, Worleston (7b) ½, Nant.-Willaston ("Wistatetstun," 7b) ½, Austerson (7b) ½	13
Baddiley (7b) ½, Stoneley (7b), ½, Wrenbury (7a) 1½, Frith (7b) ½, Aston-in-Newhall (7a) 1, Sound (7a) ½, Broomhall (7b) ½, Chorley (7b) ½	5
	18

Bunbury portion—

Bunbury (5a) 1, Beeston (5a) 1, Tiverton (5a) 2, Tilston Fearnall (5a) 2, Alpraham (10a) 2, Spurstow (5b) 1½, Wardle (9a) ½, Peckforton (5b) 1, "Ulver" (6b) 2	13
	50

MIDDLEWICH DEANERY.

Fandbach portion—

Wheelock (10b) 3, Sandbach (4a, 9b) 2, Hassall (6b) 1, Cranage (5b) 1, Goostrey (8b, 9a) 1	8
Brereton (10a)	2
Tetton (10b)	1½
Newbold (10a) 1½, Rode (12a) 1, Lawton (9a) 1½, Congleton (9b) 1, Davenport (10a) ½, Somerford Radnor (9a) ½, Somerford Booths (11b) ½, Kerminoham (9a) ½	6½
	18

Middlewich portion—

Kinderton (10a) 3, Newton (10b) 1, Sproston (7a) ½, Byley (9a) 1, Stulach (11b) ½, Croxton (10b) 1, Clive (4a) ½, Sutton (4a, 9b) 1½, Oocleston (4a) 1, Wimboldsley (4a, 9b) ½, Weaver (4a, 9b) ½, Minshull Vernon (7a) 1	13
Shipbrook (6a) 2, Davenham (6a) ½, Leftwich (6a) 1, Shurlach (6a) 1, Bostock (6a) 1, Moulton (6a) 1, Wharton (6a) ½	7
	19

Over portion—

Over (3b) 1, Wettenhall (10a) 1, "Alretune"	
(? Oulton-Lowe, 3b), 1, Little Budworth (3b)	
$\frac{1}{2}$, Oulton (11b) $\frac{1}{2}$, "Cocle" (9b) 1...	5
Eddisbury (3b) 2, "Aldredelie" (3b) 3,	
"Done" (3b) 2, "Kenardeslie" (3a) 1 ...	8
	— 13
	50

In all—100 hides.

Here the original hundred is divided into two equal portions, and then each 50 is subdivided into parts of 19, 18, and 13 hides. The apparent deficiency in Nantwich deanery has been supplied by taking in Balterley from Staffordshire, for it belongs to the parish of Barthomley; and that in Middlewich by accounting the 4 bovates and 16 acres in Sutton to represent one hide of the original assessment. The unsatisfactory points are the presence of manors as yet not identified, and the absence of Burwardsley, which though in Dudestan (or Broxton) Hundred is in Bunbury parish. Probably the Domesday Burwardeslie (5a), of 3 hides, was of much greater extent than the present township of that name, and it is at least possible that the inclusion of the township within Bunbury is of later date than the hideage, just as the inclusion of Iddinshall in St. Oswald's, Chester, and Willington in the far-off Whalley are later. Its absence, however, must be remembered, for the identification of some of the above-named manors may render a slight readjustment necessary.

It should be borne in mind, all along, that the object is not to put together the fragments of a puzzle in a symmetrical form, but, as was stated at the beginning, to trace out the limits of the first English settlements in this corner of the country, and to do so by means of traditional boundaries—in particular, by the noteworthy division of the present Eddisbury Hundred among four deaneries; and it has been shewn that by the aid of these deaneries an arrangement can be reached which appears more ancient than the hundreds of Domesday Book, one, in fact, which may reasonably be supposed to be primitive.

J B.

(To be continued.)

[716] THE REV. THOMAS CRANE.

The following verses by the Rev. T. Crane, a Cheshire notability of a century ago, have been contributed to the "Sheaf" by Mr. W. H. Bradford, who remarks that they prove that the old antiquary, a bachelor, and of retiring habits, "possessed a loving Christian soul among the many gifts with which he was endowed."

To Miss Temple, Daughter of Colonel Temple, on presenting the author with a painting.

I.

While you in infancy, dear Lovely Maid,
Such innocence and mental charms display'd;
I then pronounc'd, that, at a future day,
You'd far outshine the thoughtless and the gay.

Your Parent early taught what's worth your aim,
What gives a polish to the female frame.
Well have you learn'd what she so well design'd :
Not one good precept has escap'd your mind.
While many in one giddy circle run ;
Proceed, my Love, proceed, as you've begun.

II.

Shun cards, and dress, and routs, and pomp, and folly :

These to repentance lead and melancholy.
This world's false pleasures scarce deserve a smile ;

Be your amusements of a nobler style.
Let, while you live, your mind be wholly given
To such pursuits, as do not clash with heaven,
On this world's glories with contempt look down.
Be heav'n alone your glory and your crown.
While many in one giddy circle run ;
Proceed, my Love, proceed, as you've begun.

III.

If Music please you ; touch the trembling strings.
Angels may listen, while an angel sings.
If Painting please you ; form the blooming flower,

The ripen'd fruit, or the sequester'd bower,
The warlike fort, or sacred fane decay'd,
The bashful lover, and the charming maid.
Or if to comic scenes you shou'd descend ;
The Gipsies paint, and paint the Ass their friend.
While many in one giddy circle run ;
Proceed, my Love, proceed, as you've begun.

IV.

Long will I pleas'd behold, long keep with care,
The valued present of my valued Fair,
Long shall your Gipsies shine, in frame confin'd,
With glass before, and cedar-board behind ;
Cedar, immortal wood, to worme a foe :
They thus enclos'd to latest times will go.
While many in one giddy circle run ;
Proceed, my Love, proceed, as you've begun.
With greatest zeal your Mother's steps persue :
Till all your Parent shine confess'd in you.

T. C.

Aug. 19, 1795.

QUERY.

[717] LISTING : SYLING : BARIDGE.

Can any reader of the "Sheaf" kindly explain the meaning of three words which I have come across in the St. Oswald's Churchwardens' Accounts of about 300 years ago ?

1. Listing. "For six yards of Listing for the ou'ring of the Fonte and for workmanship—viiiijd."

2. Syling. "To Richard Garfeild for setting upp of the syling ou' the Comunion table w'ch was fallen downe and for mending c'taine parts of it w'ch was broken—xxd. ;" and "Paid for one pew of Syled Worke, &c.—xvs. vjd."

3. Baridge, also spelt bereage, berage, berrage, barrage, barriage. This word occurs frequently, sometimes with 'the,' and always as something given to workmen. Is it a corruption of 'beverage'? E. C. L.

"Listing" or list is a salvage or strip of cloth; "ayling" is a bad spelling of ceiling (i.e., wainscot work); and "baridge" probably, as above suggested, stands for beverage, a drink, or drink-money or "allowance." See the New English Dictionary for examples.—[ED.]

OCTOBER 1, 1902.

NOTES.

[718] JOHN BRUEN. IX.

(Continued from No. 696.)

(3) Private Duties.—Mr. Bruen, besides his family duties mentioned before, used private prayer very often, yet not confining himself to any place within or without doors for it, but taking his fittest opportunity as time and place best accorded. About his own house he had divers places which interchangeably he used for this purpose, not frequenting one, lest he should be suspected of hypocrisy or vainglory. Within doors he had variety of closets, sundry chambers, and other convenient rooms; when he was abroad he had his gardens, orchards, arbours, groves, woods, and fields, walks and shades where he delighted to speak and commune with his best Friend, and to seek the face and favour, help and succour of his heavenly Father in and through the mediation of Christ Jesus.

He prayed Seven Times a day.—And as he was choice of the place, so of the time also which he constantly set apart every day for private prayer. Seven times a day did he practise this duty; first, in the morning before any of his family rose; next, after family prayer, before his breakfast; then immediately before dinner; then a little while after dinner; then a little before supper; then not long after supper; lastly, a little before he went to bed. And as he was frequent, so was he through God's grace powerful in these his prayers.

Fasting.—And hereunto, upon extraordinary occasions, he added fasting; which he observed with so great austerity that he much weakened his body thereby; and as it is recorded of St James the Apostle, so was it true of this gentleman that his knees were grown very senseless and hard with much and frequent kneeling. He used to kneel upon the bare boards.

In these private prayers his principal aim was to search his heart, examine his life, confess and bewail his special sins, and infirmities, craving pardon for them and power against them. As also for the sins and afflictions in his family, he mourned

for the sins of Sion and for the afflictions of Joseph and desolations of Jerusalem; he afflicted his heart for the barrenness and backsliding of professors, for their embracing the world, forsaking their first love. To which he added praise and thanksgiving for mercies, rejoicing in the Lord and praising His holy Name for blessings, earthly and heavenly, bestowed upon him or his, and sometimes for great deliverances which God had wrought for him.

(4) His Heavenly-mindedness, Universal Obedience, and Charity.—Lastly, his care was to imitate his heavenly Father every day; and this he endeavoured by conforming himself to His Image, in expressing the properties and virtues, the affections and actions of Him that had begotten him and called him to be conformable to the image of His Son Jesus Christ. For which end he daily laboured to be more and more renewed in the spirit of his mind, in knowledge, righteousness and holiness according to the image of Him that created him; while his commoration was on earth, his conversation was in heaven. He had a holy resolution so to use the world as neither abusing of it nor being abused by it, but to keep himself unspotted from it; he had a full purpose to keep his heart always in God's presence, knowing and believing that He heard all his words and beheld all his works; he used a constant and conacionable striving against all sin, especially the sins of the times and places wherein he lived. He had a godly desire in all companies either to do good to others or to receive good from others; a full purpose to deal justly and uprightly with all men, doing no other to them than he would have them do to him; a charitable disposition to take doubtful things in the best sense, so far as he might, without wounding his own conscience or offending others. He was slow to speak, swift to hear. He hated sinful fashions; he utterly renounced the vain conformities of the world, neither following the fashions nor serving the humours of vain or vile persons, nor staying in their company longer than he needs must.

According to the wisdom which God had given him he endeavoured to have his conversation pure and holy, answerable to that religion which he did profess, which by the testimony of the Holy Ghost is "pure and undefiled before God the Father." He was acquainted with his natural corruptions, passions, and pollutions of sin both original and actual, inward and outward, spiritual and corporal, and knew that though he "should wash himself with snow water, yet could he not say that his heart was clean," so long as he did bear about him "a body of sin and death." His constant care was, first to be "pure in heart," as this he sought for by faith and repentance and the help of God's Spirit, every day purging out old sins, and renewing the beauty of former graces; to be "pure in hand," free from all iniquity and injury, and "washing his hands in innocency" he was ever ready to lift up pure hands unto God and so compass His altar; to

be "pure in lips and tongue," never suffering any 'rotten speech' or unsavoury word to fall from him, but having learned the language of Canaan his tongue did oftentimes speak of judgment and his speeches were oft as the "very oracles of God"; to be "pure in his senses" with his "eyes he made a covenant," restraining them from wanton looks, and then only or especially to open them when they might serve as necessary lights to the body or to behold the works of the Lord that he might be bettered thereby; his ears were circumcised, "nailed" to the posts of God's house, "bored" by the Spirit of Grace for audience and obedience to hear what "the Spirit speaks unto the Churches"; to be "pure in his whole body," ever preserving "his vessel in holiness and honour and hating the garment spotted by the flesh"; to be "pure in the whole man," both soul and body, "cleansing himself from all filthiness of flesh and spirit," whereby he became a vessel of honour "sanctified for his Master's use, prepared unto every good work."

Meekness.—And as he was pure so likewise was he peaceable, his care being to cut off all occasions of variance and strife with all speed that might be. He laboured for a holy contentedness of mind by entertaining all crosses with patience and turning them to their best use, and embracing all comforts with thanksgiving, bringing forth the right and proper fruits of them. He would not be easily provoked by indignities and injuries; he had rather forgive twenty wrongs than revenge one; he was willing to purchase his peace sometimes with his own loss, if otherwise he could not procure it. He used to shut his ears against talebearers, the seedsmen of strife and firebrands of contention.

Returns Good for Evil.—Ordinarily he recompensed evil with good, forwardness with kindness, and passion with moderation and good affection. A neighbour gentleman, conceiving a great displeasure against him upon a very small occasion, in a great ruff sent his man to him to inhibit him from coming upon his land, either himself or any of his family, upon their peril. To whom Master Bruen presently answered: "Tell your master from me that if he or any of his family will come upon part of my ground at their pleasures they shall be welcome, and if he will come to my house he shall much more be welcome"; which gracious and kind answer did so melt the heart of his adversary that he presently brake forth into tears, reconciled himself to him, and became his true and faithful friend ever after; he was also very careful to prevent or remove all occasions of variance and strife amongst neighbours and friends, both near and far from home.

(To be continued.)

[719] ST. OSWALD'S CHURCH, 1575-1625.

(Continued from No. 713).

VII. SALARIES.

There were only two salaries paid regularly during this period, one to the Vicar for reading morning prayer, presumably on week-days, and the

other to the Sexton. The Vicar's salary was, of course, in addition to the fees and other emoluments to which he was entitled. The Clerk was apparently paid by fees. The parishioners do not seem to have been particularly generous in their remuneration of these officials. The Vicar was paid £3 a year for reading morning prayer! Here are specimens of the entries:

1607. Given to morninge prayer to Mr. Thicknes As Apereth in my note3li.

1608. Payede more to Mr. Thicknes vicar for his wages for morninge prayeriijli.

1609. Payd unto Mr. Vicar for readinge morninge praiseriijli.

People seem to have thought, even in those days, that the clergy ought to work without pay; for in the accounts for 1615 these items occur: "Paide to the Vicar his dutie for the buriall of a poore woman's Child and for ye grave—xijd.;" and "Item, paide to the Clarke his dutie for the same buriall—vjd.;" whereupon the Auditors appended this memorandum:—"Item wee doe thinke fitt that the parish should not hereafter bee charged to pay for the burriall of any poore person dyinge w'thin the parish to the vicar or parson of the same, beinge not of Abillitie to bear the Charge them selues, but that hee in such a Case should forgoe his due fee for the same."

And yet, as the following items shew, the Churchwardens could be generous enough, at the expense of the parish, to the "dignified clergy":

1576. Bestowed upon mr. Deane and mr. Lane w'th the rest of the Prebendsvs. iiijd.

[This was on the occasion of hanging the bells.]

1599. Geaven mr. Deane (by the Consent of mr. Greene mr. Bavand and mr. Aldersey for his good will towards the parish in Installing of the vicare) a pottle of Muscadineijs. iiijd.

1618. Paid for a Pottle of Wyne to bestowe upon Mr. Chancellor when diuers of the parish went unto him about the suit betweene the parish and Mr. Barnesijs. ijd.

For a Pottle of Muscadine and a Pottle of White Wyne for my Lo: Bishop when he tooke the hearinge of the parishes Causeijs. viijd.

The duties and salary of the Sexton are set out in the following resolution:—

The Xth day of Novembr, 1616.

Whereas Robert Johnes a poore parishner doth desire to be Sexton for our parish And to have some yearelie stipend allowed unto him for the same It is therefore thus Agreed upon by all the parishners now p'sent That the said Robert Johnes shall be sexton for soe longe tyme as hee shall behaue himself well and honnestlie And be found dilligent and carefull to keepe the church cleane To ringe the Bells soe often as occasion shall serve To see that noe disorder or noise be in the church at service or sermon tyme and be readie for any of the parishners

especiallie of the better sorte to be ymployed in any busines or occasions concerninge the church uppon demaund And also to make graves as well in the Church as Churchyard for any that shall be buried within the said pariah And likewise to doe all other services and duties for the parish as is requisite for a sexton to doe or as is accustomed in other parishes to be done In respecte whereof it is further Agreed That hee the said Robert Johnes uppon performinge and behaveinge himself as aforesaid shall have yearlie the somme of Twentie shillings That is to say every quarter fyve shillings to be paid unto him by the Churchwardens The first payment to begin at Christmas next And also all such accustomed duties for makinge of graves as heretofore hath bene paid.

EDWARD DUTTON.
JOHN RATOLYFFE.
THOMAS WHITBIE.
NICHOLAS INCE.

John Halle } Churchwardens.
Richard Newport } 1616

E. C. L.

(To be continued.)

[720] ANTHEM OR ANTHONY BELL.

(See No. 684.)

In "A Book about Bells" by Rev. S. G. Tyack (page 164) it is stated that a "small bell hung in the Belfry was occasionally called the 'Priest's Bell'; 'early bells,' 'minute bells,' and 'Tanthony bells,' are more familiar titles. The last expression, properly St. Anthony Bells, is derived from the fact that that Saint is usually represented with a small bell, sometimes at the end of his staff, and sometimes suspended from the neck of his strange companion, a pig."

W.

[721] CHESHIRE DOMESDAY NOTES. XVII.

(See No. 715.)

Payments.—Money payments were not usual, service in war or in the field being the rule for the "man" or the "villein"; yet some of them are mentioned in Cheshire:—

Under Robert FitzHugh Rannulf held 2 hides in Christleton (4b) and paid 12d.; in Tilston near Malpas Rannulf had $\frac{1}{2}$ hide and paid 6s. 8d.; in Iscoyd ("Burwardistone") a knight had $\frac{1}{2}$ hide and drew 12s.; in Larkton a man paid 12d. and a bordar (cottager) 2s.; while in Hadlow (Wirral, 3b) a man who was ploughing there paid 2s. to the Earl; and in Bridge Trafford (2b) a man returned 20d. to St. Werburgh's.

To Claverton (13b) twelve burgesses of Chester paid 9s. 4d.; to Dodleston (13b) fifteen paid 8s., and to Weaverham (3a) six paid 10s. 8d., while four escaped free. At Hoseley near Gresford (2b) a villein paid 8d., and at Halton (8b) two fishermen paid 6s. One shilling each was returned by the woods at Nether Peover (8a) and at Edge (5a); a virgate of land in Little Leigh (8b) held by the

Earl paid 3s., the same being received from the pasture in Cogshall (10b). It is recorded also that in the time of King Edward the villeins of Worthenbury had paid 12 "ores"; the ore is usually reckoned at 20d., but sometimes 32d. (Note the burgesses' payments above).

(To be continued.)

QUERY.

[722]

FAMILY OF PIGOT.

This family at one time owned considerable estates at or near Congleton and I have in my possession some forty or more ancient deeds relating to the estate of Somerford, or Somerford Radnor. This appears to have been bought by one Richard Pigot, headmaster of Shrewsbury School from about 1645 to 1660, from his nephew, Richard Pigot. I cannot find where this Richard Pigot was born, nor the names of his father and mother. Can anyone give me any information with regard to this or relating to any other member of this family?

CUTHBERT BECHER PIGOT.

Mount Pleasant, Norwich.

OCTOBER 8, 1902.

NOTES.

[723] ST. OSWALD'S CHURCH, 1575-1625.

(Continued from No. 719.)

VIII. WALKING THE BOUNDS.

In view of the Perambulation document recently published in the "Sheaf" the following extracts are interesting as shewing how regularly the Perambulation took place, year by year. It will be noticed that the choir consisted of men and boys. The expression "the Crose weeke" is also noticeable. The Festival of the Invention of the Cross is on May 3rd, a date which frequently falls upon one of the Rogation Days.

1607. Spente in the Crose weeke one the parsons Churchwardenes and one the Queremen for goinge with us iijs.

1608. Spente uppon the Synginge men of the Queare, goinge wth the vicar and parishioners uppō processio in Cytie and Countrey iijs. iiijd.

1609. Spent upon the Churchwardens, the Vicar, the Clarke and diuers of the queeremen that wente in procession wth the parishoners two seuerall dayes in Rogation weeke iijs.

1610. Spent uppon Monday in rogation weeke in goinge unto Bruera Chappell xvijd.

Spent uppon tuesday in rogation weeke uppon the queeremen and other of the parish vs.

Spent uppon Wednesday in rogation weeke uppon the queeremen and other of the parish vjs.

Bestowed upon the querristers	vjd.
1611. Spent upon Tuesdaie in Rogation weeke upon the Queere men and others of the parish	vijjs. iijd.
1612. Spente on monday in Rogation weeke upon the queeremen and other of the parish that wente the perambula'ion	ixs. xd.
Item bestowed upon the queere boyes at the same tyme	xijd.
1613. Spent upon tuesday in the Rogation weeke upon the queere men and others that went the perambulation	iijs. vjd.
1614. Spent in the Rogation weeke upon the queeremen and others after perambulation	vjs.
1615. Spent in Rogation weeke upon the Queere men and others after perambulation	vijjs. vjd.
1616. Spent upon Monday and Tuesday in Rogation Weeke upon the queeremen and others after the perambulation	ixs.
1617. Spent the xxvijth of may in goinge the perambulation	0. 2. 0.
1618. Spent in the Rogation Weeke upon the Queere men and other parishners after perambula- tion	vijjs. vjd.
E. C. L.	

(To be continued.)

[724] A COLONY FROM ST. WERBURGH'S.

In the introduction to his edition of the Rosslyn Missal (Henry Bradshaw Society, 1898) Dr. H. J. Lawlor writes: "In 1177 John de Courcey invaded Ulster and in the same year captured the city of Down as it was then called. Henceforth it was his headquarters. Immediately afterwards he made extensive ecclesiastical changes in the district of which it was the centre, and a few years later he turned his attention to the Cathedral Church. The old tradition that this church was the last resting-place of St. Patrick (which had no doubt slumbered during the episcopate of Malachy O'Morgair, 1136-48) was revived. The Cathedral received a fresh dedication to St. Patrick; Jocelin was employed to write a life of the saint, in which it was set forth that he was buried at Down; . . . from that time onwards the unvarying Anglo-Norman tradition, which has since become the popular belief, was that St. Patrick rested in Down Cathedral. And from the same period dates the modern name of the city—Downpatrick. But this was not all. In 1183 the secular canons were dismissed and a convent of Benedictine monks was brought from St. Werburgh's, Chester, to take their place. These were to form the chapter of the Cathedral, presided over by the bishop as *ex-officio* abbot, and the dean as *ex-officio* prior, the constitution being modelled on those of Winchester and Coventry" (pp. xvii., xviii).

It was a compliment to St. Werburgh's that such a colony should be drawn from it, shewing that in De Courcey's opinion the monks were leading an

exemplary life in accordance with their rule. Dr. Lawlor goes on to shew that with these monks new service books, "on the model of holy Church, as the English Church" used them, were introduced. "It is likely enough," he remarks, "that the Benedictines of St. Werburgh's, under their abbot-bishop Malachy, introduced into Down a St. Werburgh's Missal;" and he considers that the Rosslyn Missal (now in the Advocates' Library, Edinburgh) is its descendant, and preserves some of its characteristic features. Q.

[725] JOHN SNELL OF UFTON.

In Volume I., Series III., of the "Sheaf" (No. 93) I wrote some notes on John Snell, pointing out that some of the facts known about him suggest that he was related to Dr. George Snell, Archdeacon of Chester. Mr. Geo. L. Campbell, of Leamington, who contributed the material from which my deductions were drawn, has kindly sent me some further details which have only recently come to light. These, as will be seen, completely demolish my somewhat lightly-constructed theory and prove conclusively that the connection of Dr. Snell and John Snell with the Bridgman family was simply a coincidence. It is only another proof how unsafe it is to base any theory on mere coincidence.

The coincidences were as follows:—(a) Both Snells were protégés of the Bridgman family about the same period, (b) both used the same coat of arms, (c) both had degrees from Scotch Universities, (d) John Snell is definitely stated to have sheltered himself after the battle of Worcester "in the family of a person of quality in Cheshire when he had the opportunity of being known to Sir Orlando Bridgman." One naturally asked, who else should "the person of quality" be but his relative the Archdeacon?

It will be seen now that John Snell came into Lancashire apparently with the Duke of Hamilton's army, threw himself on the generosity of Lady Hoghton of Hoghton Tower and through this lady's married daughter Lady Calveley of Lea was introduced to Sir Orlando Bridgman, and probably never even saw Dr. Snell in his life!

For the notes to the extract I am also indebted to Mr. Campbell.

WM. FERGUSON IRVINE.

The following extract is taken from a "Survey of the Antiquities of the City of Oxford" composed in 1661-6 by Anthony Wood; edited by Andrew Clark, M.A., Rector of Great Leighs, Essex, Vol. iii., Addenda and Indexes, Oxford, 1899, page 187.

Monumental Inscriptions—Holywell or St. Cross—In the Chancel—On a black marble, lying at the upper end, neare the north wall:—"Depositum Johannis Snell, Scoto-Britanni, armigeri, qui obiit vi. die Augusti anno aetatis 50 salutis 1679." Armes are "quarterly or and gules, a cross patonce counter-

changed." This John Snell, the son of Andrew Snell and Margaret his wife (daughter of John Carnahan) was borne in the parish of Comonnell in Carrick in the sherivedome of Ayr in Scotland; bred in the Universitie of Glasgow under the care of Mr. James Darumpley, professor of philosophie, came into England in the time of Oliver Cromwell in a verie meane condition, and in his journey through Lancashire, calling at the house of the lady Houghton at Walton neare Houghton tower, one of the daughters of Sir Roger Aston a Scotchman (who was first King James's barber and afterwards master of the robes) (1), told the person that came to the dore to give him an answer that "he was a poore Scotchman and a scholar, and hearing that a gude lady, his country woman, lived there, he took the boldness to make himself knowne to her, and to crave some employment in her service," &c. Whereupon after the lady had discoursed with him, shee appointed him to keep the accompts, wait upon her, and to say prayers in the family. After he had continued there about an yeare he upon the recommendations of the lady Calverly (2) (daughter to the said lady Houghton) was taken into the service of Sir Orlando Bridgman, who having much chamber practice, [Snell] did writeseverall conveyances for him and was so diligent a servant to him, and to his lady, that when ever the said knight was afflicted with gout, he was the onlie person who was trusted to attend him. At the king's restauration when Sir Orlando was made Lord Cheif Baron of the Exchequer, Snell was made crier of that court; in which office he continued after Sir Orlando was made Lord Cheif Justice of the Common Pleas; and when he was made Lord Keeper, he was (at the instance of John, duke of Lauderdale) employed to be seal-bearer. Being thus in esteem he was employed sometimes into Scotland for the duke of Monmouth, and bore the great seal while the earl of Shaftsbury was Chancellour. He married a servant maid (3) in the family of Sir Orlando, named Joane, daughter of Vincent Coventrie, rector of Begbrooke near Woodstock in Oxfordshire (sister to the wife of Benjamin Cooper, registrarie of the Universitie, in whose house, in Holywell, Snell died) by whome he left issue one only daughter, named Dorotheie. At the time of his death he bequeathed his mannour of Uffeton *alias* Olufeton *alias* Ulveton in Warwickshire worth about 450*li.* per annum, to be employed (after certaine yeares spent and moneys paid thence for the use of his wife and daughter) for the maintenance of certain Scotch scholars in such College or hall that the Vice-chancellour of Oxon, Provost of Queen's College, Master of Balliol College, and President of St. John's, for the time being, shall think fit. Their number not to be above 12, or under 5; to be chosen from Glasgow college (from which universitie he received a diploma to be Master of Arts, anno 1662) from the number of such that had spent 3 yeares (or 2 at the least) there, or one or two in some other college in Scotland, etc.

They are to enjoy the said exhibition about 10 or 11 yeares, and then they are to returne into their owne native country, to get preferment there.

(1) He was a natural son of John Aston, second son of Richard Aston, of Aston, Cheshire; but as he had been bred in Scotland, he was generally taken for a Scot. He is described as a plain honest man, often employed by King James to carry messages to Elizabeth. He died in 1612, leaving a great fortune to his daughters, the eldest of whom, Margaret (by his first wife Mary Stuart, daughter of Lord Ochiltree) was married to Sir Gilbert Hoghton, 2nd Bart. [See Wood's "Fasti" i. 315; Le Neve's "Monumenta Anglicana," i., 33; and Ormerod, i. 723.]

(2) Mary, 2nd wife of Sir Hugh Calveley of Lea, County of Chester, Knight. [Ormerod ii., 769.]

(3) At the period in question, the parson's "boys followed the plough, and his girls went out to service." [Macaulay's Hist. of England, Ed. 1850, Vol. I., p. 329.]

[726] CHESHIRE DOMESDAY NOTES. XVIII.

(See No. 721).

Calvintone.—This unidentified manor (6a) was held by Richard Pincerna (the Earl's Butler), ancestor of the Butlers of Bewsey near Warrington, whose only other manor in the county was Poulton in Pulford. One would expect it to be represented now by a Calvington, but no such name seems to exist in Cheshire. There may therefore be some error or peculiarity of spelling which prevents identification. Some little has already been said on this point (see No. 693); nearly every single letter of CALVINTONE, as it is written, is by itself doubtful; e.g., *C* might now be *C*, *Ch*, or *G*; *t* might have become *t*, *th*, or *d*; *v*, *u*, *v*, or *w*; and so on. Thus when it is suggested that Carden may be the manor intended, the apparent dissimilarity must not cause immediate rejection. Claverton near Chester occurs as Claventone (13b), and a similar interchange of *n* and *r* would remove part of the difference between Calvintone and Carden. This place-name has a great variety of early forms, Kawrdin, Caurthyn, Cawarden, Cawrthin, and so on; if the original were Calwardine, the identification might be regarded as reasonably sure, but the *l* does not appear in any of the forms recorded in Ormerod (ii. 698-702); thus the local tendency to change *al* into *aw* cannot be relied on. It seems just possible, however, that the county roll had Cauuntone (for Cawrthone), and that some slight excess in the first stroke of the first *u* produced Caluntone, the Domesday Book form.

The Pincerna family had also a grant in Chester of St. Olave's and the surrounding land. The neighbouring street now called Duke Street was formerly Clarton or Claverton Lane, and if other circumstances agreed it might be argued that here we had a trace of the missing name. It appears, however, from the record that of the 50 hides at which Chester was assessed there were only 3½ rated

separately, 2 hides on the north side of the Dee (Newton and Redcliff) and 1½ south (Overleigh, Netherleigh and Handbridge), so that the 2 hides of Calvintone have no place there.

One objection to Carden is that this formed a portion of the Malpas barony, without a trace of any connection with the Butlers. It appears, however, that Earl Hugh after 1086 added several manors to those then held by Robert FitzHugh; for instance, Hugh FitzOsborne's Caldicote, and Aldersey in the Earl's Coddington; so that it is not improbable that Carden (if the Calvintone of D. B.) might be transferred like Caldicote to Robert FitzHugh. The pre-Norman holder was named Dot, who had many manors in that neighbourhood—Shocklach and parts of Coddington, Cholmondeley, and Bickerton—whereas he held nothing in the deanery of Chester.

The measurement of Tilston manor as recorded (viz. 1½ miles square) is not to be overlooked. While much greater than that of the township of Tilston it is, as already stated (see No. 681), much less than that of the four townships of Tilston, Grafton, Stretton, and Carden. If, however, Calvintone is really a form of Carden the manor of 2 hides would probably include this township and Stretton also, leaving the above measurement to apply to the remainder of the parish of Tilston, viz., Tilston, Grafton, and Horton.

(To be continued.)

OCTOBER 15, 1902.

NOTES.

[727] ST. OSWALD'S CHURCH, 1575-1625.

(Continued from No. 719).

IX. THE SURPLICE.

It is interesting to note the increasing cost of the Vicar's surplices, and the different materials used for making them. Thirty shillings, at the value of money in 1611, was a heavy item. It will be noticed that the Clerk also wore a surplice.

1575. Paid to Stocktons daughter for mending the Vicars surplesse iijjd.

1576. Paid for a newe surplise for the Vicare xjs. vjd.

1584. For seaven yeards and a halfe of Holand cloth to make a new surplis xjs. iijd.

1589. For a surples for the Clarke vijs. ixd.

1596. For lynynge the Coller of the Surples iijjd.

1609. Paide for xij yards of scotish cloth to make a surples for the vicar xvijjs.

Paide for makinge the surples vs.

1611. Paid for x yards of linnen cloth to make a surplus for the vicar at ijs. vjd. a yard xxvs.

Item paid for the makinge thereof and for thread vs.

1619. Paid for mendinge the vicar's surplesse vjd.

E. C. L.

(To be continued.)

[728]

TURBARY AND FIREBOTE.

The following is a Copy of an original Rent-Roll, on fine parchment, of the Lord of the Manor in which Oakhanger Moss lies. The headlines, etc., are in a large text-hand, here represented by small capitals. Rolls were anciently called "Books"—as, in law, they still are so called, in "making up the book"—of pleadings—for the trial of *Nisi Prius* actions.

A MOSSE BOOKE made the viijth daye of August in the yeere of our Lord God one thousand sixe hundred and sixe of all the depp-turves fleturves and firrewood gotten by the severall pertons, whose names are subscribed, w'thin Okehonger Mosses and praysed by Thom's Hotchkinson, Robert Shorte, Rondle Oulton, and Thom's Harden.

A'o Dñi
1606.

IMPRIMIS. Hughe Wykinson	ijs.
Elizab'th Lownes wyddowe	ijs. iijjd.
Rondle Raulison	ijs. vijd.
John Cleaton [Clayton]	xxd.
Robert Wythenshawe	ijs.
Thom's Smythe of Crewe	ijs. vjd.
John Proudlove	ijs. xd.
Rondle Newton	iijs. vijd.
Rondle Proudlove of Cold Mosse	iijs. iijjd.
John Wright	ijs. vjd.
John Shawe of the Myll hill	iijs. iijjd.
Richard Barnett	ijs. vjd.
Thomas Barnett	iijs. viijd.
John Harden [prob. for Hawarden]	ijs. vjd.
Will'm Symons	xxijjd.
Will'm Brereton	iijs. viijd.
James Proudlove	ijs.
Robert Chilt [Child]	ijs. vjd.
Richard Proudlove	vs. iijjd.
Raphe Meryll [Marvyll or Marvel?]	ijs. vjd.
Roger Dykes	ijs. xd.
Richard Chylt, Maltman	xviijd.
Raphe Proudlove	ijs. viijd.
Hughe Kent	ijs.
Robert Oulton	iijs.
Wyddowe Oulton	xxd.
Wyddowe Allatt	xvjd.
George Shawe	ijs. viijd.
Robert Hulse	ijs. vijd.
Owen Mekin	iijs. vijd.
Rondle Lockett	xxijjd.
Hughe Wheelocke	ijs. ijd.
Will'm Shawe of the lake	iijs. viijd.
George Harden	xxd.
John Twenlowe	xxxs. vjd.
Widdow Hulme of the Plumpe	xviijd.
Rondle Kent	xxd.
Rondle Turner	xxd.
Thomas Clyffe	xxd.
John Jackson of Bechton*	ijs.
Will'm Smythe	iijs. viijd.
Edward Cashe [qy. corrupted to Case]	ijs. vjd.

Elizabeth Alger [Alsager] widdowe	iijs.
Alice Corke wyddowe	xd.
Raphe Corke	iijs.
John Jackson of Barthomley *	xxijd.
Richard Boughey for white mosse	xvd.
Widdowe Scott	iijs.
Robert Kettle	ijs. viijd.
John Wood	ijs. iiijd.
Roger Ashberry [Astbury]	ijs.
Charles Massie	ijs. ijd.
Elizabeth Whitney	xxd.
James Whitney	ijs. ijd.
John Ryley	vijs.
Raphe Dodd	iijs. viijd.
Rondle Hassall [qy. of Hassall]	iijs.
Thom's Cheney [Q. of Willaston in Wybunbury]	vjs.
Thom's Smythe the blacke smith	ijs. ijd.
Widdow Noden	ijs. vjd.
Robert Brooke [qy. of Leighton brooke]	xxijd.
Thom's Steele of the greene [a Captain Steele, at the Siege of Beeston Castle (about 40 years after) may have been "of The Greene" ?]	ijs. vjd.
Richard Oulton	ijs. iiijd.
Wyddow Kettle	ijs. ijd.
Robert Browne	xijd.
Henry Rydley	xvjd.
Richard Boughey for blacke mosse	ijs. iiijd.
James Lea	xxd.
Thom's Basford	xijd.
Raphe Poole of Crewe	xijd.
Rondle wynteley	ijs. iiijd.
Robert Stanwey	ijs. iiijd.
Anne Stanwey	ijs. viijd.
Mr. Moore	xviijd.
Thomas Steele	ijs.

FOR FLAE TURVES.

Raphe Brooke	iijs. vjd.
Will'm Smythe	iijs. iiijd.
Roger Lockett	ijs. ijd.
John Wheelocke of Doggelane	xd.
Rondle Hassall	xijd.
John Steele button maker	xxijd.
Anne Boothe widdow	vjd.
Will'm Buckley	ijs.
Widdowe Deane	xijd.
Will'm Steele	xijd.
John Wood	vjd.
Thom's Boothe	vjd.
Thom's Steele of the greene	ixd.
Phillip Knottesford	xvd.
Robert Oulton	ixd.
Elizabeth Andrew	xijd.
Robert Browne	xijd.
Richard Steele of the Banke	xijd.
Widdow Oulton	xijd.
Richard Oulton	vjd.
Elizabeth Lownes	xijd.
George ffullalove	xijd.
John Lockett	xijd.
James Starkie	xijd.
Thom's Wynteley	vjd.

Charles Massie	vjd.
Laurence Allott	vjd.
30s. 10d.	

FOR FYERREWOOD.

Rondle Hassall	xviijd.
Raphe Dodd	xd.
John Ryle	ijs. iiijd.
Charles Massie	viijd.
5s. 4d.	

received of thys mosse-boocke the xxjth daye
of November 1606

received more the xth day of December 1606
xvijs. xd.

received more the xxviiijth day of december
liijs. xd.

received the xxvth daye of January

received the xvijth of february

received the xxxjth of Marche [1607]

received more

received the xxvjth day of aprill

received the xiiijth day of maye

received more the xth day of [may] 1607 ..

received more

received more the vijth daye of June. xxvs. vjd.

received more

Here the document abruptly ends, with these 13 laboriously written 'receipts,' in the plain, stout, cultivated, semi-scribbling hand, probably of the seneschal or steward of the manor. The names (about 100!) of the holders of common of turbary and firebote are of some value as showing the numerous tenant-families, even at that time, in the neighbourhood, and, with very few exceptions, of real ancient Cheshire descent: the most of whom, there can be no doubt, being descendants of the younger issue of the ancient nobles minores, of neighbouring Cheshire houses; and probably some few among them were manorial lords themselves.

DUCKWOOD.

* This, only one of hundreds of enrolments which, contrary to the dicta of the Rev. F. Raines, Mr. Wm. Beaumont, and others of the old Chetham Society, shows that such descriptions are not necessarily indicative of proprietorship: much less of baronial or manorial lordship.

[729] RICHARD BULKELEY.

In the "Eagle," the College magazine, Mr. R. F. Scott, fellow of St. John's, Cambridge, is publishing a number of the documents preserved in the College treasury. Among them is the following mandate of Charles I., which led to the election of Richard Bulkeley, apparently one of the Beaumaris family, to a fellowship.

Charles R.

Trusty and well beloved wee greete you well. Whereas wee are given to understand that by the promotion or maryage of one Edward Floyd Master of Arts and fellow of that Colledge, his fellowship being of a Foundation appropriated to some of our subiects borne in one of the Dioceses of Bangor of St. Asaph is now voyde and to be filled up at this

your next Election. And that there is now present in your Howse one Richard Bulkeley borne in one of these Dioceses, Batchelour of Arts bredd up heretofore at our chardges as one of our scholars in our Schoole at Westminster and now a Schollar of your howse of the foundation of the Bishop of Lincoln, of whose excellent parts and hopes in all manner of learning, fitting a scholar of his tyme and age, wee have receaved cleere testimonies as also of his life and conversation from some members of your owne howse and from other Colledges in that unyversity. Wee doe require you, That unlesse you can except against this his testimony in pointe of doctrine and manners you the Master doe propound and you the Master and Seniors doe elect this so hopefull a young man into the place and Fellowship of the said Edward Floyd. And if any exception shall be made against him being neither of such Schooles or of such foundations as are lymited by the composition betweene the Executors of Dr. Wynne and that socyety because wee are credibly informed that neither Floyd the ymmediate, nor Wynne the predecessor before him were so qualified, Wee do by our royall Prerogative dispense with Buckley in those and the like inferior circumstances. And requiring these Our letters to bee read by you the Master unto eight Seniors then present in the College within one houre after the receipt of the same that there may bee no default in satisfiying Our desire in so just a motion Wee bydd you farewell. Gyven at our Pallace of Whitehall this twentieth day of March 1628-9].

Addressed: To our trustie and wellbeloved the Master and Seniors of St. John's College in our universitie of Cambridge.

The Master and Seniors, however, did not think it possible to avail themselves of the royal dispensation, and writing to Lord Holland on March 23 they state that "they have provided otherwise for Sir Bucklye to his full content" (Mayor-Baker i, 497), and on the ensuing election day (March 25) they chose Henry Bodurda of Carnarvon to the vacant Gwynn fellowship and Richard Bulkeley of Anglesey "to the next Foundress' fellowship falling vacant for the southern counties."

Dr. John Gwynn or Wynn of the county of Carnarvon had himself been a fellow of the college (admitted March 21, 1547) and by his will (June 1, 1574) left an annual charge of £40 for the endowment of fellowships and scholarships. His brother and executor Griffith Wynn of Llanrwst accordingly charged his lands in Maynau with this annuity and two fellowships and three scholarships were founded, limited to the counties of Carnarvon, Denbigh, and Merioneth. The first elections were made in 1584, when William Holland and John Gwyn (both of Denbighshire) were elected fellows; and Owen Gwin, Richard Pigott (also of Denbighshire), and William Lewis (Merioneth), scholars. Owen Gwin or Gwynn, a nephew of Dr. John

Gwynn, succeeded to one of the two fellowships in 1589, and became Master of the College in 1612, a position which he held till his death in June, 1633.

[730] CHESHIRE DOMESDAY NOTES. XIX.

(See No. 726)

Markings.—The various marks made by the compilers to direct attention to clerical errors or debatable matters are of interest. Thus, in the margin of the first column of the first page two curling signs shew the transposition of a line; they occur again on p. 8 to indicate where an entry respecting Tatton should have been inserted. This entry had been overlooked at first and then written below the margin of the page. That it should have been thought necessary to mark its exact position among the other Halton manors shews that the order in which the various entries occur was not regarded altogether as a matter of chance. On the other hand, a similar below-margin entry on p. 3 has no indication of its proper place, and led to much confusion (see Ormerod i, 510-1) because the column as at first written ended in the middle of the entry about Frodsham. On p. 12 may be seen a continuation mark.

Opposite the name Eyton (near Ruabon) a large R is written; it probably means that the bishop claimed a full restitution of this manor, which had belonged to his see in 1066 but had been partially alienated. The first entry on p. 11 has been cancelled by drawing lines through it. It describes the share of Gresford held by Rainald; this manor is afterwards (12a) said to be held by Hugh and Osbern and Rainald jointly, so that it was a mistake to give the share of the last named as if he held it independently. The cancelled entry is valuable, for it no doubt gives Rainald's proportion correctly, and thus proves that when a manor was held jointly by several persons they did not necessarily share equally; for Gresford was assessed at 13 hides, of which Rainald held not a third but only $1\frac{1}{2}$ hides, with 2 out of the 12 carucates, and "of the wood, which is four leagues in length, he has so much as belongs to one hide and a half."

(To be continued.)

OCTOBER 22, 1902.

NOTES.

[731] DARNHALL SCHOOL, 1698.

The following very interesting document is taken from a copy of the original made for the Rev. T. Crane, and has been contributed to the "Sheaf" by Mr. W. H. Bradford. As Vicar of Over (1801-1820) Mr. Crane would be anxious to know the rules of Darnhall School, so that the children of his parish, who had a right to its advantages, might avail themselves of them.

The school was designed as a Grammar School, Latin and Greek being taught therein, and a careful supervision of the religious and moral training of the children is directed. The hours seem very long—10½ hours in summer and 7 in winter—and in such a district as Darnhall and Over many of the scholars would have a long walk before and after. There is no direct mention of a summer holiday, but the master's allowance of thirty days would no doubt be taken then. The restrictions as to "women children" are noticeable; they are not to continue attending the school "above nine years"—probably "nine years of age," for "nine years' duration" would imply teaching too bad to be tolerated—and their education was considered complete as soon as they could "read English;" it is evident that "Girton girls" were neither anticipated nor desired in the time of William III.

Little seems to be known of the founders, Thomas Lee and his mother. The pedigrees may be seen in Helsby's Ormerod (i, 630, 658; see also iii, 517, and ii, 181). Thomas Lee of Darnhall was Sheriff of the County in 1698, and seems to have signalled his year of office by carrying out his mother's scheme of a school near his principal seat. His grandfather Henry had sold Lea in Wybunbury, their ancient home, to Sir Henry Delves. Darnhall was acquired by Henry's father Sir Richard Lee, kt. (d. 1627). The founder of the school was born about 1636, the son of Thomas Lee of Darnhall by his wife Elizabeth, daughter of Samuel Aldersey, merchant, of London. This Thomas Lee died in 1642 and his widow married Robert Venables ("General Venables") of Antrobus and Wincham, and is therefore here described as Elizabeth Venables of Wincham. Thomas Lee, the son, married a daughter (by the first wife) the same Robert Venables, and so acquired Wincham.

The School statutes run thus:—

The Statute Laws and Ordinances prescribed limited and appointed by Thomas Lee of Darnhall in the County of Chester Esqre. to be observed and kept in the Government of the free Grammar School at Darnhall aforesaid and the Schoolmaster and Scholars of the same lately Erected and founded at the joint charges of Mrs. Elizabeth Venables of Wincham in the said County deceased late mother of the said Thomas Lee and of him the said Thomas Lee to have continuance for ever.

First.—It is ordained that the School shall be free only for all the Children of householders and inhabitants that shall dwell and inhabit within the parishes of Whitegate and Over and the Township of Weever in the said County, Provided that the Number exceed not the convenient ability of the Teacher for their profitable Instruction; which to determine shall be referred to the Trustees appointed for the said School for the time being, Provided also that the women Children continue not in the School above nine years nor longer than to learn to read English

Secondly.—The parents or friends bringing any Child to be admitted into the School shall pay for the same admission one Shilling, the poorer sort excepted, which shall but pay fourpence; At which time of Admission also these Statutes shall be read or the sum of them declared to the Child and his friends, that they promise their care so much as lieth in them for the observation of the same and without such Conditions none shall be admitted.

Thirdly.—The repairing to School in the morning by the Teacher and Scholars from the last of March to the first of September shall be at six of the Clock, And from the first of September to the last of March at half an hour past seven of the Clock, their departure to dinner shall be at eleven of the Clock, their return again at half an hour past twelve of the Clock, their departure at night from the last of March to the first of September at six of the Clock, the rest of the year at four of the Clock.

Fourthly.—The Master shall not be absent in School time from his Charge (if in health) above thirty days in one year be they taken at one or several times, And if any urgent cause shall hinder him he shall cause his place to be Supplied by a sufficient Deputy.

Fifthly.—The Master may grant release to his Scholars at his own discretion each Thursday after two of the Clock in such week as hath not a holiday in it; And instead of that at the request of Persons of Worshipp and Credit any other afternoon which shall seem convenient for such a purpose. He shall also being moved thereto by the towardlines of his Scholars declared by their Exercise fit for such a purpose permit the accustomed breaking up of School nine days before the feast of the Nativity of our Saviour, provided it be not done by the Scholars barring, bolting or locking out of School the said Master, and on pain of those being expelled from the School that shall be found faulty therein; And in like sort three days before Easter; and two days before the feast of Whitsuntide; Providing that their return may be with such exercise also as may shew the well spending of their time the Monday next after Epiphany, the Monday next after Easter week, and the Monday next after Trinity Sunday.

Sixthly.—Each morning at their repairing to School some part of the Scripture shall be read and the Master shall pray with his Scholars, their departure to dinner with singing a stave or two of a Psalm, before departure at night a Chapter shall be read, prayer used and a Psalm sung; And that all may profit thereby the Master shall see that each Scholar be provided according to his capacity and friends' ability a Bible to be daily used in their Christian exercise.

Seventhly.—The Master shall one day each week catechise and instruct his scholars in the principles of the Christian religion, And shall provide that all the Scholars shall diligently each Lord's Day and all other days of Solemn Assemblies repair to

Church or other lawfull tolerated place of worship bring their Bibles with them, And shall appoint such as shall be able to take notes of the things their taught, and shall carefully take Account how all profit by such Christian exercise.

Eighthly.—For exercises of human Learning the number of Classes or forms in the whole School shall be according to the Master's discretion regarding herein that his Scholars proceed from form to form according to the sound knowledge of reading, writing, understanding, and penning of the English, Latin, and Greek Tongues both in Prose and Verse, to which end the Master shall be sufficiently able to deliver the precepts in the most necessary and compendious sort and to add the practice continually thereto, The Choice of Authors for this purpose shall be reserved to the discreet learning of the Master, regarding the Laws of our Lands and providing that their attaining to the purity of the Latin Tongue be by those Authors which the learned call Classically, such as Tully, Cesar, &c. for Prose, Terence and Virgill for Verse, And as for Phrase and Speaking and penning it; it is wished those may be patterns for the School to follow so it is ordained that no matter be taught out of any Author that may hinder Godliness.

Ninthly.—The Master shall take care of the safe and clean keeping of the School and things thereto belonging with such matter as concern the Scholars, As namely for the punishing all manner of faults, And for appointing an officer each week for the finding out and disclosing of them, As Absence from the School or Church, negligence or misbehaviour there or elsewhere. He shall give general Direction for finding out what faults have been committed and chastize the Offender and herein he shall have Special regard to those vices that reign among the Ignorant and Prophane multitude as Swearing Filthy talking cursed Speaking Contention Gaming Unthriftiness &c. being disclosed he shall not suffer to Escape unpunished.

Tenthly.—If any Scholar shall Stubbornly refuse to submit himself to his Masters obedient and these orders or shall often absent himself from School without his likeing and reasonable cause, or shall remove in such sort from this School to any other, or shall be found after diligent paines and sufficient tryal not to profit in learning or prove to corrupt in manners, that his example become harmful he shall be expelled the School and never thereto again be admitted without manifest repentance and amendment.

Eleventhly.—That those things may be the better observed to the Glory of God and Increase of Godly learning and Virtuous behaviour, the School shall once a year be visited by men of good conscience and judgement by the patrons and Governours of the School to be appointed, who shall observe how the Children profit, and what the Master hath done in keeping these orders; to which Visitors shall be granted liberty if any doubt arise in these

orders to explain the same. And if need so require seeing further occasion to enlarge them, and set down other the like Ordinances, Provided they be not contrary to anything herein expressed. In Witness whereof I have hereunto subscribed my name this thirty-first day of May, in the tenth year of the Reign of our Sovereign Lord William the third Over England Scotland France and Ireland King defender of the faith &c. Anno domini 1698.

Signed in the presence of

Adam Holland
Ralph Stanway
Anthony Venables

[732] ST. OSWALD'S CHURCH, 1575-1625.

(Continued from No. 727.)

X. CLEANING AND BEAUTIFYING.

Our picture of St. Oswald's Church, as it was 300 years ago, would be very incomplete without some notice of what was done in the way of cleaning and beautifying it. As regards cleaning, it is rather a story of what was left undone: for there can be no doubt that the Church was kept in a filthy condition. Occasionally, after whitewashing the walls, or putting up Christmas decorations of holly, or on the approach of a visitation a spasmodic effort was made to get rid of the worst of the dirt, or at least such as could be removed by a besom; but a duster, and soap, are items unknown in the Churchwardens' Accounts. Then as to 'beautifying'—the term is borrowed from the accounts—the only idea seems to have been whitewashing, and painting some parts red. There was absolutely nothing done towards heating the Church. Our forefathers must have been a hardier generation, and less susceptible of Church draughts, than the present one. It was a common thing at that period for men to wear their hats in Church, and it may have been so here: and perhaps the rushes in the seats were meant, not to kneel upon, but like the straw one used to see on the floor of an omnibus, to keep the feet warm. The lighting was done by candles, but as there were no evening services in those days, not much in the way of artificial light was required. The general impression left by a perusal of the items appended is one of dirt and neglect, relieved by the 'fumigatory use' of incense and perfume. The state of things was thus summed up by the Archbishop of York's visitors in 1633:—"That the said Church was much defiled with rushes and other filthiness. The said Comissioners did order and enjoyn the said Churchwardens to cause the rushes and other filthiness forthwith to be taken out of the same Church." The contemplation of such a picture only makes one feel the more grateful for the admirable manner in which the restoration of the South Transept of the Cathedral has been carried out.

The items may be arranged under various headings. They are, of course, only samples.

Cleaning. 1575. Paid the xliijth of May unto Robert Shepard and Dannet with another man for two days worke and fetching water, with sweepeing and carrying out earthe iijjs.

Item paid for beesomes jd.

Item paid unto Robert Sheppard and Dannott and for a man to fetch water and for sweeping the xxjth of Maye for sixe dayes ixs.

Item paid to Dannot Hall and an other wth Seftons wiefe for carrying out the muck and making cleane the Church before the pewes were sette xxd.

Item paid to a woman for washinge iijjs.

1576. Paid for sweeping the Church against Easter and the windowes iijjd.

1586. For sweeping the glasse windows ijd.

1606. Paid for making the Church cleane and for berrage at the same time ijs. jd.

1608. For Beisomes to sweepe the Church ijd.

Item the xth of Aprill 1609 for three weomen and tow men one whoale daye to gett out the muck and fylthe out of the Church iijjs.

1609. Paide for beesoms to sweepe the Church wth all ijd.

Paide unto the sexton for keepinge the Church cleane the whole yeare viijjd.

1610. Paid for dressing and clensing the Church against Easter vjd.

1611. Given to Ellis for making cleane the Church iijjd.

Item paid to Ellis to buie Beesoms and makinge cleane the Church against Easter xiiijjd.

1612. Paide for making the Church Cleane agaynst Whitsontyde xijd.

1614. Paide for making the Church cleane at seuerall tymes xijd.

1616. Paid to William denson for brushinge downe the Church iiiijs. viijjd.

E. C. L.

(To be continued.)

[733] CHESHIRE DOMESDAY NOTES. XX.

(See No. 730.)

Churches.—Domesday Book was not an "Ecclesiastical Taxation" and it mentions churches and priests only incidentally, as when they held land. In Chester were the great churches of St. Werburgh and St. John with their canons, the monastery of St. Mary, and the "temple" of St. Peter—this last mentioned casually on account of a dispute about the ownership of its site (1b). In Hamestan (Macclesfield) Hundred neither church nor priest is mentioned, and in the rest of Cheshire there is a curious difference of expression from which we see that two sets of commissioners compiled the original rolls of which Domesday Book is a summary. This difference is that "church and priest" is the usual phrase in the Hundreds of Bochelau (Bucklow East), Mildestuic (Northwich), and Roelau (Eddisbury North), while "priest" alone, understood of a parochial or permanent priest, is used elsewhere in the county. There were "a church and priest" at Gresford. At

Hawarden the "church" had half a carucate. At Northenden only a church is mentioned, but as the manor was "waste," probably there was no resident priest just at that time. The "church and priest" at Frodsham had a virgate of land; at Bowdon they had half a hide ("dimid. h. hide" is the statement—probably a clerical error); and at Lymm a virgate "quit" or free from taxation. At Farndon "the priest of the vill" had half a carucate, like the "church" at Hawarden; but in other cases the priest is classed with the villeins and other rural occupiers, and his holding is not given separately.

(To be continued.)

QUERY.

[734] THE HAWARDEN ROOD.

Can any reader of the "Sheaf" give information as to the origin of the story about the Hawarden Rood, which was tried for murder, drowned in the Doe, and finally buried on the Roodsee? What is the meaning of the names of the imaginary lord of Hawarden and his wife—Sytsuht and Trawst? This last appears to be Welsh for a "beam," suiting the rood very well.

Q.

OCTOBER 29, 1902.

NOTES.

[735] JOHN BRUEN. X.

(Continued from No. 718.)

Grace overcomes Nature.—Naturally he was passionate and hasty, but having his sin pardoned in the Blood of Christ and having gotten power over it his nature was healed, his passions subdued, and his frowardness was changed into mildness. He was of an ingenuous facility either to be persuaded to anything that was good or to be dissuaded from anything that was evil. An honourable judge in open court having a complaint made to him against Mr. Bruen of some wrong that he did by a watercourse to his mills, out of that good opinion he held of him said, "I cannot think but that you wrong Mr. Bruen. I will undertake for him, make him but sensible of any wrong he hath done and he shall willingly acknowledge it and make you double amends for it"—an honourable testimony of him.

Liberality.—Also there was forty shillings given to the parish of Tarvin which, being lent abroad, through neglect was lost; whereupon the churchwardens and some of the neighbours requested him by himself and his friends to make it up again. To which he presently answered that he would not press upon any man's purse for that matter, and so he gave them the money himself; which, though not much, [was] yet more than most gentlemen

would have done in such a case. He was "full of mercy and good fruits" towards sinners and saints, neighbours and strangers, friends and foes, poor and rich, yea towards all sorts and conditions of men as he had opportunity and ability to declare himself unto them.

Mercy.—He saw none that were without the means of grace but the bowels of compassion yearned in him, pitying the misery that was upon them. He saw none occasionally at their heathenish sports and sinful pastimes but he looked angrily upon them and spoke roughly to them, yet withal inwardly mourning for the hardness of their hearts. If occasionally he met with mockers, contemners of God, and despisers of good things he would not cast pearls before swine but turn away his face and not so much as salute them. If any poor soul erred from the right way and yet desired a guide how careful was he of their good, how joyful to do them good! Yea, to encourage and to draw on such he would give them money, corn, Bibles, catechisms and other good books which he had always by him for such purposes. If a professor of religion fell into decay he would relieve him by his own and good friends' assistance.

Charity and Hospitality.—Sometimes he would take off a good suit of apparel from his own back and bestow it upon a godly poor man that wanted it, and withal gave him a good sum of money out of his purse to accommodate him in his calling. He was much given to hospitality and to entertain strangers; his house was the common inn of God's children that came near him; none were so welcome to eat of his morsels as such strangers as were no strangers in Israel. Many that passed betwixt Ireland and England, and that came upon business to Chester, horsemen and others, would take up his house for their lodging-place that they might comfort and rejoice their hearts in seeing his face, hearing his voice, and conferring and advising with him. His ordinary table was bountiful and plentiful, not to excess but to a very competent sufficiency; and for the furtherance of it he had a great flight of pigeons, a warren of covies, delicate fishponds, besides other ordinary provision about his house; yet would not suffer any wilful waste or abuse of God's good creatures. His cellar was open and free to any, as far as they kept themselves within the bounds of moderation. He did usually fill the bellies of great multitudes which out of his own and other parishes resorted to him for that end; and in the dear years he made provision for them almost every day in the week, and would sometimes serve them himself, both to keep them in good order and equally to distribute according to their necessities. His purse was ever open to give or lend freely to such as would borrow; his admonition was, "Remember your promise, and pay again if you will borrow again"; and if any that borrowed were willing but not able to pay he would rather forgive the debt than exact it.

In the time of a great dearth, fearing that divers of his poor neighbours were in want, taking the opportunity when most of his family had gone abroad to a religious exercise he sent for his neighbours and distributed fourteen bushels of corn among them. Yea, the loins of the poor did bless him, being warmed with the fleece of his flock or clothed by the cost of his purse. Every year, against winter, he bestowed four or five pounds in making provision to clothe the poor. Yea, he was a protector to the poor, to deliver them out of the hands of those that were too strong for them; he was a counsellor to defend their righteous cause and to plead for them.

Sympathy.—He had always a gracious harmony in judgment with all such divines and professors of religion as were most sound in the truth. He religiously sympathised with the Church in all her afflictions. When he heard evil tidings out of Bohemia, Hungary, Germany, the Palatinate, &c., he sat down (as Nehemiah) and wept and mourned certain days and fasted and prayed before the God of Heaven. He was frequent in visiting the sick and such families as had the extraordinary hand of God upon them. If any were troubled in conscience, molested by Satan, terrified by God's judgments, happy was he that could get Master Bruen to come to him; his very presence was some ease and refreshing to them; and as his gifts in prayer, and pains, were great so was the issue and success thereof (through God's blessing) many times very effectual either for full release or some relief at least. He himself recorded divers mercies obtained of God by his prayers, the glory whereof he doth ever in great humility ascribe to the Lord, giving Him hearty thanks for manifesting His grace and power to so weak creatures by so weak means.

Zeal.—Being on a time at the Sheriff's table there was a health begun to the Prince, and there were great lords and many other knights and gentlemen of quality there present, and according to the manner this health was entertained and maintained with a great deal of ceremonial solemnity. As it went along and came near to Mr. Bruen many observed what he would say or do. He cast out in a moderate manner some words of dislike to this effect: "Here is a solemn service to the Prince, yet did he never require it nor will give you any thanks for it"; and when one pressed him to drink the Prince's health he made this mild and prudent answer: "You may drink to his health, and I will pray for his health but drink for mine own health, and so I wish you may do for yours"; and so he passed it over, not yielding to any of the solemn ceremonies of that act. He was a great enemy to the profane customs and corruptions in great houses, and would not spare to admonish his friends, by word or writing, to reform the same.

Mercy.—He was very merciful in dealing with his tenants, not grinding the faces of the poor by great fines nor crushing their bones by heavy rents

and racks nor breaking their backs with cruel services; nor did he use their beasts without hire nor their labour without wages. But it was the joy of his heart to see his tenants prosper and thrive in their estates under him; he used to entertain them lovingly and use them kindly when they came to him. He was much of the same mind towards his tenants as Augustus was towards his subjects; he would not have any to come with fear before him as if they came to an elephant, nor any to depart with a heavy heart or sad countenance out of his presence, as if he had been with a tyrant.

(To be continued.)

[736] AN EARLY CHESTER WILL.

The following abstract of an early Chester will (Harl. MS. 2079) may be of interest to the readers of the "Sheaf":—

Anno 1349. I Richard Hull [Hill] make my testament thus. Bequeaths his soul to God, &c.; his body to be buried in the cemetery of St. Mary's-on-the-Hill, hard by the Castle of Chester. To his daughters Margaret and Lucy the house he has built. To Agnes his wife his tenement in Foregate-street for her whole life. Mentions also his quarry in "Hendbury"; Robert his brother, and Peter [his son].

There was a family of Hills in Malpas parish—see Ormerod, vol. ii.

X.

[737] ST. OSWALD'S CHURCH, 1575-1625.

(Continued from No. 732.)

X. CLEANING AND BEAUTIFYING (ii).

The following items will illustrate what has been already said about the "beautifying" of the interior of old St. Oswald's—whitewash and red lead or "redd ocker" being employed for the purpose. There seems to have been a liberal provision of holly for the Christmas decorations.

Beautifying. 1575. Imp'imis paid for two lodes of lyme the xijth of May 1575 for the Church...xiiijd.

Item paid to Robert Leeche in earnest the same time to trim the Church..... iiijd.

Item paid for pap'r and redd ocker the same time vjd.

Item paid more the xvijth of May for two lods of lyme xiiijd.

Item for drinke to the Workemen whyles they were doinge in the Church at sev'all times... viijd.

Item more the xviiijth of May for three lods of lymexxiijd.

Item paid more to Robert Leeche the xxth day of May for trimming the Church xxvs.

Item more paid unto him for grindinge of ye Collers and for syze with iijli. of red-leade..... ijs.

Item more the xxvth of May to a workeman for whitelimeing and fetching water xvjd.

1585. For Lyme, for the Carriage of Water, for besams, and for the brushing and wittlymyng of our parish church.....xvs. vjd.

1592 For lyme bought at two seu'all times to whitelime the Church ijs. xd.

To three men for sweeping and whitlymyng the Church vjs.

1601. Paid for whitelimeing of the Churchxxxs.

Item paid more to Nicholas Hallwood for butifyng the Church iijli. xd.

Item paid to Mr. Bavand for redd leade xixs.

1624. Paid for whitelymyng the Church and the Chancell iijli. xvijs. iiijd.

Item paid for writing upon the Church walls, and for Redd leade to bewtify the Church and also for workmanship and Syse..... iijli. xijs. ijd.

Holly, rushes, and incense. 1575. Paid for hollins to the Church at Christmas and sweeping the windowesxd.

Item paid for setting upp the hollins and laying the Church goods aside..... ijd.

1607. Given to the Clarke at ye same time to by franc'nsense to burne in the Church ijd.

For francinsence yt the Clarke bought to burne in the Church ijd.

1608. The xxj of december for two horse loades of hollins to dress the Churchxxd.

Item to Hatton for brushinge and makinge cleane the Church and settinge upp the hollins viijd.

1611. Paid for frankincense and perfume at the vizitacōn vjd.

Item paide for frankincens ijd.

1612. Payde for makinge the Church Clean and for Rushesxiiijd.

1614. Paide at the same tyme (Visitation) for Rushes and franckencense xixd.

1617. Paid for Rushes and franckincense at the Bishops visitation the xiiijth of May0 1. 0.

1625. Paid for Rushes for the Seates after they were altered and for hollens to sett up vjs.

Lighting. 1575. Paid to Robert Hallwood for jli. and a helve of wax candles.....xxjd.

1576. Paid to Henry Mullineux for two pound of waxe kandles for morning prayerxxiijd.

1607. Paid to Nicholas Hallowode for 4 pounds of wax candelles befoure Crismas vjs.

1608. For a pownde of whyte candles to give lighte at Queare service iijjd.

1611. Paid for twoe pound of tallow candles...xd.

1613. Paid for one pound of Tallow Candles for the towlinge to morning prayer iijjd.

Paid for two pound of Tallow Candles for Christmas day in the morning viijd.

1614. For fowre pounde of Tallow Candles for the whole yeare xviiijd.

1617. Paid for iijj pounde of Wax Candles for morninge prayer and Christmas holidays0. 6. 8.

E. C. L.

(To be continued.)

[738] CHESHIRE DOMESDAY NOTES. XXI.

(See No. 733.)

Values.—To the account of each manor is normally added the annual value at three different periods, viz., at the death of King Edward (1066), when the

present holder received it (about 1070), and at the time of the survey (1086). In Cheshire, however, instead of the value at the middle period there is usually the remark "it was waste" (or unoccupied), and on the whole county the values had declined about 30 per cent., only one hundred (Tunendune) shewing an increase. As to the meaning of these figures it seems impossible to go beyond Professor Maitland's conclusion, that they are rough estimates of the annual values of the manors, "taken as going concerns" as they stood at the time. The chief element in the calculation would no doubt be the quantity of land under the plough, for this implied the oxen to draw the plough, their fodder, and also the men to use their services and to gather in the harvest. Hence it will be useful to state the number of ploughs at work in the several hundreds in 1086, distinguishing those on the lord's demesne (D) and those outside it (O) in the hands of the villeins or other inferior holders, with the recorded values:—

	D.	O.	Pop'n	£
Atiscros (Hawarden, &c.)	8	13½	92	11
Bochelau (Bucklow E.)	5	5½	73	4
Cestre (Chester, environs)	3	3½	25	3
Dudestan (Broxton)	52½	71½	308	61
Exestan (Gresford, &c.)	2	6	45	6
Hamestan (Macclesfield)	3	11½	56	5
Mildestuic (Northwich)	13½	25	149	11
Risedon (Eddisbury S.)	12	29	118	18
Roelau (Eddisbury N.)	12½	12½	113	12
Tunendune (Bucklow W.)	16	22	109	12
Warmundestrou (Nantwich)	22½	35½	187	16
Wilaveston (Wirral)	47½	72½	426	54

Other elements of value, as the meadows, mills and fisheries, are also given, but the important one of the stock has not been preserved; for this a very sufficient reason has been suggested, namely, that as Domesday Book was not compiled from the county rolls till many years after the survey details as the number of pigs, sheep, and so forth, were not considered worth summarising, as they must have altered very considerably in the interval.

Putting aside the hundreds of Cestre and Exestan as too small to afford satisfactory averages, it will be found that in the greater part of Cheshire a plough with its implied team of eight oxen corresponds to 4s. or 5s. of annual value, but in Atiscros and Wilaveston to 8s. or 10s. It is difficult to imagine a satisfactory reason for this discrepancy; perhaps those two latter hundreds had not lain "waste" like the rest of the county, or perhaps their position on tidal rivers had something to do with their double value; but an examination of the separate manors scarcely supports this theory.

On coming to study particular manors it is interesting to observe their variations from the average values and to speculate on the causes of it. These are obvious enough in some cases. For instance, the high value of Eaton (£10) must be due to the great salmon fishery there; 1,000 salmon at 2½d. each would supply the excess over the average.

Other manors along the Dee, as Eccleston, Poulton, and Aldford, also shew an excess, though not to the same degree. In other cases the existence of meadow land, or woods yielding mast for pigs, may have increased the value of a holding.

(To be continued.)

NOVEMBER 5, 1902.

NOTES.

[739] BEBINGTON RECTORY, 1573.

The history of the patronage and the rectors of Bebington in the latter half of the sixteenth century is very obscure. Ormerod says vaguely that on the dissolution of St. Werburgh's monastery the advowson was acquired by Sir Richard Cotton and after passing through various hands for about a century was purchased by the Stanleys of Hooton, and from them passed to the Pooles. The following documents may help to clear away some of the obscurity. They prove that the Stanleys' interest in the patronage began soon after the dissolution, for it is Sir Rowland Stanley who in 1573 "*sueth Quare impedit*" when his nominee for the rectory has been rejected by the Ordinary.

Roger Sefton, appointed in 1556, died at the end of December, 1570, and was buried at Bebington (see "*Registers*," ed. Sanders). Nothing whatever is known of his successor—for some successor must be assumed before the rectory again became vacant about the end of 1572. Sir Rowland Stanley had then evidently vested his patronage in feoffees or trustees, relying upon them to oblige him in the presentations. This time he was mistaken. He wished to appoint a Dr. Myrrick (or Meyrick), but one of the feoffees, under the influence of a certain Robert Fletcher, an old antagonist of Sir Rowland's, nominated a Cambridge divine named Gilpin. Fletcher, in suggesting him, was inspired by Archbishop Grindal, who since his appointment to the See of York in 1570 had been visiting his diocese and province and was now apparently in Chester, superseding for the time the authority of Bishop Downham and becoming the Ordinary. As the feoffees disagreed, the decision rested with the Ordinary, and Grindal of course at once appointed Gilpin, who was really his own nominee. Sir Rowland Stanley did not take his defeat with resignation. Far from it; he commenced an action against the Archbishop in the Chester Court to vindicate his right of patronage—Cheshire had then special palatine courts—and his friends took part in a scheme to have him appointed sheriff next year, when he might "make things lively" for Robert Fletcher. What would he have thought of the suggestion that he was "burdened (belike) with a guilty conscience" about such "Cheshire practices?" Hence the following letters. Fletcher, naturally alarmed, wrote to the Archbishop to defeat the plan

for making Sir Rowland sheriff, and the Archbishop who as "a stranger" did not expect success in the suit about the patronage, immediately sent the letter on to Lord Burleigh with a request that he would give it his attention. Sir Rowland's term of office as sheriff seems accordingly to have been deferred for a year or two (1576).

Of Robert Fletcher very little is known. In the List of Freeholders in 1578 (Record Society) he appears as one of the principal gentlemen in Wirral, ranking with John Whitmore of Thurston. In the pedigrees he is called "of Ince," which is not in Wirral, but he seems to have lived at Great Sutton. He was the son of William Fletcher of Ince, second son of Richard Fletcher of Morley in Barrow. He married Maud daughter of Sir William Poole and widow of Sir Thomas Grosvenor of Eaton (died 1550); her will, dated and proved in November, 1583, does not mention her second husband, so that he probably died before her. Maud Fletcher, wife of William Ratcliffe of Manchester, is named as their "daughter and heir" in the pedigrees; the will, however, mentions only Jane Fletcher and "little John Fletcher." One of the first bequests is—"to Richard Bromley £6 13s. 4d. which Sir Rowland Stanley oweth me."

The suit between Dame Ursula Stanley and her husband referred to in the correspondence arose out of his relations with Sibyl Thomason; Dame Ursula in 1573 claimed a divorce.

The following are the letters. Robert Fletcher's has been kindly copied from the original in the British Museum by Mr. Gilbert P. Gannon; Grindal's is from the Parker Society's volume of "Remains" (p. 345). In this latter the spelling has been modernised.

Robert Fletcher to Abp. Grindal

(Lansdowne M.S. 17, No. 50, fo 113: Burghley Papers 1573.)

W't humble reverence, And my dewtye lowlye remebred unto yr. grace, it may please you to understand, that by the ambitius and malitius mynd of Sr. Rowland Stanleie, for that he can nott attayne to the plasinge of his unworthie clerk Merrick, unto Bebington, nor yet can by anye maner of wayes bringe me to do that, that neyther in trothe nor honestye I maye do, and sence no wayes maye serve him, he and his complices do worke by all wayes and means they can, to make him sherryve here in Chesshyre, and therebye mean to defaie your grace in the admyttinge of Mr. Gylpyne, or to work me to there purpose, in making me to feeble his tyranye, unless my gracijs Lord, yt wold please yr. grace to addresse yr. Pres earnestlye unto my Lord and Mr. Thearle of Leycestre, my Lord treasurer and Mr. Secretarye Smythe, and so particulerlye to certifie (?) Sr. Rowlands behavior touching his unorderlye usinge before yr grace for his wief, and that also even now the Sute he mayntaeyneth against yr. grace, yr. court, and

Mr. Gylpyne w'ch shalbe exicuted w't extremitye by Chesshyre practises if so he be not prevented, even now presently and w'tall to discover his proud doinge and corrupt Religion, as I sent yr. grace, and my good Lord of Huntingdon both by experience and also by report are able to Judge of, whose honor I know would joyne w't yr. grace in this mattyre, if so yt might please you to move him herein, and fr. the good and trewe s'vice in ded of her Maj(esty) I would wishe Mr. Edmund Treifford of Treifford, whose sownd Religion and godlynes of lief, together with his great lyvinge in Chesshyr, might attayne the place as his father hath hadd in tymes past, and also good proof of him in his late office in Lancashyer, and if this myn humble Sute maye tak place w't yr. grace Thenne I beseeche yr. letres and fether pleasure may either bee delyvered to my ser't this berer Richard Bromleie, to the intent I maye send them to the court as from your grace, or else yr. grace maye w't the fyrst post use the same at yr. owne pleasure. The tyme is short, and that moves me to right, or else I wold have attended my self uppon yr. grace, and thus in all dewtyfull I lowly take my leave and humbly axe pardon for this my over bowldnes, but hope of yr. graces favor unto me and my poore cause encourages me here unto, as knowyth the almighty who longe preserve your grace w't oomfort (?) of his holy spiryt. From Chester the xith of October

Yr. graces humblye to comawnd

ROBERT FLETCHER.

Abp. Grindal to Lord Burleigh
(enclosing the preceeding letter).

Salutem in Christo. My lord, I am bold to send to your lordship this letter inclosed, concerning Sir Rowland Stanley, not in respect of any private querele of mine own, nor upon any extraordinary credit of the informer, because I know enmity to be between the parties; but rather to offer to your lordship's consideration, whether the said Sir Rowland be a meet man to supply that office this year: for that now lately he hath contemned divers and sundry processes, proceeding from my lord President and me by virtue of the ecclesiastical commission; of which contempts we have determined about the end of the term to certify the whole board of your council and to pray assistance. The said Sir Rowland would not vouchsafe to salute my lord President, at his late being in Cheshire to take his "Vale" of my lord of Essex; burdened (belike) with a guilty conscience. I know it is odious to hinder any man's preferment; but yet I know also, that it is good to let the highest magistrates understand of the conditions of those that are to be preferred, that they may consider whether they be worthy of preferment, according as circumstances may minister occasion. He is seldom a good sheriff, that setteth to be a sheriff. Many sheriffs abused their offices, to the bolstering out of their own evil private causes. The whole matter I refer to your

lordship's good consideration; and so commend the same to the grace of God. From York this 21st of October, 1573.

Your lordship's in Christ, EDM. EBOR.

Of Myrrick and Gilpin.

P.S. Myrrick is an unlearned Welsh doctor of law, that lived long in *concubinato*, and was presented to a benefice in Cheshire by Sir Rowland Stanley's means, of purpose that Sir Rowland might have the profits, &c.

Mr. Gilpin of Cambridge was also, at my suit to Mr. Fletcher, presented to the same benefice by one of the feoffees in the same advowson that presented Myrrick, in which case the choice is free to the ordinary.

I chose Gilpin, as the better learned. Sir Rowland sueth *Quare impedit* at Chester. Some fear there is of indifferent justice in those particular jurisdictions, especially when a stranger is one party

Addressed: To the right honourable my very good lord the Lord Burleigh, Lord High Treasurer of England.

[740] A PANIC IN NESTON.

One day some years ago I had to be in the small country-town of Neston. The morning's light had brought with it panic, for eight cases of cholera had just broken out very much to the dismay of the inhabitants. But I am going to carry you back in mental vision to a period long passed away, when the throbs of fear pervaded the whole nation and on the best authority we must assume that even so small a place as Neston did not escape the foreboding of coming evil. In July, 1588, there was observed by the men on the lookout on the English channel coast an immense flotilla of Spanish warships proceeding up the channel. Then the alarm-signal passed from man to man of the imminence of a Spanish invasion. On the 29th of this month ten thousand beacon lights were burning, betokening, then, as at a later period, England expected every man that day would do his duty. Queen Elizabeth was equal to the emergency; and it is handed down by history that she herself composed the beautiful prayer I have before me (found in a MS. in the British Museum) which she sent to her General at Plymouth, as her own private meditation. Well too, it was, that she had in her reign such men as Drake, Hawkins, and Frobisher, by whose skill and bravery in addition to the universal prayers of the whole nation the programme instituted by Spain was brought to a conclusion little anticipated by its authors. Instead of the subjugation of London by the Spaniard his fleet found a ruinous termination on the rocks of the Hebrides, and Faroe Islands. And on the other hand, the English people were filled with joy and gladness for such a wonderful deliverance. You will say:—Well, what has all this to do with Neston? Then, I will answer by telling you that

according to the Chronological Events relating to Chester; "London, Chester and Bristow (Bristol) were said to be on fire in July, 1588, and that the Spaniards had landed at the New-Key (Quay). Neston"

W. H. BRADFORD.

[741] CHESHIRE DOMESDAY NOTES. XXII.

(See No. 738.)

Pre-Norman Tenants (i).—There is a very great contrast between the lists of tenants before and after the Conquest. Putting aside the Church lands (the Bishop's and St. Werburgh's), the same in 1066 and 1086, Earl Hugh was at the latter date the only "tenant in chief," thirty of his "men" holding directly from him, and these in turn having under-tenants who, in some few cases, had held their lands directly from the King in 1066. At this earlier date the brothers Edwin and Morcar held the Earldom of Mercia, the former having numerous manors but the latter only two (Acton and Wheelock) in Cheshire, and a large number of smaller men holding the remainder. The number of these cannot be determined exactly, because it is impossible to decide how many Doda, Godwins, and so on, there were; but there are over a hundred quite distinct names in the list which follows, many occurring in one manor only. King Edward held no lands in this county in his own hand. The Welsh King Griffith (Griffin) is twice mentioned (2a, 14b); and Canute also twice (2a, 4b); there seem to have been men living in 1086 who could bear witness to the ownership of lands in Canute's time (1017-35).

The following is the first part of the list of the smaller tenants (apart from the two Earls) in 1066, with their manors:—

Eluuard (usually Eluuard)—Bowdon, Dunham Massey, Ashley, Hale, and parts of Ollerton, Sinderland and Baguley, Shurlach, and Worleston. Alden (also Halden)—Walgherton, parts of Barther-ton and Coppenhall.

Alestan—part of Sutton in Middlewich.

Alnod—part of Hatton in Waverton.

Alsi—parts of Leftwich and Wharton.

Aluric (also Eluric)—Chorley (Wrenbury), Baddiley, parts of Burwardsley, Stapeley, and Worleston.

Aluold—Wardle.

Ansgot—parts of Coddington and Lea Newbold.

Archil—part of Byley.

Aregrim (or Haregrim)—parts of Minshull and Wharton.

Belam—part of Sutton (Middlewich).

Bernulf—Gawsworth and Odd Rode

Bers—part of Shurlach.

Brismer—part of Broxton.

Brun—Over Alderley, Chelford, Norbury, Sidding-ton, and part of Bramall.

Carle—"Aldredelie" (in Delanere) and Wrenbury.

Chepin—Rushton.

Chetal—part of Somerford Booths.

Colben—Goostrey and Stublach.

*Colbert—Noctorum, Upton (Wirral), parts of Wervin and Burwardsley.

Dedol—Little Budworth, Bunbury, and part of Tiverton.

Dedou—part of Cogahall.

Derch—parts of Bartherton and Minshull.

Dodo (same as Dot)—Hartford.

Donning—see Dunning.

Dot—"Calvintone" (? Carden), Shocklach, parts of Cholmondeley, Coddington and Bickerton; Apploton, Millington, Mobberley, Wincham, Witton, and parts of Grappenhall, High Legh and Nether Peover; Aston (in Newhall), parts of Sound, Stapley, and Dodecott-cum-Wilkesley.

*Dunning (also Donning)—Bartington, Greasby, Kingsley, Oulton (in Little Budworth), Storeton, and part of Sandbach.

NOTE—Those still living in 1086, and holding part of their old lands, usually as sub-tenants, are marked by an asterisk (*).

(To be continued.)

QUERY.

[742] A MISSING REGISTER.

The pages containing the entries from March 27, 1636, to March 5, 1639-40, are unfortunately missing from the St. Oswald's Baptism Register. Can any reader of the "Sheaf" kindly tell me whether there is any transcript in existence, and, if so, where?

E. C. L.

REPLY.

[743] FLOODCOTT AND ITS TREES.

(See No. 671.)

May not Floodcott be a corruption of Lloiteoit? We have Floyd and Fluellen from Welsh words beginning with Ll. Some Cambrian reader may be able to say where Lloiteoit was; the name seems to have disappeared from the map, though a Coetia Llwyd exists in Holywell. In 1390 John Leche had the King's order for eight oaks from the the park of "Lloiteote" for work in Chester. Q.

NOVEMBER 12, 1902.

NOTES.

[744] A CHARTER OF ST. WERBURGH'S.

The following is a translation of the charter by which Earl Randle II (1123-1153) gave the church of St. Mary by the Castle to the monks of St. Werburgh's. The date may be about 1140. The names of the witnesses are interesting. William FitzDuncan was a nephew of the Scottish King St. David and founder of Calder Abbey in Cumberland. Cadwallader, son of King Gruffydd ab Cynan (d. 1137), was younger brother of Owain

Gwynedd, and seems to be improperly styled "King of North Wales"; he spent most of his life in fighting either with the English or with his Welsh rivals, and in 1141 he with a body of mercenaries was assisting Earl Randle at Lincoln, aiding in the capture of King Stephen. It seems probable, therefore, that this charter belongs to the time of this alliance of the Earl and Cadwallader. In 1153 the latter was obliged to take refuge in England with the relatives of his wife (a daughter of Gilbert, Earl of Clare), and took part in Henry II's invasion of North Wales (1157) when on his brother Owain's submission he was restored to his lands, dying in 1174. The descendants of Richard the Butler afterwards acquired (by marriage) the barony of Warrington. It is just possible that "William son of Duning" was a son of that Dunning who held the manor of Kingsley in 1066 and 1086; but if so he would, of course, be a very aged man in 1140.

In the Name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

I the second RANDLE earl of Chester grant and confirm hereby all the gifts which my predecessors or their barons have made, giving also as my own proper gift for the health of my soul and the souls of my parents the tenth penny of all my rent from the city and (the tenth) of all fish taken in the water of Dee. Further I grant to God and St. Werburgh that the booths ("loges") of the merchants may be made in front of the monks' gates in such wise that the monks may have the rent therefrom, commanding upon my forfeit (super meum forisfactum) that no one shall buy or sell anything in the fairs of St. Werburgh except there. I give also the Church of St. Mary by the Castle and two houses before the monastery gates, viz., one that of Hugh the priest which is called "Le Levre" and the other that of Suargar the skinner, and the land (of) Haagne de Chel, and the tithe of my mills in Cheshire (Cestrasiria). (The following are) witnesses:

Robert the Seneschal (dapifer); Norman de Verd' [Verdon]; Robert Banastre [of Mollington Banastre]; Gilbert de Venables; William Malbanc; William FitzDuncan; Chatwalader, King of the Northern Welsh (Nortwaliarum); William de Mauniluarini [Mainwaring]; Robert de Maci and Simon his brother; and Robert son of Picod; and many others.

ROBERT de MACI and SIMON his brother have given to God and St. Werburgh eight oxgangs in Bacfort, with all things pertaining to those oxgangs free and quit from every service and every charge.

SIMON son of WILLIAM has given the tithe of his mill of Bretebi.

His sons and Hugh de Petraponte [Pierpoint] witnessing and granting.

ALAN de VILERS [son of Payne de Vilars Baron of Warrington] has given to God and St. Werburgh Litegade with all things belonging to the same vill,

free and quit from every service and every charge.
Witnesses :

Richard the Butler ("pincenna" for pincerna);
and Richard Fitun; and William, son of
Duning.

The above is taken from the Chartulary of St. Werburgh's (fo. 8); a fac-simile of another very ancient copy (now at Eaton) may be seen in the first volume of the Chester Archaeological Society's journal.

[745] CURATES OF CHELFORD.

As very little seems to be known about the Incumbents of Chelford, the following notes may be of interest as throwing some light on the history of one of them. It is taken from evidence given in a case of a disputed will, under dates 18th August, 1625.

One of the witnesses in this suit was Abel Mellor, clerk, curate of Chelford, aged 59. In the course of the evidence it comes out that he had lived at Chelford for the previous nine years, before which time he had lived in the house of a Sir Edward Harrington as schoolmaster. Whether Sir Edward Harrington was a local knight or the title was the usual clerical one does not appear. Perhaps some of your contributors can throw light on this point.

HISTORICUS.

[746] CHESHIRE DOMESDAY NOTES. XXIII.

(See No. 741.)

The Carucates.—After naming the manor and its present and past owners the record usually proceeds—"Ibi i. hida geld". Tra 3 ii. car." and so on. Mr. Beaumont uniformly expanded and translated "car." by "carucata" and "carucate," and this terminology will be retained here; but there can be no doubt that the more accurate reading is "Terra est ii. carucis"—i.e., There is land for two ploughs, or, There are two ploughlands, implying the customary teams of eight oxen for each plough.

The word carucate does occur, however, e.g. in Handbridge (9a)—"Ibi i. carucata t'ræ geld". Here it will be noticed the *carucate* takes the place of the *hide*, and is described as "geldable." Further it would appear from the entries about Handbridge that the carucates were a new and increased assessment; for at the beginning (1a) it is stated that "in the time of King Edward the city of Chester paid geld for 50 hides. Three hides and a half which are outside the city; that is, one hide and a half beyond the bridge, and two hides in Neutone and Redcliffe and in the bishop's burgh—these paid geld with the city." From the analogy of Shrewsbury it seems clear that these 3½ hides were included within the city's 50, and were not in addition to them, though the wording of the entry is open to the opposite construction. Going through the survey the "two hides in Newton and Redcliff and in the bishop's burgh (St. John's Church)" may be observed under "Cestre

Hundret" (8a, 9a, 2a); but on collecting the entries respecting "Cestre Hundret" beyond the bridge it will be found that they read thus:—

Lee (Netherleigh 8a)..... i virgata
,, (Overleigh 9a)..... i virgata t'ræ
Bridge (Handbridge, 8a)..... i car. t'ræ
,, (Handbridge, 9a)..... i carucata t'ræ
,, (Handbridge, 9a)..... i carucata t'ræ

As the two virgates together make half a hide it follows that the three geldable carucates in Handbridge have replaced the older assessment of one hide, and yet this older assessment is duly recorded to begin with.

Thus from the survey itself it appears that there had been at least an attempt to increase the assessment, represented by a change from "hide" to "carucate." This leads on to the further question—Are the "ploughlands" throughout the county a matter-of-fact attempt to estimate the amount of land available for cultivation, or are they also "carucates," i.e. an increased assessment which had been intended by the authorities to replace the older one in "hides"? An examination of the different entries tends to confirm the suspicion expressed in this question—a suspicion avowed in another case by Professor Maitland in his "Domesday Book and Beyond" (p. 471)—for the round numbers in which these "ploughlands" are summed up in very many areas lead to the conviction that they were imposed from above, and that "carucates" would be the better term to use in translation, connoting as it does an assessment. Take as an example the Broxton group in the parish of Malpas:—

MANOR.	HIDES.	CAR.
Tushingham (5a)	1	2
Bickley (5a).....	1	3
Hampton (4b).....	2½	4
Larkton (5a)	1	3
Cholmondeley (4b)	2	4
	—7½	—16
Broxton (5a)	5	6
Duckington (5a).....	1	2
Bickerton (5a)	3	4
Burwardsley (5a)	3	3
{ Coddington (3b).....	2	4
{ Chowley (5a)	1	1
	—15	—20
{ Tattenhall (6b)	5	6
{ Golborne Bellow (6b)	½	1
{ Handley (11a).....	1	4
{ Golborne David (11a)	1	3
	—7½	—14
	30	50

Thus this group, formerly assessed at 30 hides, has now 50 carucates; and the component parts also correspond—south, middle, and north. The lapse of time has brought about changes in the taxable capacity of the districts, and in their ownership also; for instance, it would appear that at the later assessment the parishes of Coddington, Tattenhall, and Handley had all become distinct areas.

For the whole county the carucates may be thus tabulated, following the order suggested by the rural deaneries, but keeping to the hundreds as they existed in 1086:—

HUNDRED.	CARUCATES.
Wilaveston (Wirral)	180
Atiscros (Hawarden)	22½
Dudestan (Broxton)	203
Exestan (Gresford)	17
Hamestan (Macclesfield)	110
Bochelau (Bucklow E.)	49½
Tunendune (Bucklow W.)	58½
Mildestuic (Northwich)	84½
Roelau (Eddisbury N.)	80
Risedon (Eddisbury S.)	88½
Warmundestrou (Nantwich)	106½
	1000

This exact number is liable to a certain degree of modification, for not only has ½ hide been here omitted in Atiscros (as being due, apparently, to an error of the compiler of the record), but the 7½ car. (?) in Cestre are also omitted while the 5 car. in the Marbury-cum-Quoisley district are included. In a few cases no carucates are assigned in D. B., perhaps sometimes intentionally. Beyond these there are about 40 carucates in the unhidated portion of Atiscros (Bistre and Rhuddlan), and nothing has been put down for Chester itself.

Noting these considerations, the general result seems clear; the new assessment in carucates was meant to double the old one in hides (500), and with about 150 car. for Chester and 50 for the more recently conquered districts of Atiscros the total for the county could be brought up to 1200 carucates, a number corresponding with the number of the newer hundreds. This is the more interesting as in the document which Professor Maitland calls the "County Hidage" (op. cit., p. 456), Cheshire is assessed at 1200 hides. He considers that this document dates from about the year 1000, i.e., the time when the Danegeld was first imposed, and in consequence it became desirable (from the royal point of view) to increase the assessments where possible. We may therefore conclude that about the year 1000 an attempt, probably only partially successful, was made by the authorities to increase Cheshire's contribution to the taxes, and that the County Hidage fixes the date while the ploughlands or carucates as recorded in Domesday Book give the details. The bovate anomaly may have its solution here; for in some cases (e.g. Overpool) the bovates may represent the new assessment, while in others (e.g. Rothesno) they may be an attempt to translate the old hidage into the new terminology.

It may be added that though the hidage of Shropshire was 1,500, corresponding with its fifteen "hundreds," the County Hidage assigns 2,400 to it, and that here the ploughlands actually add up to about 2,550 (without allowing any for Shrewsbury), while it is said that about 580 more "can be." A similar phrase to this last occurs only once in Cheshire—"Ibi iiii. car. plus possent e'e"—viz. at Allington near Gresford (9b.). J. B.

(To be continued.)

REPLIES.

[747]

FAMILY OF PIGOT.

(See No. 722.)

The wording of the query respecting the above leaves a doubt as to which Richard Pigot is he of whom the parentage and place of birth are sought. If, however, the required particulars be those relating to Richard Pigot *patruus*, let me suggest two easy courses open to the querist. (1) As a former Headmaster of Shrewsbury School the school-records will be almost certain to furnish Richard Pigot's degree, his University, and his College in the University; and, the latter being obtained, its present Head will probably be able to give particulars from the College-Books, since, on joining any foundation, the name, status, and place of residence of the matriculant's father were usually entered therein. And the then place of residence may be identical with that of birth, or might suggest lines which, if followed, may lead thereto. (2) If Richard Pigot were also in Holy Orders one supposes the Diocese of his Ordination may be ascertained, and, being found, it is highly probable that the Bishop's Registers *illiusce ævi* will be found to contain both parentage and place of birth, since, in many Dioceses, it was the rule for such entries to be made on admission to Deacon's Orders. Unfortunately, however, I note that Richard Pigot's headmastership extended "from about 1645 to 1660," and in that period of anarchy it is not impossible for him to have been both layman and non-graduate; or, if in orders, a literate; in which cases, one or other, or both, the above suggestions may prove useless.

If the required particulars relate to Richard Pigot *nepos*, however, might not the querist's own "ancient deeds" themselves afford or suggest some clue? As vendor, they must necessarily locate him and give his description, as of such a place, and as being so and so; and lines suggested by local or personal description should be followed up. And as a considerable land-owner and (probably) a man of standing in East Cheshire, are there no Manor Rolls describing him? For Manor Rolls are often briefly genealogical, generally giving parentage at the least.

Northbourne, Kent.

ALFRED MOORE.

Some account of Richard Pigott, headmaster of Shrewsbury School during the Commonwealth, may be seen in Messrs. Fisher and Hill's "Annals" of the School (p. 173, &c.). It is there said that he was a native of Northwich, son of Richard Pigott; educated at Christ's College, Cambridge (matric. 1614, B.A. 1618, M.A. 1621); master of Northwich (Witton) school 1634 to 1642 (about), and possibly in orders; headmaster of Shrewsbury from 1646 to 1662, when he was ejected for Nonconformity; died in the following year and buried at St. Mary's, Shrewsbury (of which he was "official"), Oct. 21, 1663. He married a daughter of Mr. Thomas

Cheshire, grocer, of Shrewsbury; and a son Richard was born at Northwich about 1641. He was a friend of Richard Baxter's. For the genealogy reference is made to the "Joseph Morris MSS." in the possession of Mr. Cresswell Peele of Shrewsbury. STAR.

NOVEMBER 19, 1902.

NOTES.

748] THE COTGRAVE FAMILY. V.
(Continued from No. 702.)

Having thus recorded what is known of Randle Cotgrave, the Bishop's Registrar, we turn to the younger son of William Cotgrave of Christleton—

ix. (2). William Cotgrave of Chester, alderman of the city, Sheriff in 1580 and Mayor in 1589. He married Jane, daughter of Charles Banester, and had three children—John, William, and Eleanor. He lived at The Crow in Foregate-street and his name and arms may be seen emblazoned on the board in St John's Church which records "those who were Mayors from that parish." He died on July 26, 1591, and an abstract of the inquisition taken a few months later is printed in Helsby's Ormerod (ii., 806). From this it appears that he "held a messuage and lands in Fulke Stapleford, occupied by Randle Cotgrave, gent. (deceased 40 Eliz.), by virtue of a demise by one William Cotgrave of Hargrave in 21 Eliz.; also messuages and shops in Foregate-street with a capital messuage or hostel there called Le Crowe; also in Cowe-lane (now Frodsham-street) and Eastgate-street, the latter part of the possessions of the dissolved chantry of St. Anne. His son and heir was John Cotgrave, aged 13 on March 23 last." The Randle Cotgrave is no doubt the registrar's brother, and the William Cotgrave of Hargrave their cousin. John Cotgrave, the son, therefore appears to have been born on March 23, 1577-8. William Cotgrave's will, dated the day before his death, has been preserved, and the following is an abstract:—

I, William Cotgrave of Chester, alderman, &c.

Mentions John Cotgrave, son and heir, whom he asks his loving friend Valentine Broughton alderman to take care of until he (John) be 23 years of age. Also William C. his second son whom he asks his friend John Littler draper to take as his apprentice. His daughter Eleanor C. to be brought up by "my brother Mr. Randle Cotgrave and my sister his wife" until she be 18 or married. Mentions "my loving mother during her life"; sister-in-law Ann Hudson; "Cozen Richard Wirden" and "my loving cozen his wife."

Leaves money to provide "a standing cuppe" or bowl, on which was to be engraved his "name and arms," to go to the Treasurer of the city for the use of the Mayor. "40s. to Parish Church of St. John's."

Leaves to Elizabeth Seckerson and Katharine Kirks 5 marks "if they be governed by my mother during her life and after her death by my executors." To Ralph Seckerson 5 marks. To Jane Cotgrave, "now my servant" £5, "to be dutiful to my mother." Land in Hargrave on lease from Sir William Brereton for use of his son John Cotgrave.

Mentions "my brother's children."

Executor: Val. Broughton.

Overseers: "Mr. Randoll Cotgrave my loving brother and Mr. Richard Wiridin my loving cozen."

Richard Werden (died 1617) married Alice, daughter and co-heir of John Banester of Chester, and this relationship by marriage will account for the "cousinship." Valentine Broughton, an alderman, was Mayor in 1584 and died in 1603 ("Funeral Certificates," Record Society, pp. 47, 183). Elizabeth Seckerson was William Cotgrave's sister (see No. 702); there are numerous allusions to the family in Mr. Hall's "History of Nantwich"; John Seckerston occurs in the list of the "gentlemen and freeholders" there in 1579, and seems to have occupied Praers Hall; another, or the same, kept an inn called The Ship, destroyed in the great fire of 1583 (pp. 103, 105, 443). The will of a John Seckerston of Nantwich was proved in 1595.

x. The wardship of John Cotgrave, elder son, was given to Hugh Hurleston, esquire; and he in November, 1595, transferred it to "John Morgell, of the city of Chester, gent.," who succeeded Randle Cotgrave as bishop's registrar (before Sept., 1598) and a year or two later established himself at Moston (O. ii., 881, 371; "Sheaf" III. i., 68). John, however, did not long survive his father, dying on March 9, 1596-7. The younger brother William thus became the heir; he is said to have been "aged 19, 7th April last" (i.e., apparently 1597, but possibly 1598), a date difficult if not impossible (O. ii., 805). In Foster's "Alumni Oxon.," a William Cotgrave, aged 17, is stated to have matriculated at Brasenose College in June, 1597, and entered later at the Inner Temple. It seems very probable that this was the same William Cotgrave, who would thus aim at becoming a barrister instead of a draper on the change in his position brought about by his brother's death. On Oct. 20, 1602, he married (by licence) at Trinity Church, Chester, Mrs. Anne Williams widow. She was the daughter of John Fitton, Alderman and Mayor (1592) of Chester, and four times married—(1) to William Dod; (2) to Ellis Williams, clerk of the Penticote, died early in 1602; (3) to William Cotgrave; and (4) to William Fitton of Carden, her cousin; she died Feb. 2, 1636-7, and was buried at St. Peter's ("Funeral Certificates," pp. 85, 86). William Cotgrave died Oct. 10, 1620, and was "buried at St. John's Church very worshipfully." He left no children, and by his will bequeathed all his property to the children of

his sister Eleanor Gamull. His executrix was his widow, and the witnesses were William Wall, John Ratcliffe, William Harrison and Thomas Humphrey; the property was that left by his father—the Crow in Foregate-street with the tavern and malt kilns attached, &c. The sister, Eleanor wife of Alderman William Gamull of Crabwall (Mayor 1608), had died in March 1614-5, leaving two sons and two daughters—Thomas, William, Eleanor, and Anne (O. ii., 577; "Funeral Certificates," p. 92)—two other children having died in infancy.

This portion of the pedigree is clear enough. It will be seen that it contradicts the very suspicious pedigree of Cotgreave of Netherleigh already given in outline from Burke's "Commoners" (in No. 634), where they are traced to Robert son of William Cotgrave, Mayor in 1589. Yet the compiler of this pedigree appears to have had some family documents to go upon, for he speaks of land in Handbridge acquired before 1500; if these deeds still survive they may serve both to justify and correct the pedigree. It would be quite natural for a pedigree-maker, finding a William Cotgrave occurring at the end of Elizabeth's reign, to assume his identity with William Cotgrave the Mayor.

A William Cotgrave, innholder or innkeeper of Chester, is mentioned as early as Edward VI's. time (1551-2); this cannot be the Mayor, but it may have been his father, supposing that William Cotgrave of Christleton also carried on an innkeeper's business in Chester. Later, another, or the same William Cotgrave, innholder, had a dispute with the bakers of the city (28 Eliz.), and succeeded in establishing his right to bake and sell bread for those who stayed at his inn. The name of the inn is not given, so that we cannot assume it was the Crow. On the other hand, William Cotgrave of Christleton is, in the presentation of Randle Cotgrave to St. Peter's, described as "junior"; so that there was probably another well-known William Cotgrave then living in Chester, who may be the innholder and the ancestor of the Cotgreaves of Netherleigh. For details see Morris's "Chester under the Plantagenets and Tudors," pp. 427, 421; Piccope's "Wills" (Chetham Soc.), i., 168.

(To be continued.)

[749] ST. OSWALD'S CHURCH, 1575-1625.

(Continued from No. 737).

XI. MISCELLANEOUS PAYMENTS.

The items below have not appeared in any of the previous articles. They cannot well be arranged under heads, but are worth quoting, some for their quaintness, and others as shewing the prices of various articles and the customs of the day and place. They do not call for any explanation.

1575. Paid to the bellman to warne the citizens not to lay any trees in the Churchyard ijd.

Item paid to the bellman for goeing to warne that noe mucke shold be cast in the Churchyard ..ijd.

1577. To the bellman for goeing about for filthyeing the Churchyard ijd.

1590. For a purse to gather our Easter Roule. ijd.

1593. To Wm. Greene and Roger Dobb for carrying Smith's Cinder the 22th of december to lay in the way, that the people might come to the Church dryshodd vjd.

1607. In wine and brede for a comunione the xxijth of June, in wine a pottell in bred jd.xviij.

Spente the sixth of May when the Churchwardens and ouerseers went the first time to gater in Wiruine and Croughtone and Saughtone and could get none xvij.

In wine and brede to a Com'unione the vijth of August to Mr. Hardines maydes iijjd. ob.

In wine and brede at a Com'unione the xirxth of August for some women yt. were great w'th Childe and did desire to reseeue in the Church and the parsons sent to me for wine and bred iijjd. ob.

At a Com'unione one All Saintes day 3 quartes and a pinte in brede ijd. ijs. vjd.

Wee were constraigned at another time beinge the xxvijth of november to intreate the parsons to give notice in the Church to pay the duties and at yt. time the gaue vs some parte of ould releyes spente one our horses and one oure selves ijs. vjd.

Item we went the first of April to Saughtoune and up and doune the cuntry for to reseeue for this yeares pay and the would not be found our horses and charges came to ijs. vjd.

* 1608. Gyven to Nicholas Cookees wyf lyeinge in halebedd verrey weeke and by the appoyntem't of Mr. Dutton ijs.

1612. Paide for Cloth to make a poore Childe a Cote ijs.

Item paide for makinge the Cote and for hose and shooes for the Childe ijs.

Item paide to a woman to carry the Childe to London viijs.

1613. Given to a poore man who had his legge broken at the bells xijd.

1616. Paid for praisinge a Ring of Mr. Suttons being a pawne vjd.

1617. Paide for takinge up the Grate and stoope and levelling part of the Churchyard and enlargeinge the way to the Church at the King's beinge in Chester 0. 11. 10.

[See Hemingway, vol. I., p. 156.]

1618. Paid for Beesoms and Basketts and for liquor for the Bell all the year ijs. iijjd.

Item paid to a Man to watch who brought any Mucke into the Churchyard vjd.

1619. Paid to Mr. Thicknes for his sermon upon Easter day 1619 ijs. iijjd.

E. C. L.

(To be continued.)

[750] CHESHIRE DOMESDAY NOTES. XXIV.

(See No. 746.)

Pre-Norman Tenants (ii).—One means of identifying the tenants before the Conquest is afforded by the holdings of their Norman supplanters; for

instance, Godid, "a free woman," was succeeded by Rannulf in Warford, "Cepmundewich" (Over Peover), Ollerton, and Tetton, so that it is reasonable to assume that one person held these manors in 1066, and that her holding was transferred *en bloc* to Rannulf. So also the holdings of Levenot in Wirral and Atiscros were given to Robert of Rhuddlan, leading to the conclusion that there was but one landowner of that name on Deeside in 1066; but lands held by Levenot in other parts of the county are found afterwards in the hands of several different proprietors, so that there were probably several different men of that name in 1066.

The following is a continuation of the list:—

Echebrant—See Erchebrand.

Edric — Broomhall (apparently two Edrics), Tittenley, and part of Prenton.

*Eduin—Duckington, Eccleston, Golborne David, Hampton, Larkton, Poulton (Pulford), parts of Bickerton, Cholmondeley, and Edge; also Coleshill, Kelsterton, Hope, and part of Aston (Flint).

*Eduard—Great Budworth, Little Leigh, parts of Clutton, Dutton, Grappenhall, and Nether Peover.

*Eli—Crew (Farndon).

Elmaer (Elmer)—Sproston; part of "Edritone" (Hawarden).

Elric, Eluric—see Aluric.

Eluuard—See Æluuard.

*Erchebrand (Echebrant)—Knutsford, part of Tatton.

Erlechin—part of Basford.

Erne (Ernæ)—Overleigh, Handbridge, Marlston, and Newton (Chester), Capenhurst, and part of Neston; and Bagillt.

Erni (perhaps the same as Erne, as Raby like Capenhurst and Neston was held by Fitz Nigel)—Eaton (Tarporely), Raby.

Ernet—Arrowe ("Calders"), Ledsham, Nesse, Willington, Over Peover.

Ernui—Alvanley, and parts of Warburton, Codrington and Wepre.

Ernuin—Poole (Wirral), Tattenhall, Tushingham, Waverton, and parts of Bickerton and Hattpn (Waverton).

Ernut Fot—Helsby (perhaps the same as Ernui of Alvanley).

Esul—Dunham on the Hill and Landican.

Fran—Chorlton (Wybunbury).

Gamel—Poulton Lancelyn.

Gamel's father—Cheadle ("Cedde"—see No. 700), and Mottram St. Andrew (Gamel held both in 1086). Mr. Eyton supposes that this Gamel was the son of Griffin, pre-Norman lord of Biddulph in Staffordshire, whom he identifies with the Griffin of Newton and Weston in Cheshire (see below). Gamel in 1086 held Talk, Audley, and part of Balterley (Staffs.), and was slain in or before 1130 by Lyulph de Audley, whose posterity enjoyed these three estates ("Analysis of the Staffordshire Survey," pp. 75, 76).

Gleuin—Wettenhall.

*Godid—"Cepmundewiche" (in Over Peover), Warford, Tetton, and part of Ollerton.

Godric—Bosley, Buglawton Cranage, Goostrey, Hassall, Kermincham, Church Lawton, Marton (Macclesfield), Somerford Radnor, part of Byley, Ollerton, Odd Rode, and Wilkesley.

Goduin—Nether Alderley, Blakenhall, Congleton, Croxton, Davenport, Eddisbury, Kinderton, Great Mollington, Old Withington, parts of Byley, Lea Newbold, and Sound.

Gotlac—part of Wimbald's Trafford.

Grifin—Newton (Middlewich) and Weston (Run-corn). See note on Gamel above.

Grim—part of Elton.

Grinchel—Handley.

Gunner—part of Little Mollington.

Gunninc—part of Walgerton.

Gunner—Redcliff (Chester).

(To be continued.)

NOVEMBER 26, 1902.

NOTES.

[751]

JOHN BRUEN. XI.

(Continued from No. 735.)

Death prepared for.—Now concerning his departure out of this world we may consider his preparation for it, his patient resolution to bear all the sharp occurrences of it, and his gracious confidence of a blessed and happy change after it. For the first: His whole life was a meditation of death and a continual preparation for it, and therefore his care was so to live that he might not be afraid to die, yea, so to live that he might desire to die and to be with Christ, which is best of all; as Paulinus hath recorded of St. Ambrose that being ready to die he uttered these comfortable words to his friends about him . . . "I have not so lived that I am ashamed to live longer amongst you; nor am I afraid to die, because we have a good Lord and Master."

His more especial preparation for his latter end consisted in these particulars: (1) In denying himself, his wit, will, reasons, and affections; (2) in renouncing the world and weaning himself from the love of it and from the pleasures, profits, honours, and favours of the same; (3) in setting and settling his affections on things above, placing his heart where Christ was; (4) in taking all his decays of nature and bodily infirmities to be certain impressions of his mortality and evident summons to his dissolution; (5) in making all his spiritual rejoicings and refreshings to be pledges and earnest of his everlasting joy and happiness in his state of glory; (6) in considering that death to the godly is but a passage into life—a dissolution of soul and body for a season, which afterwards shall

be restored again in greater beauty and glory at the resurrection; (7) in observing that death puts an end to all sins and sorrows, to all temptations and afflictions, and brings us into the possession of our heavenly inheritance; (8) in meditating that here we are but "strangers and pilgrims, having no continuing city here, but seeking one to come;" that heaven is our home; that whilst we are "present in the body we are absent from the Lord"; (9) in conferring and talking with his godly friends on the day of death and time of his departure out of this world, and that in the midst of all his other comforts.

It was observed by many of his friends, both at home and abroad, that in his declining days, when he saw that he was drawing on towards his journey's end, his faith was exceedingly increased, his hope and rejoicing in God much enlarged, his love and zeal wonderfully inflamed, his affections towards God and His people more holy and heavenly, and his motions towards heaven more quick and lively than before.

His last Sickness.—The day before his last sickness he rose very early in the morning, went into his study to his private prayer, then came forth and prayed with his family, then returned into his study till dinner time; and after dinner went into his study again, where it pleased God after two hours to visit him, as it were, with an ague; whereupon he laid himself upon a bed. His wife said to him, "Sir, I fear you have done yourself hurt with rising so early"; to whom he replied, "If you had seen, wife, such glorious things as I saw this morning, being in private prayer with God, you would not have said so; for they were so wonderful and unspeakable that whether I was in the body or out of the body, with Paul, I cannot tell. Thus it hath pleased God, lest I should be too much exalted by this glorious sight, to give me a buffet in the flesh."

Joy unspeakable.—The like ravishing in spirit and such glorious sights he saw not long before (as he acquainted some private friends) after he had been in private prayer with God in his grove; whence he had a strong persuasion that he should not live long before he made a glorious change of this life with a better. And for this end he cleared up his evidences for heaven and confirmed his assurance of his right thereunto. His evidence he cleared by informing his judgment aright in the all-sufficiency and perpetuity of that blessed estate; his assurance he confirmed by such faithful records, covenants, grants, gifts, pledges, earnestness, witnesses, signs, oaths, seals, fruits, and marks of his interest into that estate that neither sin nor Satan, law nor conscience, death nor hell could infringe nor find any flaw therein, to give either to them any just occasion to except against it, or himself any cause once to doubt of it.

Faith.—This his confidence was his comfort in all his sickness, which drew from him many such heavenly speeches [as these]: "Oh, how great is Thy good-

ness, O Lord, which Thou hast laid up for them that fear Thee" Those and many hundred more of these divine speeches did he utter in the time of his sickness.

How he spent the Sabbath.—And though his bodily infirmity grew upon him yet would he by no means be kept from the house of God (his house was a mile from the church), so long as he could either go or ride. And when he went to church, besides his family he used to call his tenants and neighbours that dwelt in his way to go along with him, and calling them about him they used with one heart and voice to sing Psalms, especially the 84th Psalm; and he with his train came to church constantly before prayers and divine service began that he might the more comfortably join with the congregation in the confession of sin, in prayer, praise, reading, singing, hearing, receiving of the sacrament; all which he performed with most reverent attention and gracious affection.

After the morning sermon he usually stayed in the church among other good people and spent the time in repeating the sermon, singing of psalms, and holy conference. After evening sermon he returned home, attended with his company, with much joy, and endeavouring as they went to increase their knowledge, faith, and obedience by repeating and conferring of the evening sermon and enlarging their hearts in God's praises by singing of Psalms afresh, considering what great things God had done for them. And if any among them were afflicted they would counsel him, comfort him, and pray for him; and Bruen himself, if he heard of any such as were troubled in conscience upon the hearing of the Word, would be ever most ready and willing. Like the good Samaritan, to pour wine and oil into the wounded spirit—wine that he might search and cleanse it, oil that he might supple and heal it.

In his family exercises he was so full of life and zeal that many that lived near him came to hear him repeat the sermons and pour out his prayers unto God with such tender and sweet affections for them all that the heat of his spirit did cause their hearts as it were to melt within them.

The joy and comfort that he found in these holy duties were such that he would often say, "Oh, that every day were a Sabbath or a Fast-day, for then I should be well!" And when the Sabbath was ended it was his usual manner to bless God with a thankful and cheerful heart for that He had given him one Sabbath more than he had looked for amongst his people. The week days were more tedious to him, his bodily infirmity increasing and his strength decaying; yet would he quicken his soul and raise up his heart by faith and hope, often saying, "The time is not long. I must shortly lay down this my tabernacle, and then I shall get the start of you all and shall celebrate an everlasting Sabbath before the Lord, with the holy angels and blessed saints in the highest heavens;" which he spake rejoicingly and yet with tears.

(To be continued.)

[752] TRADES AND PROFESSIONS IN CHESTER
300 YEARS AGO.

In the St. Oswald's Vestry Book an Assessment made in June, 1619, gives the descriptions of the ratepayers assessed in the City portion of the Parish. They are as follows :—

2 Knights	2 Butchers
1 Chancellor	1 Parritor
1 Recorder	2 Carpenters
5 Aldermen	7 Yeomen
14 Widdows	11 Husbandmen
6 Gentlemen	1 Chapman
2 Sheriffspeeres	1 Silkweaver
14 Shoemakers	5 Smyths
1 Ironmonger	1 Carter
4 Drapers	3 Hatmakers
2 Proctors	1 Wheelwright
9 Inboulders	1 Mason
1 Barber	1 Paver
3 Sclators	1 Parson
2 Sarians	1 Carrier
1 Mercer	1 Clothier
3 Tallow Chandlers	1 Stounegetter
3 Malsters	1 Linnen draper
2 Clothworkers	1 Clarke
6 Bakers	1 Cutler
2 Beerebruers	1 Glaseor
4 Taylors	1 Scrivendr
10 Weavers	1 Merchant
1 Joyner	1 Surgeon
1 Keeper of the Northgate	4 Saylor
2 Sadlers	

E. C. L.

[753] BEBINGTON RECTORY, 1573.
(See No. 739.)

The following notes, though gathered only from well known books of reference, may be of interest, as they concern the rival candidates for the rectory of Bebington in 1573, when Gilpin was admitted by Archbishop Grindal, acting as the Ordinary, in a case in which the trustees could not agree as to the presentation. The apparent vacancy for two years (1571-2)—at least, nothing is known of any incumbent for that time—is very singular. The patronage did not lapse, as it should have done if the vacancy had been a real one.

"The unlearned Welsh Doctor of Laws" whom Grindal was pleased to have kept out of this rectory was probably Edmund Meyrick, a son of Meuric ab Ilewelyn of Bodorgan in Anglesey and younger brother of Rowland Meyrick, the Elizabethan bishop of Bangor (1559—1565-6); he took the B.A. degree at Oxford in 1554-5 and in due time proceeded to the D.C.L. in 1567. One of his brother's first acts as bishop was to ordain him and make him Archdeacon of Bangor; he was also a prebendary of Lichfield (1563, Le Neve; 1568, Foster) and sinecure rector of Corwen. He married Elizabeth, daughter of William Griffith of Bangor, and became founder of the family of Meyrick of Ucheldref in Gwyddelwern near Corwen. See Foster's "Alumni Oxon." and Wood's "Athenae

Ox." (ed. Bliss) in the note on the "Fasti," i. 172. T. Nicholas ("County Families of Wales," ii. 684) says that the Ven. Archdeacon married (1) a Conwy of Bodelwyddan and (2) a Williams of Cochwillan. His descendants retained Ucheldref till the middle of the eighteenth century, when the estate passed (by bequest?) to the Kyffins of Maenan and from them by marriage to the Kenricks of Nantelwyd.

Luke Gilpin was a fellow of Trinity College, Cambridge (B.A. 1561-2, D.D. 1576); he was already (1572) vicar of Chesterton near Cambridge and became Archdeacon of Derby in 1577 and Prebendary of Southwell in May, 1581. This last preferment probably induced him to resign Bebington, for in the following July he is described as "lately rector" (Ormerod ii. 439). He died about October, 1587. For Bebington he paid first fruits on February 9, 1572-3. It is unlikely that he ever resided here, as his Cambridge benefice would have his first care; besides he was a Proctor in 1574; thus Archbishop Grindal's interference was of no particular benefit to the people of Bebington: it was Gilpin who profited, as was no doubt intended. A Joshua Gilpin was witness to Grindal's will in 1583. See Coopers' "Athenae Cantab." ii. 17.

[754] TOMBSTONE EVIDENCES.

A correspondent sends the following amusing epitaph, which, though it does not relate directly to Cheshire, may find a place in the "Sheaf" as an example of the daring of the old genealogists, as well as a piece of information interesting to any Monks or Moncks who have made their dwelling-place in this district.

At the east end of Weston Churchyard, near Bath, inscribed on an altar tomb is the following :—

"In this Sepulchre are deposited the Remains of George Paul Monck late of the City of Bath, Esq. He died Oct. 7. 1804 aged 73. Whose Ancestor William Monck accompanied William the First into this Country and settled at Potheridge in Devonshire Of which Manor his Descendants where possessed for many Centuries. Since the year 1066, the lineal succession has continued in this Family, and still remains in it, being the Head of all the Collateral Branches of the Name in the united Empire.

"Here are also deposited the Remains of Lady Aramenta Monk wife of George Paul Monk, Esq. who departed this life Dec. 20, 1819 Aged 87 years. She was daughter of Marcus, Earl of Tyrone, by Catherine de la Poce [Pore, or Poer: Power] and Sister to George first Marquis of Waterford. Also Ann Monk died Sept. 11, 1830 aged 68."

[755] CHESHIRE DOMESDAY NOTES. XXV.
(See No. 750.)

Burton.—Among the bishop's manors (2a) is included "Burtone" which is placed under Riseton Hundred (Eddisbury South), the hundred in which Tarvin was situated. It was assessed at 3 hides; there were 7 ploughlands (carucates); in demeane were

two ploughs, and 7 villeins, 4 bordars (cottagers), a priest, and a radman had three ploughs; there was an acre of meadow, and the annual value was 40s. Now the bishop had two manors of this name—Burton by Tarvin, actually in Riseton Hundred, and Burton in Wirral or Wilaveston Hundred, and it would appear from the mention of a priest that the latter is certainly included, because the Burton by Tarvin was not even a chapelry. Probably therefore the bishop, in giving an account of his manors to King William's surveyors, included both his Burtons under the one entry and, regarding them as dependencies of Tarvin, stated that they were in Riseton Hundred. Thus the case is somewhat similar to that of Grappenhall (see No. 714) and the question is—What means can be found to separate the two Burtons included in this entry? Burton in Wirral and Puddington form a parish, and looking at the map it seems clear enough that the intention was to give the bishop half of the original manor; and as Puddington was assessed at $2\frac{1}{2}$ hides it follows that Burton in Wirral should be $2\frac{1}{2}$ hides also, and $\frac{1}{2}$ hide will remain as the assessment of Burton by Tarvin. This division will be found to result in round numbers in both hundreds. The carucates may be divided in much the same proportion, say 6c. for the former (Puddington had only 3c.) and 1c. for the latter. The priest, of course, belongs to the Wirral portion, but it seems impossible to assign the other dwellers on the land to their proper manors.

(To be continued.)

DECEMBER 3, 1902.

NOTES.

[756] THE COTGRAVE FAMILY. VI.

(Continued from No. 748.)

Having traced the descendants of James Cotgrave of Hargrave, we have now to go back to his brother—

vii. (2) Robert, described in the pedigrees as second son of John Cotgrave of Hargrave. The year of his birth may be assumed to be, like that of his elder brother, "about 1490," and he is described as "of Stubbs" in Hargrave. He is said to have married (1) Margery, daughter and sole heir of Hozier (?) of Chester, by whom he had a son John, and (2) Anne, daughter of John Mason of Chester, who survived him and died on January 23, 1573. The difficulty arises from this, that in one or two of the pedigrees (but not those recorded at the Herald's visitations) Robert is omitted altogether, and further that in a curious pedigree apparently compiled from a few family documents he is described as son of Robert and grandson of John Cotgrave. Thus another descent is inserted in a pedigree already inconveniently crowded, and

it is perhaps the safest course to suppose that the compiler of this last pedigree made some curious error in using his "evidences." These seem to have been three: (a) The "covenant of marriage between him [the elder Robert] and his grandchild in 4 Ry. VIII. (1512-3), wherein are mentioned Robert the father, Robert the son, and John his son and heir"; James Cotgrave of Cotton is also mentioned, as the brother of the second of these Roberts. The second Robert, who is here described as "of Christleton and Cotton" and whose wife's name is given as Ellen, must therefore have been married some time before 1512, though the son John, whose marriage is thus arranged, may have been only a baby. This document, as it stands, contradicts the Visitation pedigrees both as to the father and wife of Robert Cotgrave. (b) The will of Robert Cotgrave, dated 18 Henry VIII. (1527), in which he expresses his desire to be buried at Christleton. (c) The will of John Cotgrave his son, who died 1 Edward VI. (1547), and was also buried at Christleton. In this were mentioned his sons Randle, Robert, and Rafe; and (his uncles) "Randle, grandson of Sir Peers" and "John, a priest." The Randle here mentioned may be the rector of St. Peter's. John Cotgrave was ordained at Chester on the title of Sir Thomas Venables, acolyte in June, 1544, and then in regular steps up to the priesthood in December, 1546. He was in Edward VI.'s time defendant in one of the cases cited in Furnival's book on Child Marriages in Cheshire. He seems to have acted as assistant curate of St. Peter's for a short time.

There is thus some doubt as to the true place of Robert Cotgrave in the family pedigree. He occurs, like his brother James (see No. 702), among the witnesses in the proof of age of Thomas Daniell of Over Tabley in 1524; they appear to have been present at the baptism in Shotwick Church (O. i. 473). Robert Cotgrave of Christleton was collector of a subsidy in Broxton Hundred in 1519. He died in 1527, and was succeeded by his son and heir—

viii. John, born probably about the beginning of Henry VIII.'s reign, and contracted in marriage as early as 1512-3 to Alice, daughter of Richard Fletcher of Morley in Barrow. This is the marriage usually recorded, but in the Visitation of 1580 his wife is said to have been Margery, daughter of — Hurlston of Lancashire. In 25 Henry VIII. Peter, son and heir apparent of James Cotgrave of Hargrave Stubbs, "recovered" (i.e., probably, bought) from John Cotgrave of the City of Chester, draper, three messuages and 186 acres (including six of wood) in Hargrave Stubbs and Cotton Edmunds (O. ii. 805). John Cotgrave seems to have resided in Trinity parish, for a note by one of the Holmes says (under 1547), "For lestatl of John Cotgrave, payd by his wife, 3s. 4d.," an entry in the churchwardens' books of this parish. The date agrees with that of the will above quoted.

ix. The difficulties begin again with his children. The fullest list is that in the account already described, which gives—Randle ("son and heir"), Robert, Rafe, James, John, Elizabeth, Jane ("co-heir, married Robert Brook of Upton") and Eleanor ("married successively Sir Richard Pexhall or Pexhull, Sir John Savage, Sir John Rimington, and Sir George Douglas"). The Visitation of 1580 gives only this last daughter Eleanor; that of 1613 adds, "Maud, wife of Robert Payne of Enton in Surrey" (unless this Maud should have been shewn as first wife of Sir Rich. Pexhall), and "Elizabeth, wife of Simon Cusant of Southampton."

Of the children of John Cotgrave, Ralph occurs in 1566 in conjunction with Alice Cotgrave (his mother?) and Edward and Robert Brook in a lease for 80 years from the death of the said Alice of lands in Cotton, &c., to Thomas Middlehurst, the said lands being part of the inheritance of Ralph Cotgrave (Dep. Keeper's 39th Report). His will, dated January 17, 1587-8, was proved in the following June. The following is an abstract of it:

Raffe Cotgrave of Christleton, "hoole in mind," &c., leaves his body to parish church of Christleton, house and tenements, &c., to his wife; mentions sons Thomas and Raffe. "Also as concerning the fee farm which I tooke I leave that Randle Cotgrave shall make him an assurance of his parte the halfe and my wiffe to seale it." Executors—his wife Margerie and son John. Witnesses—Raff Rider and John Harrison.

James Cotgrave, B.A. at Oxford 1559-60, and afterwards of Gray's Inn or Lincoln's Inn (Foster's "Alumni Oxon."), was probably another son.

Jane, who married Robert Brook of Upton, is mentioned in the pedigree; she was buried at St. Mary's, Chester, Jan. 30, 1573-4 (O. ii. 820; Earwaker's "St. Mary's," p. 279).

Eleanor, whose four marriages have been recorded above, has her story recorded by Sir Peter Leycester (Orm., i. 716), who mentions also her "natural sister Katharine."

John Cotgrave's wife survived him 60 years, as the following from Trinity Church registers shews: "1611. Mrs. Cotgrave wife to Mr. John Cotgrave gent., 40 years ago in Hampshire with her daughter Lady Elianor Savage; her bones were brought to Chester 20 Sept. and buried in this church in the south ile where her husband was laid 60 years ago."

A few other notices of Cotgraves may be added: Robert Cotgrave of Chester bought lands in Childer Thornton in 1596 from William Baxster (O. ii. 426), paying £500.

John Cotgrave (o. 1566) occurs as defendant in an affiliation case printed in Furnival's "Child Marriages."

John Cotgrave of Stapleford, yeoman, and Elizabeth his wife are mentioned temp. Eliz. (Harl. MS. 2020, fo. 470); the same MS. (fo. 476) also

mentions: "Rafe Cotgrave to deliver in safety to the said Randle Cotgrave all such deeds writings &c. which concern a lease of 21 years made to the said John Cotgrave and Rafe Cotgrave by Rafe Done." See Ralph's will above.

The will of Jane Cotgrave of Guilden Sutton, dated July 8, 1605, was proved the following February. The executors were John Southwycke and her son William Cotgrave (several other sons are mentioned in the will); the supervisor James Walton; and the witness Randall Fallowes clerk.

In 1619 Ralph Cotgrave of Christleton was a juror at Chester (Earwaker's "East Cheshire," ii. 146).

William Cotgrave in 1816 held the manor of Tarvin (O. ii. 306).

Thomas Cotgrave of Barking, limeseller, had a licence for his marriage with Rose Woodward of the same place, Oct. 11, 1621 (Bp. of London's Marriage Lic., p. 104; Harl. Soc.).

The name seems to have been originally spelt de Cotegreve, then Cotgrave, later (16th century) Cotgrave, and a little later it became Cotgreave, which may now be considered the standard form.

[757] ST. OSWALD'S CHURCH, 1575-1625.

(Continued from No. 749.)

XII. THE BELLS.

The Bells are the subject of many items in the Churchwardens' Accounts. They were two in number—the "great bell" (or "parish bell") and the little bell (once called the "anthem bell," a title which has been already discussed in the "Sheaf.") They were hung in a steeple or bellhouse resting on the buttresses at one of the angles of the South front of the South Transept of the Cathedral, and were approached by the door below the large South window. There is given below a full account of the hanging of the great bell. It would be interesting if someone versed in campanology would explain the technical terms used, such as Baydriok (baudricke, bawdricke, bordrope, vaudry), Gogen (gudgion), Lases, Stock. And what is a Jyll? The bells were carefully guarded by two locked doors—the one in the Church, and the other in the steeple. Was this because Canon 88 of 1603 directed the churchwardens not to suffer "the bells to be rung superstitiously upon holydays or eves abrogated by the Book of Common Prayer, nor at any other times, without good cause to be allowed by the ministers of the place, and by themselves?" During the reign of James I. the bell was rung by the Clerk on the three "King's Holidays," viz., March 24th (the date of his Accession), August 5th (see "Sheaf" No. 583), and November 5th.

1575.

Charges belonging to the bell as followeth
wayeing vc and liijl.

Imp'mis paid for wayeing of the bell.....iiijd.
For boords to make the wheeleijs.

Payd for drinke to the Workmen at seu'all times
 for layeing the trees in the say-pitt.....xijd.
 For a Stook to the bellxvjd.
 Payd for pinn-woodeiiijd.
 Payd for making the say-pitt.....vjd.
 Payd to Hughe Isherwood for sawing and Work-
 ing with Croshowexvjs.
 Paid to Croshowe for his workemanshipp of the
 same bellxxixs. iiijd.
 Paid to Mr. Tomson for a treevjs.
 Paid for timber to make foure Laes for the bell...ijs.
 For drinke at the rearing of the framevjd.
 Paid to Hughe Stockton for making of Iron worke
 to the same bellvjs. iiijd.
 Paid for a hoope to the Wheeleiiijd.
 Paid to Croshowe for andspoke xijd. and for
 foure other spokes with neales viijd.xjd.
 Paid to Richard Ledsome for two Gogens of brass
 vs
 Payd for a baydrick to the Clapperxviijd.
 Paid to Henry Pennantvjd.
 Paid to Croshowe for neales for the frame of the
 bellijd.
 Paid the xjth of July for two trees to Mr. Richard
 Dutton and James Bannester for to hang the bell
 uponviijs.
 That Mr. Thomas Lynial gave a tree to the parish
 worth xs.xs.
 Paid for the hire of a horse with his meate to ride
 to Floodcott about the same treesxvjd.
 Spent upon Mr. Lyniell for his good-will a quart
 of sacke and other chargesviijd.
 Paid for the hire of a horse to ride to Floodcott to
 gett three trees squaredxijd.
 Paid for the hire of a horse and his meate the
 xxth of July to fetch the trees homexijd.
 Paid for squaring of the said trees and baridge to
 the Workmenvs. ijd.
 Paid for a Jylle to leade the same treesxijd.
 Spent upon the Waine for their diners and drink-
 ing at carriage of two trees from Floodcott to Chester
 vjs. viijd.
 Paid for the hire of a horse the same time and his
 meatexijd.
 More paid for fetching of one tree with the Jyll
 and drinke to the Wainemen with their dinner the
 next day followingxxiiijd.
 Paid for making a pitt to ringe the same bell...iiijd.
 Paid to Richard Haddock for layeing in the
 gogens and foure Stablesviijd.
 Paid for drinke for the ringers at ringing for the
 Queeneviijd.
 Paid to Mr. Richard Bavand ic and ixli of Iron at
 xiijs. iiijd. the hundred for the same bell ...xiijs. vd.
 Paid for two ropes for the saide bell.....iijjs. viijd.
 (To be continued.)

[758] CHESHIRE DOMESDAY NOTES. XXVI.

(See No. 755.)

Pre-Norman Tenants (iii.).—An inquiry which
 may be suggested is one for the true form of the
 English names which the Conqueror's surveyors

recorded as well as they could. Eduin and Goduin
 are simple enough, but others are less obvious, as
 Aregrim for Ænrgim, Leuric for Leofric, &c.
 Hacon (or Hacun)—parts of Bramall, Pool (Nant-
 wich), and Worleston.
 Halden—see Alden.
 Haregrim—see Aregrim.
 Hasten—Lache Dennis.
 Heraldus (Earl, i.e. King Harold)—Stoneley;
 Marbury, Norbury, and Wirswall.
 Hundin—Butley.
 Hunding—part of Winnington.
 Hundulf—part of Teverton.
 Leuenot (or Leuinot)—Antrobus, Aston in Great
 Budworth, Whitley, Snelson, Moulton, Minshall,
 parts of Bartington, Cogshall, and Winnington;
 Leighton, Gayton, Thurstaston, Caldý, Meols
 (Great and Little); Goltyn, parts of Broughton
 (Hawarden), and Leadbrook (Flint).
 Leuiet—part of Barnston (Wirral).
 Leuing—Saughall, near Chester.
 Leuric—Aston near Frodsham, parts of Basford
 and Wimbald's Trafford.
 Leuuin—Handbridge (part), Overleigh; Nether
 Tabley, Tatton, Wimbaldale, parts of Frith
 (Wrenbury) and Nantwich-Willaston.
 Loten—Golborne Belleau.
 Luuede—part of Prenton.
 Morfar—part of Somerford Booths.
 Ordin—Mickle Trafford.
 Orme—Halton.
 Osgot—Little Neston with Hargrave.
 Osmer—Audlem, Bostock, Crewe, Davenham, Ship-
 brook, parts of Austerson ("Essetune"), Frith,
 and Leftwich; Claverton.
 Ostrebrand—Nether Tabley.
 Outi—Hassall.
 Ouuin—part of Austerson and Basford.
 Pat—part of Sinderland and Baguley.
 Ragenal—Stanney.
 Raucate—Aston-juxta-Mondrum.
 Rauechet—part of "Edritone" (near Hawarden).
 Rauechel—"Claitone" (near Hawarden).
 Rauenchel—part of Burwardsley.
 Rauen—part of Broxton.
 Rauene—Warburton, and part of Dutton.
 Raesua—part of Odd Rode.
 Raesue—part of Somerford Booths.
 Raesuar—part of Barnston.
 Raesuard—part of Broughton (Hawarden).
 Rees—Erbistock.
 Sberne—Soughton (Flints.).
 Segrid—part of Over Tabley.
 Seuuard—Barthomley and Buerton.
 Stein—Lea Newbold (part) and "Alretone" (Oulton
 Lowe?).
 Steinchel—Thornton-le-Moors.
 Stenulf—Clotton Hoofield, Tilstone Fearnall, and
 Weaver.
 Suga—part of Sinderland and Baguley.

Tochi—Hooton, Manley, Picton, Sutton (Wirral), parts of Elton and Norton.
Toret (Thoret, or Toreth)—Ashton Hayes, Barrow, Blacon; Allington, Gresford, and part of Aston (in Hawarden).

(To be continued.)

DECEMBER 10, 1902.

NOTES.

[759] ARMS AND QUARTERINGS.

Just 200 years since there arose a little discussion between the then head of the family of Egerton, viz., Sir John Egerton, Bart., of Heaton, near Manchester, and Sir Philip Egerton, of the then younger line of Oulton and Egerton, touching the right of quartering the coat of Grey, &c., which Sir John claimed exclusively. But, as there are no elder sons in Heraldry, the matter was promptly disposed of by the following letter, directed "For Mr. Ives—at Sr. John Egertons at—Wrinhill Hall."—"For—the Stone Bagg Staffordshire."

The original is at Arley, where, some 20 years ago, the old question cropped up again:—

"Sr.

I saw yo'rs of ye 17 Octobr. to Mr. Bunny: wherein I perceive ye fees are ordered me. I writ Sr. Jno. Egerton in my Letter to him ye right Sr. Phillip Egerton had to qr. [quarter] ye Ld. Gray of Wiltons Arms, w'ch he can do w'th ye difference of a younger Brother—for all ye Children of Sr. Rowland Egerton and ye Lady Gray have right to qr. the arms of Gray w'th ye usuall differences. Sr. I write Sr. John Egerton yt. if he pleased to be at ye charge I would Marshall rightly ye q'rings of his family w'th ye Grays according to both Pedigrees wh. will take time and Paines wh. I believe Sr. John is defient in by ye Examinations I have made in the q'rings of both the descents.

Sr. wherein I can serve you or yo'r friends in ye Country in o'r way I shall do it w'th all faithfullness and punctuality being

Sr. yo'r most humb' Serv't

PEERS MAUDUIT.

Londo. 24 Octor.
1702."

Mr. Ives I suppose to have been steward at Wrinhill—a former place of the Greys of Wilton? Mr. Peers Mauduit I presume would be the Chester Herald. His surname was a very ancient Norman one in Yorkshire. H. T.

[760] WEATHER LORE.

I have heard the following rhymes in Cheshire, though they may not be peculiar to the county. The pronunciation of "will" in the first couplet should be noticed.

Influence of the moon—

Saturday new and Sunday full
Never did good and never will.

A rainy May favourable—

A dropping May
Fills the barns with corn and hay.

From the order in which the new foliage appears—

The oak before the ash—

Only a splash.

The ash before the oak—

A regular soak.

J. W.

[761] CHESHIRE DOMESDAY NOTES. XXVII.

(See No 758.)

Eastham and Landican.—It has already been shewn (No. 654) that the hidage of Neston parish is exactly 10. The remaining 90 hides of Wirral-Deanery-with-Atiscros divide themselves equally into two groups of 45 each, with minor groups of five or ten hides. But as certain non-parochial combinations appear to have taken effect before the time of the Survey, as at Grappenhall and Burton (Nos. 714 and 755) so in this district the manor of Oxton, which belongs to Woodchurch parish, had been incorporated with the manor of Eastham. We may assume its separate hidage to have been 1, because Hugh de Mara held two hides under Eastham, viz., Brimstage and Oxton, each of which may be reckoned as of one hide; there was probably no connection between them except that of ownership. Making this assumption we have—

HIDES.	
EASTHAM, Bromborough, and other parts of the manor in the Earl's hands.....	8
Brimstage 1, Tramere 1½, Bidston 7, and others in his men's hands 3½	13
Hooton 1½, Overpool ½, Sutton (Great and Little) 2, Stanney (Stoke) 1.....	5
Poulton and Bebington 2, Storeton 2	4
—	30
Wallasey	1½
Shotwick 1, Saughall (Great and Little) 7, Capenhurst ½	8½
Burton 2½ (?), Puddington 2½	5
—	45
LANDICAN 7, Arrowe ("Calders," 9a) 1, Greasby 2, in all 10; Noctorum ½, Oxton 1, Prenton 1½, Thingwall 1, Barnston 1, in all 5.....	15
Caldy and West Kirby 3, Meols (Great and Little) 2	5
Thurstaston 2, Heswall 2, Gayton 1.....	5
—	25
Upton.....	3
ATISCROS (Hawarden 15, Dodleston 2).....	17
—	45

Two curious combinations appear to be necessary for this result, that of Wallasey with the Saughall group, and that of Upton with Dodleston. This may be paralleled from other instances in which

the hidage of the centre of a group seems to have been settled first, the remainder of the necessary assessment being afterwards distributed among the manors on the outer fringe; but it may also imply in some cases that these manors, though at opposite sides of the central body, were in the same hands at the time when the assessment was fixed. The first-named combination may be apparent only, for Wallasey, Bidston, and Tranmere form a group of 10 hides; but the sturdy independence of Upton is more noticeable; at the time of the hidage it appears to have had no connection with either of its great neighbours, Landican and Eastham; later it was assessed at five carucates, again shewing independence; and to the present day it forms the parish of Overchurch, the small part of the township belonging to Woodchurch being probably a remnant of the Landican manor of 1086. It was at Upton that the memorial stone was found, asking "the people" to "pray for Ethelmund." A great Ethelmund was killed in battle in Wiltshire in 800 (A.S. Chron.), but this monument is said to be much earlier than that. It is not at all impossible for Dodleston and Upton in Wirral to have been formerly in the same ownership, for in 1066 Colbert was the owner of this Upton and of part of Wervin, being succeeded in both by William Malbank, and these two places are as far apart as Upton and Dodleston.

(To be continued.)

[762] ST. OSWALD'S CHURCH, 1575-1625.

(Continued from No. 757).

XII. THE BELLS (ii).

The old bell from the South Transept was removed to St. Thomas' Church, on its becoming the Parish Church of St. Oswald's, and in an old note book, I have found a memorandum that it bears the inscription "In nomine Patris et Filii et Spiritus Sancti. Amen." "At the commencement is a Greek X; between 'Spiritus' and 'Sancti' is a King's head, between the other words a flower ornament, except after the two 'et's.'" In the same note the following dimensions are given:—8 feet 1 inch in circumference—crown to mouth 27 inches, diameter across mouth 33 inches—thickness 2½ ins. The bell is so difficult of access that I have not been able to verify these notes, but I should be glad to know from a campanologist whether, assuming these dimensions to be correct, the weight of the bell would be about 5cwt. It would be interesting if it could be identified with the "parish bell" of 300 years ago.

What is a 'roode of bords'?

1576.

Imp'mis paid to William Croshawe for workmanship of the wheele and covering the house with bords and for other bords that was laid under the leade wth a plancke, and gogin that the rope runs in with another bord to peece about the house

xxijjs. vjd.

Item paid for a borde and a looke wth the hookes and hinges and nailes to keepe the bellrope in and setting it uppijs. viijd.

More for yades (?) and spikes and neales for the plom', and for the wheele to the same house. vjs. iiijd.

To Cronshawe for foure sparsviijd.

Paid to Lewis the mason for workmanshipvjs. viijd.

To two labourers for one weekevjs.

Paid to Roger Radford for lime and stonevjd.

Paid to Stockton for Iron-works for the same belliij.

Paid to the plommer for layeing the leade upon the Churchiijs.

Paid for a be'rick for the same bellxvjd.

More for a baydrick for the small belliij.

Paid for two ropes to get up the belliiij.

1577.

Paide for the ringing for the Queenexijd.

Paid to David Jones for mending the bellropes for the belliiij.

Paid for a bellrope for the smale bellxd.

1583.

Hugh Stockton for two gudgions and a hooke to keep the bellrope inxviij.

1587.

To Stocken for a looke and a kay for the bell house dooreiiij.

For neales and for mending of the great bell wheelevjd.

1589.

For mending the two bordropes of the two bellsviij.

1594.

Money spent about the two bells.

Imp'mis to John Stanney for wrights workijs. viijd.

Item to Stocken for making all the Irons of the two bells newijs. viijd.

1600.

Paid Ellis Jones 22s May for a Rope for the bellijs. viijd.

Paid for bords and nayles to make the wheele of ye bellxixd.

Paid Arrat Watt for making the wheelexxd.

1601.

Paid for a rope for the small bellxviij.

Paid for a quarter of a roode of bords for the bellhousevjs.

Paid for leade to the bellhouseiijs. viijd.

Paid for the carryage of the bordsiij.

1604.

For making the wheele of the great bell and timber and naylesvijs.

1606.

Imp'mis paid for a vaudrey for the belliijs. iiij.

Item paid for mending the parish bellxijd.

1607.

Given the Claroke for ringinge one the kinges day beinge the vth of Augustxiiij.

To the Clarke for ringinge one the Kinges day
beinge the xxiiijth of Marchxiiijd.

1608.

Inprimis for a doore for the bells in our Church
.....xviijd.

For one newe hynges for the same dooreiijd.

To Rauffe Hoolmes for a locke to the same doore
.....xd.

The vth of Auguste delyvery fro' Gowrye to the
Clarke for Ryngingexiiijd.

To the Clarke for Rynginge the vth of november
escape from Powder xiiijd.

The iiijth of december for amendinge the
Bawdericke of the parishe bell to Anthonie
warminshamvjd.

For a bell rope for the parishe bell weighing ixli.
& diiijjs. ijd.

To the clarke for Rynginge the 24th of martche
Kynge's dayexiiijd.

1609.

Paid for a newe lether and amendinge the Baud-
ricke of the greate bell and for a newe Buckle and a
pinne for the samexiiijd.

1610.

Paid for a staple for the doore for the bellropes
and for lead and settinge it invid.

Paid for a Baudricke for the greate Bell.....xiiijd.

1612.

Paide for mendinge the bawdricke of the greate
Bell..... ijs. vjd.

Paide for a locke for the bells.....viijd.

Paide for a rope for the litle bellxiijd.

1613.

Paid for mendinge the Clapper of the litle bell
..... ijd.

Paid for mendinge and peeing the Rope for the
great bell xiiijd.

Given to a poore man who had his legge broken
at the bellsxiijd.

1614.

Paide for a Baudricke for the greate Bell .ijs. vjd.

Paide for mendinge the beere, the bellrope and
for oyling the bellvjd.

1615.

Paide for mendinge the Bawdricke for the Bell
.....xiijd.

Paid for making the ould bell rope new and for a
Rope for the Anthem bellijs. iiijd.

1616.

Paid for a kay and mendinge the locke for the
bellhouse doore.....iiijd.

Paid for Grease for the Bell ijd.

Paid for bordes and nayles and for mendinge the
beere and the Couer ouer the Bellijs. iiijd.

Paid for a kay for the steeple doore.....vjd.

1617.

Paide for ringinge when my Lord went on his
visitation0. 1. 0.

Paid to ye Clarke for Attendinge the Church on
the kinges holidays the fift of August the fift of
November and the xxiiijth of March0. 3. 6.

E. C. L.

REPLY.

[763] CENTRAL PIERS OF THE CATHEDRAL.

(See No. 682.)

The following extract from a short but very suggestive essay on the genesis of the present cathedral from the old Norman church may assist to an answer of the question as to the meaning of the curious piers of the central tower. It is by Mr. R. W. Hussey (1851) and is printed in the Chester Archaeological Society's Journal (i, 209-214), with a plan; on this "the dotted line s" is drawn across the nave between the two easternmost pillars, i.e., the two next to the central piers. He writes—

"I may here correct an error in the paper in [a previous part of] the 'Archæological Journal' in the case of the word choir. . . . In large Norman churches the choir properly so called very generally extended westward of the transepts into the part which in later buildings was given up to the nave; and I imagine that in this instance the choir extended to the dotted line s one bay westward of the transept. . . .

"The eastern piers of the nave (at the ends of the line s) are very different from the others, and I think I remember there is a vertical joint in the masonry, shewing not only that the eastern and western parts of them were built at different times, but that the eastern half was built first. This leads me to suppose that the original choir ended here and that the rebuilding of the nave was not commenced until the new choir was finished, the last arch on each side of the choir being supported on a half pillar or pier abutting against the older Norman work and fitting up to the ends of the screen at s.

"I must add as another reason for thinking the choir originally came to s that the form of the lower part of the large piers which support the tower implies that they were not to be exposed to sight and that as wide a space as could be made was desired between them from north to south. The last consideration would apply equally or nearly so, whether the space under the tower was appropriated to choir or nave; but if this space had, when the tower was built, formed part of the latter I think the mouldings and bases would have been prolonged to the floor and not have been made to stand on solid plain masses of masonry as they now do."

E. H.

DECEMBER 17, 1902.

NOTES.

[764] OLD ST. OSWALD'S CHURCH.

After the very full account published in the "Sheaf" of the fabric and furnishing of St. Oswald's Church in the south transept of St. Werburgh's the following document—copied from the Vestry Book (beginning 1676)—will be interest-

ing as shewing how the Mayor of Chester and the parishioners contributed to the building of it. The monks had greatly objected to the use of part of their church as a parish church, and had assigned "the chappell called saint Nicholas chappell within the precinct of the sayd monasterie" (the Musio-hall) for use instead; but when Abbot Simon Ripley (1485-1492) was rebuilding the nave and south transept, the parishioners, as appears by the following agreement, succeeded in regaining possession on paying for part of the structure. The windows in the east aisle of the transept are of the decorated style, and therefore it may be assumed that Abbot Simon did not pull down this aisle, in which were the chapels with their altars, but required the parishioners to pay for some "restoration" in order to bring the older portion into keeping with his own new work. The words "the north syde" create a difficulty. Properly speaking there was no "north side," the south transept opening by arches into the nave of the minster, but they may mean "the northern half" of this transept. It may be added that according to the old views of the building only the *western* parapet of this transept was "battled," the eastern one being plain. There are other copies or summaries of the deed in the Harleian MSS. (No. 2159, 112—this reference is from Mr. Hiatt's "Chester Cathedral" (p. 12) and seems to be erroneous—and 2103, 25). The former of these has "thraves" instead of "doors" of timber. If the latter be the correct reading one of the new doors would be the one in the southern extremity of the west aisle, whose mouldings (according to Dean Howson) shew that it belongs to the latter part of the 15th century. "Moreover (he adds) during the process of restoring this western aisle, a low arch was discovered in the old masonry, which had clearly been used for the bringing in of building materials and had then been closed." Was this the "half a doore"?

A Copy of a Graunt from Symond, Abbott of the Monasterie of St. Worburgh.

[Jan. 22, 1488-9.]

This Indenture made betwixt Symond, Abbott of the Monasterie of Worburgh of Chest', and Covent of the same place, on that one Party, And George Bulkeley Mercer Maior, Robert Chauntrell, William Sneed, Henry Forte Mercer, John Barow, Robt. Waley, Thomas Barow, Thomas Bunbury Sheriffe, Richard Hocknall Baker, Stephen Bayter, Edmund Feringdon, Christopher Whittell, Hugh Smyth, Jaynkin Davidson, Richard Wright, Richard Hoton, and Robert Wright Cittizens and Parishion's of St. Oswald of the City of Chest' upon that other partye, Witnesseth, That the sayd Abbott and Covent, by one Assent and Consent, Have graunted to the sayd Maior and Parishion's to Edifie and Cause to be Edified a new Rofe and Three Doores and Halfe a Doore of Timber, wall and sufficiently to be Made, and Sett upp upon the new Church of Saint Oswald, and it sufficiently to

cover, and the North Syde of the sayd Church to be Batteld with Stone, and Guttered with Lead sufficiently, which is Edified on Late att the End of the Chappell Called Saint Nicholas Chappell within the Precinct of the sayd Monasterie, Betwixt the Date hereof, and the Feast of Nativity of o'r Lord Jesus Christ which shall be in the yeare of our Lord Jesus Christ One Thousand Foure Hundred and Ninety; Towardes which Costes and Expences, the sayd Maior and parishion's Graunten and Byndyn them and whomsoever of them to the sayd Abbott and Covent by theise p'sents, to Content and Pay to the sayd Abbott, or to his Certaine Attorney, Forty Markes of usuall Money of England, in Manner and Forme Following. That is to say, within Twenty dayes after the Carpenters begin to worke uppou the sayd Roofe Ten Markes, and att the Feast of the Nativity of Saint John Baptist, then next Ensueing or within Twenty dayes the sayd Feast Immediately Ensueing Ten Poundes and att the Rearing upp of the sayd Roofe, and finishing of the sayd Covering, Battelling and Guttering in full Payment of the Sayd whole Summe Ten Poundes. And to all theise Covenants well and truly to be observed and kept in every each Parte, the Abbott and Covent to that one Parte of this Indenture Anends the Maior and Parishion's Remyning have sett their Covent Seale, And to that other Parte of this Indenture Anends the sayd Abbott and Covent, Remyneing in the Handes of the Maior and Parishion's, Each of them have Sett their Seale. Given in the Feast of Saint Vincent the Martyr, In the yeare of our Lord Jesu Christ, One Thousand Foure Hundred Eighty Eight, And the yeare of the Reigne of King Henry the Seaventh after the Conquest of England the Fourth. E. C. L.

[765]

ASHTON OR ASTON?

In an old deed relating to St. Peter's, Chester, printed in the "Sheaf" (No. 600), mention is made of Robert de Bredon, rector (c. 1350-77), and his cousin and heir John de Assheton. In another deed, however, the latter's surname is given as Aston: "John son of Richard de Aston, cousin and heir of Robert de Bredon late parson of St. Peter's, Chester, and farmer of the mills and fisheries of the Dee, recognisance to the King in £11 13s 8d, part of the arrears of the said John.—From the Chester Recognisance Rolls" (Halsby's Ormerod, i. 722).

In 13 Ric. II. John de Bredon was keeper of the King's wood of Saughall (Ormerod ii. 700).

[766] EARLY MARITAL CONNECTIONS OF CHESHIRE AND LANCASHIRE. I.

The connection of Cheshire with Lancashire has already been slightly noticed in the "Sheaf," in the case of the Torbocks-of-Torbock. But it remains to shew an extraordinary number of marriages producing a very much closer connection between some of the families of both Palatinates.

As early as the reign of Edw. II. (*circa* 1322) Sir Richard de Torboke, *knt.*, lord of Torboke, Walton-Leghes, and Turton, married one of the Norman Cheshire Pulls, Poles alias Pooles—a small local name, derived from a pool of which most of the estate was composed in Saxon times. His grandson, Sir Richard de Torboke, or Torbec, *knt.* temp. Edw. III. was husband of Margaret de Wetenhall of Wetenhall. This Sir Richard's cousin in the eldest male line (both lines being descended from two brothers of the great House of Latham of Latham, Knoweslegh, and other lordships temp. Conquest) was the famous Sir Thomas de Latham *alias* Sir Osketel *vel* Oskel de Latham; who, by his Cheshire match with Joan daughter of Hugh de Venables, was father of the equally famous Isabel de Latham his heiress, who married Sir John de Stanley, *knt.* a celebrity of the later 14th and 15th century French Wars, younger son of the Hooton House of Stanley; and who thus became ancestress of the Lancashire Stanleys of Knowsley and Lathom—being great-grandmother, or grandmother (for the exact generation I discovered was only conjectural, and was certainly misplaced in the pedigrees), of the first parliamentary baron Stanley, father of the first Earl of Derby of the second "creation"—a particularly cautious, courageous, and greatly-gifted man. From this Earl's younger brother is supposed to have descended another Cheshire line of the Stanleys, who settled at Weaver and Nether Alderley.

The sister of the 2nd Sir Richard of Torboke was Ellen, the wife of John de Conwy (*alias* Conyers originally—of a branch of that great Norman Yorkshire House), lord of Bodrythyn (*sic*), Co. Flint, 11 Hen. IV., now represented by the Irish Rowleys of Cromwellian days.

The next Lancashire and Cheshire match was that of Sir Wm. de Torboke's daughter, Joan, or Jane, with Richard de Vernon, lord of Haslington near Nantwich, temp. Hen. VI.; while his presumed brother, Sir Richard Torboke, *knt.* temp. Edw. IV. married a daughter of Thomas Daniel (*als.* D'Anyers originally) of the Daresbury family. Their son, Sir Wm. Torbuk, *knt.* who died 1 Hen. VIII. (and whose large brass or letten seal—7½oz., a fine impression of which I possess—is engraved in Baines' "Lancashire") married, temp. Hen. VII., Margery, daughter of "Sir John Stanley of Weaver and Nether Alderley," and grand-niece of Thomas Stanley first earl of Derby. Their daughter, Margaret, was wife of a Cheshire Dutton of Bispham, Mid, or North, Lancashire; while her brother, "Richard Torbuk," was of Newcastle-under-Lyme, and bore the alias of Smythe in 1558; which in the 17th cent. form of Smith, descended to a lady—widow of the last known male of the family at Newcastle—and who (according to my informant, Col. Graham, Deputy Assist. Adjutant-General of the Imperial Yeomanry, S. Africa), also bore the Torbock arms, only some half century since.

In the next generation, tempore Hen. VIII., William Torboke became husband of a daughter of Sir Thos. Gerard of Bryn, co. Lanc. *knt.*, "head of all the Gerards in Britain," including the Gerards of Crewwood in Kingsley, co. Cast. This William's eldest brother, Edward Tarbock, armiger (*esq.*), lord of Tarbock wedded Dorothy, daughter of Sir George Cotton, *knt.*, lord of Combermere, K.G., who died in 1608; while William's younger brother, Richard Tarbock of Tarbock, gentleman, married at Frodsham, in 1561, Margret Nuthall, gentlewoman, "daughter of Nuthall of Cattenhall in Kingsley, esquire. The daughter, Dorothy Nuthall of this latter match, was married at Frodsham, in 1580-1, to George Rutter of Kingsley Hall, gentleman, or esquire. There was also a Dorothy Gerard buried in 1588; and in 1586 Richard Gerard of Crewwood, *esq.* married one of the Nuthalls—probably niece of Richard Rutter's wife, Margaret.

"Mary Tarbocke, gent."—sister of Sir Edward Tarbock of Tarbock, knighted at White-Hall by James I. in 1606—was also buried at Frodsham 29 March, 1576. Edward Tarbock, *esq.*, son of Sir Edward, was, on the outbreak of the Civil War, Governor, or Captain, of the Isle of Man (in 1642), for his remote kinsman and neighbour, the Earl of Derby. That Sir Edward, his father, lost the lordship of Tarbock to Lord Molyneux, in a 'gambling transaction,' has always been a tradition of more families than one. And it is strongly enough supported by the fact that Lord Molyneux's descendants (while the Statute of Limitations still reached back to the reign of Ric. I.), afterwards Earls of Sefton, invariably got the signatures of Sir Edward's heirs male to all of the many alienations of this estate—the conveyance of it from Sir Edward to Lord Molyneux being, apparently by way of trust, as the direct conveyance shews only what may be accounted a grant to a trustee, who would immediately afterwards execute a "deed of trust" as between him and Lord Molyneux, which would not for a long period, if at all, be put on the face of the title. (Torbock is now "Tarbuck!")

This, however, did not touch the other estates of the Tarbocks, for Cronton, and other manorial properties, and lands in Tarbock remained to the family—whose final connection with Cheshire, after this extraordinary number of Cheshire marriages, ended in the marriage, referred to in one of the previous volumes of the "Sheaf," of Mary, daughter and heiress of John Tarbock of Tarbock and Sutton, gentleman (commonly called Madam Tarbock, then residing in Frodsham), who in 1703-4, married John Helsby, gentleman, of Kingsley Hall (but in 1730-5, farming some of his own lands in Helsby, for which including cattle, &c., he paid not inconsiderable tithes). Mary Tarbock being sole heiress of her father, succeeded to the unentailed lands; while the

entailed manorial estate passed to the issue of her paternal uncle—whose line finally terminated in John Tarbock, or Tarbuck, gentleman (who in 1832-4 lent Sir William's seal to Mr. Baines for his "History of Lancashire.") Mr. Tarbock having been ruined in purse, and by gout—in the former by building "Dovecotes," in West Derby, that estate, and all the other remnants of the ancient property—descending every step to him from the Norman Conquest—passed to his daughter and heiress, whose son, Mr. Graham, sold it some 60 years ago, for £20,000, to a Manchester man.

It will thus be seen that the ties between the two counties, as represented by only one Lancashire family, were strong and numerous. Let me add that, as early as 29 Edw. III. (14th century) the Torbocks held Welsh Whittle, lands in Wrightington, Copple, &c., co. Lanc.; also the Bailiwick of the Wapentake of (West) Derby; and among other "foreign lands," manorial hereditaments in Oxfordshire. See also Dr. White Kennet's "Antiquities."

(To be continued.)

[767] CHESHIRE DOMESDAY NOTES. XXVIII.

(See No. 761.)

Pre-Norman Tenants (iv.).—The following names complete the list of those who held land in the county in 1066:—

Uctred—Wallasey and part of Norton.
 Udemán—Bickley; part of Sinderland and Baguley.
 Ulbert—part of Leadbrook (Flint).
 Ulchel (see next name)—Heswall.
 Ulchetel—Thornton Hough and Hatherton.
 Ulf—part of Mollington.
 Ulfac—"Coele," "Kenardeslie," and "Ulvre" (in Eddisbury Hundred), part of Coppenhall; part of Broughton (Hawarden).
 Ulgar the priest—part of Caldecot.
 Ulmer—a manor (unnamed) near Hawarden.
 Ulnod—part of Handbridge.
 Ulsi—Fulke Stapleford; part of Tabley.
 Ulueua (or Ulueue, a woman)—Chowley, Cholmondeston and Pool (part).
 Uluiet (or Uuiet)—"Done" (in Delamere), Tarporley, Brereton, Newbold Astbury, Willaston (near Nantwich); Northenden, Lymm, Mere, Rostherne, parts of Cogshall, High Legh, and Prenton.
 Uluoi—Beeston, Cuddington, and Overton (Malpas).
 *Uluric—Alsager, Bredbury, Butley (Wilmslow?), Ollerton (part) Peckforton, Puddington, Pulford, Spurstow, and Wistaston.
 Uluinchit—Part of Clutton.
 Wighe—Endley (or Hendley, in Neston).
 Wintrelet—Thingwall.

The following have no names given—"Three other thanes" with Ulgar at Caldecot (9a); "four free men" at Over (3b); "six free men" at Sand-

bach, &c. (4a); "eight free men" in the Henbury and Hyde Districts (4a); and someone at Peover (10b).

(To be continued.)

DECEMBER 24, 1902.

NOTES.

[768] EARLY MARITAL CONNECTIONS OF CHESHIRE AND LANCASHIRE. II.

(Continued from No. 766.)

On 28 July, 1608, Letters of Administration of the goods of Edward Tarbocke de Tarbocke Ar. deceased [the husband of Dorothy Cotton] were granted to Sir Edward Tarbocke de Tarbocke, Knt. (mil'is) "qui quidē Edward' Tarbock miles fuit filius n'ralis et p'timus p'd. defunct' de bene, &c. Coram Thoma Meade, O'fico. Vicario de Prescott"—the Inventory fortunately annexed thereto being a very suggestive and interesting one, particularly in view of the remains of only one rude wing of old Tarbock Hall, now long occupied by farmers:—

"Inventory of goodes, cattalles, and chattalles of Edward Torbock of Torbock in the Countie of Lancaster Esquier deceased 'praysed the tenth day of June 1608, by John Dichfeilde, Edward Tildsley, Henry Blundell, Robert Garnet, Thomas Burges, and Edmund Lyonn"—this last of a family of gentry and yeomen, residing for several generations in Huyton Parish; and some of the other appraisors bearing the names of well-known Lancashire families.

"In beasts yonge and oulde 69lb. [£]. In horses, n'ares, and coulters 115lb. 13s. 4d. In sheep xxxijs. In swyne and pooltrie vlb. In furniture in the hall and 'comptis' windoe iiijlb. In the Eagle chamber vjlb. xijjs. iiijd. [an Eagle was the 'Crest' of the family]. In the Middle chamber,—Chappell chanber, &c. In Thomas Torbockes chamber xxs. In Sir Roberts chamber and the Bruhouse chamber xxxs. In his [the intestate's] owne chamber with the closset adjoyning vijlb. In the little nurserie xxs." The other chambers were "the Porter's chamber, the Yeoman's chamber, the Larder chamber, the Starefoot chamber, 'my yong Mrs.' chamber, with another litle rowme by it, vlb. In my Lordes [i.e. the then lord of Tarbock, Sir Edward's] chamber xxlb. The chamber behind, S'r'vants' chamber, &c. In one table in Chappell with boocks 'srployd' (sic) xxxs. The Porch chamber, &c. Lynnen of all sortes xvijlb. xs. In Pewter vlb. xijjs. iiijd. In Bras with dripping pans and fryinge pans viijlb. In Iron ware in the Keechin xxxijs. iiijd. In the Wooden vessall in the butterie, bruhouse and backhouse 'bexsides' heire loomes iijlb. One faire Cockpenne iijlb. One litle boate xs. In Spynes and felles vs. Two owld beare clothes [bier cloths] and one oulde Dish-

borde in the Kylne xxvjs. viiij. In Timber fallen and unsould in all places of the Demaine lviijlb. In the Smythie in bellies stiddie and hommers and other smale tooles xxs. In Brick xs. Item, in apparell and Armo'r for his bodie vijlb."

"Inventorie exhib. xxx. die Septembris 1608."

This must have been, as usual, an extremely low valuation for everything; but multiplied by eight, for the continuous decrease in value of money, we should get pretty near to an ordinary modern valuation. "Sir Robert" would be the chaplain. This inventory, together with old armorial carvings on Madam Törbock's mirror, decides the long-standing question of the "character of the bird" on the seal of Sir Wm. Tarbock. See Jewitt's "Reliquary" for a lithograph plate of this mirror, in the vol. publ. circa. 1872. The "Cock-pen": They often penned their fighting cocks in the "Cock-loft" or attic, of their houses—to keep them "out of the way." The "little hoate" seems to have been for cartage to the Mersey, perhaps often to cross over into Frodsham parish and Aston chapelry; and perhaps even to Norton Abbey—though the Brookes were, then, little more than "furners."

The following copy of a very early letter (temp. Hen. VII. or Ric. III.) is addressed "To my Cosyn Rauf Torboke esquier—be th's delivered," by Sir Alexander Radcliffe, Knt. (of Ordeshall, or Ordsall, on the Irwell, Salford):—

"Cosyn I comand me unto you' &c. And where's J am informed by th's bairer William Walmurley [Walmesley, or Walmersley ?] that ye intend to take ffor [forth] from hym c'ten [certain] londs of yours wiche hath lyne tyme owte of mynde to h's [his] hoding [holding] J hertily pray you to be gudde mayster to hym in the same so that hee may occupy as hee hath done afortyme: Also J am informed by th's said bayrer that on' Jenken Haurokes of the folds [sheep or cattle Folds common to Lancashire, such as Peel's Fold, by Blackburn] claymeth a way t'rothe [through] th's bayrer holdyng wiche as hee sa'uoth [sayeth] ys co'trary to right and gude consyons [conscience] cosyn J pray you to speke wt. the said Haurokes so yt the mat' [matter] myght' reste unto som' resonabull' day and J schalbe redy to me' [meet] you on the said grounde and yt [that] 'at o'gh'e [ought] to be downe of ryght' schalbe hadde w't love and fav'r [favour]: Cosyn th's bayrer schalbe t'aftur [thereafter ?] the derness [desires ?] of my lady Haryngton. . . . [decayed]. Cosyn tressam [Tresham] and hys wyf who hath made me thay'r' stuard of all [their lands ?] in th's contr' [country] and therfor' J pray you to be gude mayster to th's [this] bayrer . . . for my sake & yf yt lyveth [lieth] in me to do you any plesur J schalbe as glade . . . [So, may ?] ow'r lorde kepe you.

ALEX' RADCLIFF, Kt."

This rare letter is written on a quarter sheet of foolscap paper (bearing the cap and bells of a jester). It seems to have been torn from another writing, as there is a line in a coeval hand. It is 9ins. long by 4ins. broad, and has been folded in seven narrow folds, broadwise. There are the mark of the seal and two holes (through which, perhaps, a silken tie, or string, has passed before sealing).

X.

[769] LEASE OF ST. OSWALD'S CHURCH DUES.

The following interesting document is written on one of the early pages of the St. Oswald's Vestry Book beginning 1676, from which was also taken the agreement between Abbot Simon Ripley and the parishioners already published in the "Sheaf."

A Coppy of Rowland Thieknis his Lease.

[Aug. 23, 1602.]

THIS INDENTURE made the Three & Twentieth day of August in the Foure & Fourtieth yeare of the Reigne of o' Sov'eigne Ladie Elizabeth, by the grace of God Queene of England France & Ireland, defend' of the Fayth &c. Betweene William Barlow Doct' in Divinitie Deane of the Cathedrall Church of Christ & blessed Virgin Mary in Chest' and the Chapt' of the same place uppon ye one Partie, and Rowland Thieknis Clerke Vicar of St. Oswalds within ye City of Chest' uppon ye other partie Witnesseth That ye sayd Deane & Chapt' with one Assent & Consent, for divers good causes and Reasonable Consid'acons them at this p'sent thereunto especially moveing Have Demysed, granted, Sett, Lett & to Farme betaken, And by theise p'sents doth Demyse grant Sett Lette & to Farme betake, unto the sayd Rowland Thieknis, the Alterages of the sd Parish Church of St. Oswalds aforesayd (vizt) all those their East' Rowle, Privy Tythes, Offering dues, housting halfe-Pennyas, the dueties of Weddings, Churchings, Burialls, Tyth Egges, & Layestalls within ye Parish Church of St. Oswalds arising growing found Renewing To Have hould & Quietly perceive, receive & take the sayd Alterages as before are sett downe & exp'ssed, with all & singuler their Appertences to ye same belongeing or in any wise Apperteyning, unto ye sayd Rowland Thieknis & his Assignes, from ye day of ye Date hereof, for by & dureing ye naturall Life of ye sayd Rowland Thieknis, if he see Long Continue Vicar of ye said parish Church of St. Oswalds (viz: the sayd Rowland Thieknis to have Receive perceive & yearly to take dureing ye tyme and terme before by theise p'sents demysed and granted, for ev'y Layestall within ye Quier of ye sayd Parish Church, ye Summe of vjs. viiij., and for every Layestall within ye Isles and Chappells of ye sayd parish Church, ye Summe of Two Shillings, and for ev'ie Layestall in ye body of ye sayd parish Church, the Summe of Twenty pence, and for ev'y Gravestone which Shall happen dureing ye sayd terme to be Layd, in any place or places of ye sayd parish Church, ye Summe of Three Shillings Foure

pence in such Sort manner & Forme as heretofore have bene used & Accustomed to have bene Received & taken Yeilding & Paying therefor yearly unto ye sayd Deane & Chapter & their Successors att ye Feast day of ye Nativitie of St. John Baptist the Summe of Five Poundes of good & Lawfull Money of England Provyded alwayes that if it happen the sayd yearly Rent of Five Poundes to be behynde & unpaid in parte or in all att the same Feast day in which it ought to be Payd, by the Space of Twenty dayes the same being Lawfully Demanded, that then & att all tymes from thenceforth, this p'sent Indenture of Lease to Cease, be determined, & of none Effect, (anything in theise p'sents Conteyned to the Contrary notwithstanding) Provyded alsoe, And the sayd Rowland Thicknis doth for himselfe his Exe'ors Adm'rs & Assignes Coven't promise & grant to & with the sayd Deane & Chapter & their Successors by theise p'sents that if it happen any person or persons whatsoever being a member of ye Cathedral Church to dye within the tyme & terme before by theise p'sents demysed that all & every such person and persons soe dying shall be Free from Paying anything unto the sayd Rowland Thicknis or his Assignes for his or their Layestalls Provyded Lykewise, & it is furthermore Covenanted and Agre'd for & on ye behalfe of ye sayd Rowland Thicknis his Exe'ors Adm'rs & Assignes to & with ye sayd Deane & Chapt' & their Successors that noe buriall Stones being now Layd or hereafter to be Layd within any place or places of ye sayd Parish Church, Shalbe thence Removed, and that all such graves as shall happen to be made in any Place or Places of the sayd Parish Church, shall within Fourty dayes after such grave or graves soe made be Covered or Tyled, Except some Reasonable Cause or Causes hap to the Contrary, and allowed by ye sayd Deane & Chapter & their Successors And if default be made in Covering or Tying of the sayd Graves Contrary to ye true meaneing of theise p'sents, that the sayd Rowland Thicknis & his Assignes, Shall for every tyme soe offending, totiens quotiens forfeit and Pay to ye sayd Deane & Chapter & their Successors the Summe of Six Shillings Foure Pence of Currant Money of England In Witnesse whereof to the one partie of theise P'sent Indentures Remaineing in ye Custodie & Possession of ye Sayd Rowland Thicknis the sayd Deane & Chapt' have Fixed & Annexed their usual Chapter Seale, And to the other parte Remyneing with ye sayd Deane & Chapter, the sayd Rowland Thicknis hath putt his Hand & Seale, the day & yeare first above Written.

The above has been copied into the Vestry Book from a copy duly examined by the chapter clerk of the time, Thomas Case.

E. C. L.

[770] GEORGE COTGRAVE'S WILL.

Something has already been said of George Cotgrave and his will (see No. 702) and therefore the following abstract of it, taken from the original in

the Chester Probate Office, may be of interest. It begins—

In the Name of the Blessed Trinity. Amen.

I George Cotgrave being somewhat sicklie of body &c. My body to be buried []. Mr. Brerton of Kiddington [Cuddington] oweth me xl li. &c. Mentions Richard Molineux, Roger Heyes, &c.

First I give & bequeath unto my basterd Daughter Radcliffe Wilsonne als. Cotgrave the some of fourtie five pounds . . . and doe allotte these Debts to that use, viz. Mr. Brerton of Kiddington xlii, Mr. Dutton of Chester his xxli, Mr. Trafford xiiiijli, Mr. Glegge vijli which amounteth . . . to ffourescore pounds; and although a single bond would have served between Mr. Dutton and me for that or a greater matter yet now that it is best to my Orphinne I heartily desire to put my honest confirmacion in the bond which in creditte he can not denye. It is my will that if the said Radcliffe Wilsonne alias Cotgrave shall fortune to decease before she attain the full age of xviii years &c. . . . [mentions] my brothers . . . Margaret Wilson . . . Mr. Leyland . . . unto his said wife 40s. and two pair silk stockings. . . . Cosen Margaret Wright . . . my Aunt Herries . . . Mr. Recorder of Chester as a simple and last remembrance of my love 20s. Mr. Edward Dutton, Cosen Trafford, Cosen Wm. Gamull, Mr. Radclyffe of Newcroft, Mr. Lewis Roberts 15s., Mr. Robert Whitehead 15s., cosen Charles Fitton's wife 13s. 4d. for ring, cosen Elenor Gamull, my little baye mayre, two little cossens Thomas and Elenor Gamull £6 13s. 4d. . . . to Margery Harvy for looking to me in my sicknesse . . . to Elizabeth Mr. Leyland's maid 20s., to Richard Williams . . . the poor of Saughall on the hill and Church en Heath . . . Cosen Thomas Wright . . . to Thomas Horrockes my second suite . . . to John Clearke my dublet, to Henry Clearke my Jerkin; my very good cosen Mr. Gamull & my freind Christopher Leyland my true & lawfull Exor.

GEORGE COTGRAVE.

The Recorder of Chester at that time (1605-13) was Thomas Gamull, brother of William Gamull who married the daughter of Alderman William Cotgrave, and Charles Fitton was probably a cousin of the wife of William Cotgrave the younger (see No. 748).

[771] CHESHIRE DOMESDAY NOTES. XXIX.

(See No. 767.)

Ulure.—In discussing the unidentified "Caluington" (No. 721) it was pointed out that after the Domesday record had been compiled certain changes took place in the manorial lordships. The Earl granted out to others many of the lands he then held himself and, apart from those manors which returned to him by default of heirs (as in the case of Robert of Rhuddlan) and were afterwards regranted, there were cases of exchange and of surrender and fresh distribution. Thus in addition

o his holding in 1086 the Baron of Malpas received Aldersey (apparently from the earl's manor of Coddington) and Caldicote (after a surrender by Fitz Osborne); and if the argument referred to be justified (viz., that "Caluintone" is Carden) he also secured Carden after a surrender of it by Richard Pincerna. On the other hand he himself seems to have returned several of his original manors into the earl's hands, e.g., Cranage and Butley.

There is another such case of surrender which may have a bearing on the unidentified manor of "Ulure" (6b). In 1086 Crewe (1 hide) was held by Richard Vernon (6a), but a little later is found to form part of the Barony of Malbank; and on the other hand Calveley in Bunbury is found (c. 1200) in the hands of the Vernons, whose only manors in Risedon hundred in 1086 were Ashton and Willington; where "Ulure," a Malbank manor of two hides, seems to be represented only by a moiety of Wardle; at least, this is the only Malbank holding in that hundred claimed by the heiresses of the barony (Ormerod ii., 286). It is obvious that the matter would be cleared if we could suppose that "Ulure" embraced both Calveley and the moiety of Wardle, and that the former portion was, with the earl's consent, exchanged for Vernons' manor of Crewe. No trace of the name appears to have survived anywhere in Risedon hundred, but in the next hundred the little holding of Wallerscote near Weaverham seems to have been originally Wulverscote or Ulurescote.

(To be continued.)

QUERY.

[772] THE CHRISTMAS WATCH.

In December, 1880, Mr. T. Hughes gave in the "Sheaf" (1431) a List of the Custumary Tenants for the Eastgate Street, hoping to print the remaining portion in some future Christmas Sheaf—a hope which he unfortunately never fulfilled. Is it too late to ask some reader of the "Sheaf" to supply the omission?

E. C. L.

DECEMBER 31, 1902.

NOTES.

[773] JOHN BRUEN. XII.

(Continued from No. 751.)

His last Sickness.—He grew daily more and more weary of the world and was then best contented when he could dispatch worldly businesses with fewest words. It was his provident and godly care to set his house in order, as good Hezekiah did, to make his will, and to leave all things in good terms of peace and love; which accordingly he effected with good success. By which means his mind being

disburdened and eased of many worldly thoughts and cares he got a greater freedom to think and speak of spiritual and heavenly things, and accordingly as he could stir abroad in the house he would drop some wholesome words of counsel or comfort amongst such as he met withal.

His Counsel to his Friends.—When any came to visit him he would often say, "Alas! good souls, what are you come to see? a poor wretch, a worm and no man, or a poor dying man," &c.; and when any told him of hopes of recovery he would say, "My task is ended; the Lord hath no more work for me to do" To his Christian friends he would give these admonitions—to hold on and to hold out, to be steadfast in their professions, not to weary of well doing, "to grow in grace and knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ"; to increase in faith and abound in love; never to be discouraged by mocks and taunts, railings and revilings, or any other persecutions for the name of Christ, but as they have given their names to Him so to give their hearts also, and then to be "faithful to the death, that they may receive the crown of life."

And for their greater encouragement he would tell them that when he first began to profess religion there were almost none in the whole shire that were acquainted with the power and practice of it, &c. "I was," said he, "a wonder of the world and a monster of men, and many did bend their tongues like bows for lies and did shoot their arrows, even bitter words, against me; and yet for all this that came upon me I did not forget the name of my God, &c. But, blessed be God, the number of believers in this country is much enlarged, every quarter and corner of it being filled with the sweet savour of the Gospel, &c. Therefore, my dearly beloved, stand fast in the faith, quit you like men; be strong, be steadfast and unmovable," &c. With these and such-like gracious speeches did he counsel and comfort, encourage, and stir up the godly minds of many professors, both elder and younger, that came to visit him.

Comfort in affliction.—Also, though his affliction and sickness increased, yet were not his consolations diminished; though he was feeble in the flesh yet [was he] strong in the spirit; no pains of his body nor pangs of approaching death did half so much trouble him as the inward refreshings of God's Holy Spirit did make his consolations to abound. Afterwards his weakness increased by reason of a stopping in his breast and throat, so that he could not take down any liquid thing but he was ready to faint away.

About this time a worthy knight (Sir Henry Bunbury) coming to visit him, could not refrain from many tears, which he observing said to him, "Good sir, weep not for me, for there is no cause of weeping but of much rejoicing in my behalf; turn your tears into prayers and let me enjoy that fruit

of your love, &c. You are in your way; I am at my journey's end; walk on as hitherto you have done, and the Lord will be with you, He will never fail you nor forsake you." And with many other words did he exhort him and others that were with him to be faithful in keeping covenant with God and to continue in the grace of God whereunto they were called in Christ Jesus.

His Charge to his Son.—Upon Monday, January 16th [1625-6], his eldest son came to him; whom he rejoiced to see and unto whom he gave many wholesome instructions and gracious exhortations, praying for him and blessing his children, encouraging him to be constant in religion, commanding him to uphold the worship and service of God both in the public assembly and in his private family.

A little before his death there came two godly ministers to him (Mr. Hinde and Mr. Langly), of his special acquaintance, whose presence much cheered him; to whom he said, "I am here, you see, the Lord's prisoner, cast upon the bed of my sickness and in great affliction yet waiting upon the mercies of my God, for a comfortable release in one season." And being asked by them whether his consolations did not abound in the midst of all his afflictions he answered, "Yes, I thank God they do, and do far exceed them. Yea, and that which is more remarkable, the Lord of His mercy hath given me such strong evidence of His favour and love in Christ that I am not troubled in mind or conscience with any doubts or fears or any other Satanical molestations or temptations, but rest and wait in patience for the accomplishing of His mercies upon me according to His good pleasure towards me." Then he desired them to pray with him, and raising up himself in his bed, with his heart and hands lift up to God in the heavens, he did (as it were) reach after the petitions that were made for him, often with a cheerful consent saying "Amen, Amen." After this Mr. Langly spake to comfort him in the midst of all his sorrows, adding that shortly he should be released from all sin and sorrow, from Satan and this present evil world; whereunto he answered most cheerfully and graciously, "I know I shall, and be with Christ, which is the best of all; and now the messenger of death is upon me," meaning the hickock which had now seized upon him. To which Mr. Langly replied, "I hope, sir, death is not fearful nor terrible to you." "No, indeed," said he, "is it not, I thank God, for it is my way to life: I am now called of God to it."

Patience and Humility.—Thus he continued in great pain of body but in great peace of mind, increasing still in consolations, and bearing his sickness and pains with admirable patience, not showing the least discontent in word or deed. When they took their leave of him they mingled their sorrows, tears, and prayers together, and so parted. He was never quiet unless he were either meditating or

praying himself, or had some godly man or some good minister praying with him. The morning before his death divers of his friends took their leave of him, desiring at their parting a blessing from him, which he did willingly express by lifting up his hands and heart unto heaven for them. And not long after, hearing some make mention of blacks he said, "I will have no blacks. I love no proud nor pompous funeral; neither is there any cause of mourning, but of rejoicing rather, in my particular."

His Death.—Immediately before his death, lifting up his hands he said, 'The Lord is my portion, my help, and my trust. His blessed Son Jesus Christ is my Saviour and Redeemer. Amen. Even so, saith the Spirit unto my spirit. There fore come, Lord Jesus, and kiss me with the kisses of Thy mouth and embrace me with the arms of Thy love. Into Thy hands do I commend my spirit. Oh, come now and take me to Thine own Self! Oh, come, Lord Jesus, come quickly! Oh, come! Oh, come! Oh, come!' And so, his spirit fainting and speech failing, he meekly and graciously yielded up his precious soul into the hands of God his Father in January, Anno Christi 1625, and of his age sixty-five.

Not long before his last sickness, myself being with him, amongst other discourse he told me that when he first procured the setting up of an exercise at Tarvin he was exceeding solicitous to procure all the eminentest ministers in those parts of the Kingdom to supply it; which, coming many miles they were divers times hindered by foul weather, floods, or some sudden accident or other, so that at a very short warning he was forced many times to get some honest neighbour minister to supply their places; and (note this) usually he and most of the congregation found more edification and comfort by the labours of those honest plain preachers than they did by the sermons of such as were far more eminent for parts: "Whereupon," said he to me, "I resolved to give over my former course and to content myself with godly neighbouring ministers, seeing God had shewed me that it was not the greatness of men's parts, who are much admired everywhere, but the efficacy of the Spirit which makes the Word effectual and profitable."

NOTE.—John Bruen was buried in Tarvin Church and Ormerod (ii. 314) prints the following entry from the parish register:

Burials. 25 Jan. 1625. John Bruen of Stapleford Esquyer.

Nulli pietate secundus.

An Israelite in whom no guyle

Or Fraud was ever found;

A Phoenix rare

Whose virtues fair

Through all our coasts do sound.

In the "Cheshire Funeral Certificates" (Record Society) it is stated that he died on the 18th January, 1625-6, and that his third wife (whose

name is not given in the foregoing narrative, nor in the pedigree in Ormerod) was Margaret daughter of John Allen of Chester, draper (Sheriff 1574), and widow of John Rutter of Nantwich, gentleman; she bore him a son Joseph (aged 10 in 1625) and other children who died young. Joseph, baptised March 4, 1614, is erroneously entered in the pedigree as a son of the second wife. This second wife appears to have been daughter of William Fox and granddaughter (not daughter) of John Fox of the Rhodes.

[774] HELSBY AND BOSTOCK.

The following abstract of an old Chester deed is taken from Harl. MS. 2079 (fo. 27), and will be useful in affording a correction to the mention of it in Helsby's Ormerod (iii. 254). Here it is stated that the original of the deed is preserved at Eaton; a comparison is much to be desired, as there are one or two doubtful points remaining.

"I Alice formerly wife of Richard de Helesby have given to Hugh de Bostoc 2s. yearly rent in Chester in Bridg Strete, on rendering 2s. yearly at Monald' (?) of Chester at the Nativity of St. John Baptist for all services: [giving it] to have &c. to the said Hugh and his heirs by my daughter Hawise, &c. Witnesses:

John de Arnway, mayor; Richard the clerk;
Robert de Hole [Hoole]; William Eysory;
Peter de Thorneton; Richard his brother;
Alan son of Richard de Hellesby; Joceram his brother; Philip son of William de Bostoc;
Roger the clerk."

The date is given as 54 Henry III. (1270), when Sir John Arneway was mayor. A Robert de Hole was sheriff some twelve years later. Alice Helsby was a sister of Peter and Richard of Thornton.

[775] ST. OSWALD'S CHURCH DOCUMENTS, 1720.

The following document, written on parchment, is among the St. Oswald's Parish papers:—

May the 3d 1720.

Rec'd from Peter Potter 34 Indentures and 14 Bonds of Performences a Bundle of Antient Writing Concerning ye Parrish 60 Bonds for Saveing ye Parrish harmeless and performing Indentures

A Copy of Sr Tho: Bunburry Will.

36 Certificates

4 Bundles of Orders relating to ye Poore

2 Pewter Flagins

1 Silver Cup and Salver

4 Maps of ye Seats in ye Church 2 fildj& 2 blank.

1 Map of ye Seats in ye Gallery.

May the 3d 1720.

Rec'd from Peter Potter the Parish Chest of the Parrish of St. Oswald's and the Severall papers and things therein Contained and kept as followeth:—

	£	s.	d.
P'd Doot'r Fogg Bond for	50	0	0
Mr. John Puleston & Peter			
Potter Bond for	50	0	0
P'd Mr. Richard Bathows Bond for...	10	0	0
P'd Tho: Shones Bond for	10	0	0
Mr. George Wilcock Bond.....	15	0	0
William Briscoes Bond	5	0	0
P'd Peter Taylors Bond	12	0	0

Note that the bond given by mr. potter and mr. puleston is in the keeping of mr. george wilcock.

All the above nan'd parrish materials with the addiashon of eight pair of poor children's indentures and a bond of performance to one pair of indentures and A bond to save the parrish harmless from sarah cardins childe and a copeny of tho: grasteys certificate are deliver'd by me william briscoe to mr. beniamin price churchwarden for the year 1721: and one bond of performance to indemnifie the parrish from culloms childe. E. C. L.

[776] CHESHIRE DOMESDAY NOTES. XXX.

(See No. 771.)

Norman Tenants.—In 1086 the only tenants in chief—holding from the Crown—were the Bishop (with St. Werburgh's) and the Earl. The following held under them or their sub-tenants, those holding directly from the Earl being marked with an asterisk, and those who had held as "free men" in 1066 being printed in italics:—

Aitard 8b	Harduin 8a, 8b
Ansfrid 8b	*Herbert 4a, 5b
Ansgar 13b	*Hugo de Mara (or, fitz
Azelin 13b	Norman) 3b, 9a, 12a,
*Baldric 9b	13b, 14b (bis)
*Bigot 9b, 12a	*Hugo fitz Osbern 9a, 9b,
Brictric 8b	13b
Colbert 6b	*Hugo 12a (Gresford)
Dauid 8a	Hunfrid 5a (bis), 8b
Drogo 4b (bis), 5a (ter)	*Ilbert 11a
*Dunning 11b	Lanbert 5b
Durand 6b	*Leuric 11b
Eduin 4b (ter), 5a (ter),	Marcud 14a
13b	*Moran 11b
Eduard 11a (ter)	*Mundret 1b, 3b, 4a, 5a,
Eli 5a	11b
Erchebrand 8a (bis)	*Nigel [de Burceio] 11b
Fulco 5a	*Odard 8b (quinquies),
*Gamel 11a, 11b (Gamel's	11b
father had held in	Odin 14a, 14b
1066)—see No. 750	*Osbern fitz Tezzon 11a,
*Gilbert de Venables (or,	13b (bis)
Venator) 10a, 10b,	Osbern 12a
12a, 12b	Osmund 13b
Godid 10b	Pagen 6a, 8b (ter)
Goisfrid 8b	*Rainald 11a, 12a
*Gozelin 3a, 10b	Ralph (Radulfus) 8a, 8b,
*Hamo, or Haimo [de	14b
Masci] 3b, 4a, 9a, 9b,	*Ralph the Hunter
12a, 13b	(Venator) 10b, 13b

*Rannulf 4b (bis), 10b, 12a (bis), 13b	*Robert de Roelent [Rhuddlan] 1b, 3b (bis), 5b, 13b, 14a, 14b	*Walter de Vernon 3b, 6b	*William fitz Nigel 2o (quater), 8a, 8b, 12a, 13b
Restald 4a		*Warmund the Hunter (Venator) 14b	
*Richard de Vernon 6a (bis), 12b	*Robert the Cook (Cocus) 5b	*William Malbedeng [Malbank], 2a, 3a, 3b, 7a, 7b, 8a, 12b, 13b	William (various) 2a, 5a, 5b (quater), 14b
*Richard the Butler (Pincerna) 6a	Roger Picot 5a	The following also were sub-tenants—"Franci- gena" 3a; "Knight" or "Knights" 4b (quater), 10a; "two men" 10a; "two priests" 2a; a "serviens comitis" 11b. Earl Roger of Montgomery is mentioned on 14b and Roger of Poitou on 1b.	
Richard [de Praers] 6b, 13b (?)	Roger 11a, 13b		
Richard 13b	*Tezelm 11b Tual 14b		
*Robert fitzHugh 2a, 4b, 5a, 5b	*Uluiet 11b *Uluric 6a, 11b (bis)		

INDEX.

A

Ab Llewelyn Meuric, 121
 Abba, 73
 Abbey Gateway, 82
 Abbot, Simon, 27
 Abbot's Meads, 81
 Abbot's Park, 62
 Abyton Parva, 86
 Ach . . . Thomas, 61
 De Acton. Hellesby; also see Hellesby
 Acton (Actune): Curfew, 14; Vicarage, 7; Nantwich, 7, 14, 68, 77, 90, 96
 Adam, the Clerk, 14
 Adda, 65
 Adderton Family, 43
 Adlington, 13, 89
 Ægelric, 73
 Ælewine, Elewine, 73
 Ælfnoth, 73
 Ælfrio, 73
 Ælfsige, 73
 Ælfstan, 73
 Ælfstanestun, 84
 Ælfwine, 73
 Æluuard (Eluuard), 113
 Æscman, 73
 Æthered, 73
 Ætheric, 73
 Africa, South, 129
 Agnes Street, 12
 "Ailsto," 27
 Aitard, 135
 Alban's Hall, 11
 Alburga, 36
 Alcock, Elizabeth, 59
 Alesi, Aisi, 73
 Aldcroft, John, 59
 Alden (Halden), 113, 124
 Aldersey (Aldersay), Edward, 58; Family, 41; Henry, 88; Mr., 99; Pedigree, 66; Richard, 88; Samuel, 106
 Aldersey, 47, 66, 73, 88, 103, 133
 Aldersays Close, 38
 Aldersey Hall, 15
 Aldersey rolls, 15
 Aldford, 87, 90, 111
 Aldford, 44; Bridge, 70; Brook, 70
 Aldredelie, 72, 85, 97
 Alesige, 73
 Alestan, 113
 Alfred, King, 10, 17, 73
 Alger (Alsager), Elizabeth, 104
 Allatt, widow, 103
 Allen, George, 47; Ralph, 38; John, 135; Margaret, 135
 Allington, 41, 66, 90, 116, 125
 Allstock, 79
 Allott, Lawrence, 104
 Alnod, 113
 Alnwick, 56
 Alpraham, 96

Alretone, 124
 Alretune, 97
 Alsager, 96, 104, 130
 Alsi, 74, 113
 Alstanton, 85
 Aluric (Eluric), 113
 Aluuld, 113
 Alvanley, 35, 84, 119
 Alxxi, 73, 74
 America, 41, 67
 Anderton, Mathew, 60; Sarah, 61
 Andrew, Anne, 7; Attiwell, 7; Elizabeth, 104
 Angelus, The, 31
 Anglesey, 105, 121
 Anglizer, also Clarke, Richard, 72
 Anglo-Saxon Coins, 73
 Anne, Queen, 15, 51
 Annon (Annyon), Margaret, 58; Parnell, 60; Richard, 61
 Ansfrid, 135
 Ansgar, 135
 Ansgot, 113
 "Anthony Pig," 56
 Anthony, St., 55, 46, 83
 Antonine Itinerary, 7, 15
 Antrobus, 106, 124
 Antwerp, 56
 Anty, John, 86
 D'Anyers, Daniel, also see Daniel
 Ap Ieuan, David, 34
 Ap Madoke, Haven, 80
 Ap Richard John, 75
 Ap Wyn William, 86
 Appleton, 114
 Aquitaine, Duchy of, 57
 Ar. St., Mr., 53
 Archil, 113
 Arderne, John, 80; Rafe, 80
 Aregrim, 74, 113, 124
 Argier, 72
 Arley, 93, 125
 Arneway, John, 64, 135
 Arngrim, 73, 74
 Arrowe, 119, 125
 Arundell, Earl of, 63
 Ash, John, 86
 Ashberry (Astberry), Roger, 104
 Ashburner, Family, 15; Francis, 15; Mrs. Mary, 22
 Ashley, 113
 Ashton, Edward, 61
 Ashton, Thomas, 58
 Ashton, 71, 133
 Ashton Heys, 125
 Ashton-on-Mersey, 18, 30, 64
 Aspenwall, Thomas, 60
 Assheton, see Aston
 Astbury, 104, 130
 Assheton, Ashton, Aston, Catherine, 58; Family, 81; John de, 30, 80, 102, 128; Richard, 102, 128; Sir Roger, 102; Will. de, 30
 Aston in Gt. Budworth, 124
 Aston Chapelry, 35

Aston, Cheshire, 102
 Aston, Flint, 119
 Aston, by Frodsham, 90, 124, 131
 Aston in Hawarden, 125
 Aston juxta Mondrum, 96, 124
 Aston in Newhall, 96, 114
 Atiscros, 72, 95, 96, 111, 116, 119, 125
 Audford, 45, 59
 Audlem, 61, 96, 124
 Audley, Lyulph de, 119
 Audley, 119
 Augusta, 16
 Augustine, The Abbot, 20
 Aurelian, Emperor, 16
 Austerson, 86, 96
 Austin, St., 11
 Awlem, 74
 Axon, Mr., 1, 2, 5, 11, 12, 85
 Ayne, The, 36
 Aynull, Adam de, 14
 Azelin, 135

B

Babbington, Ellen, 71; John, 71
 Bach, 43, 59; Brook, 59, 62, 81; Hall, 62
 Bach Knowle, 38; Meadow, 38; Pool, 38
 Back Street, 45
 Backer, Peter, 80
 Backforde (Backford), Backfort, 14, 16, 17, 28, 52; Adam, the Parson, 14, 28; Charter, 28; Parish, 28; William de, 14, 28
 Backford, 17, 59, 95
 Baddiley, 64, 69, 70, 71, 96, 113; Church, 70
 Baddington, 77
 Badges, use of, 4
 Bagillt, 119
 Bagshaw, 29
 Baguley, 13, 113, 125, 130
 Baines, Paul, 75
 Baker, Major, 105; Thomas, 58
 Baldric, 135
 Balford, Charles, 71; Marie, 71
 Ball, John, 47, 88; Margaret, 88; Thomas, 83
 Ball's field, 34
 Balterley, 96, 97, 119
 Banester, Bannester, Charles, 117; James, 124; Jane, 117; John, 117; Robert, 114
 Banckes, Chr., 80
 Bangor, Archdeacon of, 121
 Bangor-on-Dee, 8, 33, 86, 94, 95, 104, 112, 121, 125
 Barcher, Hugh, 85
 Baridge, 97, 98
 Bark House Farm, 2
 Barker, Margaret, 41; Dr. William, 41
 Barking, 36, 123
 Barkley, Hugh, 61
 Barkley Mow Inn, 82

- Barn Lane, 47
 Barnes, Mr., 99
 Barnett, Richard, 103; Thomas, 103
 Barnstable, 72
 Barnston Family, 40
 Barnston, 36, 125
 Barrel, Thomas, 74
 Barro, 56
 Barow (Barrow), John, 44, 128; Thomas, 128
 Barrow, 90, 96, 122, 125
 Bartherton, 35, 84, 96, 113
 Barthlam, 71
 Barthomley, 31, 96, 97, 104, 124
 Bartington, 113, 124
 Barton, 74
 Basford, Thomas, 104
 Basford, 96, 119, 125
 Bassett, Nathaniel, 58
 Bassenette, Jeffre, 80
 Bath, 6, 82, 121
 Bathow Richard, 35
 Bavand, John, 39; Mr., 99, 110; Richard, 124
 Baxter, Richard, 117
 Baxter, William, 123
 Bayter, Stephen, 128
 Baywill, 75
 Beach Flatts, 56, 62
 Beamont, William, 21, 54, 72, 87, 104, 115
 Beaulieu, Monsieur, 34
 Beaumaris, Family, 104
 Bebington 23, 25, 26, 44, 111, 112, 121, 125
 Bechton, 103
 Beck's Field, 34
 Bede, Ven, 67
 Bed's Woman, 54
 Beeston, 8, 96, 130; Castle, 104
 Beetles, John, 74
 Begbrook, 102
 Beggars brookes, 45, 59
 Belam, 113
 Bellasyee, Lord, 51, 58
 Belleau, 124
 Bellet, Michael, 63
 Bella, Anthem, 30, 31, 55, 56, 77, 100; "Dagdale," 56; "Dogtail," 56; Hand, 56; "Sacring," 56; Sanotus, 55; Sermon, 55; "Tantony," 55
 Bellward, Alice, 40; Arms, 40; David, 39; John 39; Mabella, 39, 40, 41; Richard, 39, 40; Robert, 39, 41; Thomas, 40; William le, 39, 40, 41
 Bennett, Alice, 24; J. H. E., 83; John, 37, 45, 57; Matilda, 44; Randle, 61; Robert, 61; Saml., 47; Sarah, 60; Thomas, 37; W. H., 44, 45, 49, 52, 56, 70, 81; William, 58
 Bentley, — 16
 Beorard, 73
 Berdeltune, 84
 Berhferthe, 61
 Berkshire, 41
 Bernulf, 113
 Bers, 113
 Bersham Forge, 68
 Besford, 9
 Boston, Beeston, Hugh, 6; Wm., 47
 Bettiefield, 33, 67
 Bewsey, 88, 102
 Bickerton, Alice, 61
 Bickerton, 103, 114, 115, 119
 Bickley, 77, 115, 130
 Biddulph, 119
 Byddeaton (Bidston), 2, 24, 36, 37, 45, 49, 50, 125, 126
 Bidston, Manor, 37, 50; Marsh, 24; Moss, 24, 37; Park, 24, 37; Station, 24
 Befield, Mr., 63
 Bigot, 81, 135
 Bikerstat, Richard de, 14
 Billinge, Rev. Thomas, 31
 Billington, Thomas, 58
 Bingley, Ralph, 58; Randle, 57
 Birche, The, 34
 Birchley, Mr., 76
 Birch, Alexander, 61; Eleanor, 65; John, 91; Richard, 48, 58; Roger, 65; Thomas, 48, 65
 Birkenhead, Alice, 61; John, 12; Thomas, 43, 44, 45
 Birkenhead, 2, 13, 24, 44, 49; Prior of, 24, 44, 50; Priory, 2, 24
 Birket, 36
 Birtles, Vivian, 43
 Bistre, 116
 Black Prince, 57
 Black Swan Inn, 82
 Blackburn, 131
 Blackhurst, 71
 Blackstone, Sir William, 8
 Blaon Hall, 49, 52; Wm Crab-wall, 59; Blaon Lordship, 34, 38, 57, 67, 96, 125; Point, 70; Point Farm, 49; Township, 81
 Blakenhall, 96, 119
 Blease, Ralph, 47
 Blimston, Blymeston, Richard, 69; Robert, 80
 Blimston, Richard, 69
 Blue Bell Inn, 82
 Blue Stone, 49
 Blundell, Henry, 130; Nicholas, 67
 Blundeville, Earl of Chester, 70
 Bochelau, 108, 111
 Bodelwyddan, 121
 Bodfarry, 68
 Bodorgan, 121
 Bodurda, Henry, 105
 Boge, Boge, 73
 Boiga, Boiglet, 73
 Bolde, Sir John, 43; Thomas, 43
 Boleberie, 14
 Bolland, Robert, 36
 Bolland's Field, 24
 Bolton, 90
 Bonnill, Samuel, 61
 Bononia, see Boulogne
 Boot Inn, 82
 Booth, Ann, 104; Francis, 58; Sir George, 47, 76, 83; Katherine, 58; Mr., 27; Thomas, 104
 Booths, 96
 Bordland Tithes, 38
 Boslawe, 89
 Bosley, 119
 Bostock, Alice, 65; Arms, 26, 65; Hugh de, 135; John, 52; Philip, 135; Ralph, 65; Thomas, 65; William, 65, 135
 Bostock, 96, 124, 135
 Boswell, Thomas, 94
 Bosworth Field, 2
 Bothe, Thon, 80
 Botlocke, Edward, 71
 Boughy, Richard, 104
 Boughton, Family, 88; Valentine, 117
 Boughton, 39, 45, 78, 83, 96
 Bould, John, 71
 Boulogne, 16
 Bovates, 81
 Bowdon, 90, 108, 113
 Bowyerde, Henry, 80
 Bowker, John, 66
 Bowland, John, 36; Thomas, 45
 Boyd, Rev. S. A., 46
 Boydell, Family, 95
 Boydell, 95
 Bradburne, John, 37
 Bradleigh, James, 80
 Bradford, W. H., 11, 13, 20, 30, 36, 49, 54, 62, 64, 92, 105, 113
 Bradshaw, Edward, 58
 Bradshaw, Henry, Society, 101
 Bramall, 113, 124
 Bredbury, 131
 Bredon, John de, 128; Robert de, 30, 128
 Brereton, 90, 96, 130
 Brereton, Family, 33; Mr., 132; Ralph, 33; Sir Thomas, 160; William, 25, 103, 117
 Brerewood, Brierwood, Alice, 38; Edward, 20, 38; Elizabeth, 38; Frances, 38; Jane, 38; John, 11, 30, 38, 61; Lucy, 38; Mary, 38; Robert, 20, 38; Sir Robert, 38; Thomas, 20
 Bretebi Mill, 112
 Brett, John, 58; Richard, 58
 Bretterg, Mistress Katherine, 10
 Brewer — "Dictionary of Phrase and Fable," 10
 Brewer, 59
 Brewerton, Mistreas, 32
 Brewic, 135
 Brictrio, 135
 Bridge, Dr., 77; Edward, 58; Elizabeth, 58; Joseph, C., 31, 56; Richard, 58, 61
 Bridge House, 2
 Bridge Trafford, 17
 Bridgeman, Bishop, 79, 85, 86; Dr. Henry, 58; Sir Orlando, 101, 102
 Bridges, William, 46
 Bridport, 74
 Brindley, 77
 Brimstage, 125
 Briscoe, William, 135
 Brismar, 113
 Bristol, 73, 82, 113
 Britland, N., 50, 51, 58
 Britland, 58
 Brittain, George, 60
 Brock, Edward, 123; Jane, 123; John, 60; Mr., 38; Robt., 123
 Bromborough, 90, 125; Bromborough Pool, 59
 Bromley (Bromleye), Richard, 112
 Bronington, 33, 67
 Brook, Family, 131; Ralph, 104; Robert, 104
 Broomhall, 96, 119
 Broster, Richard, 61; Thomas, 61
 Broughton, 117, 124, 130
 Brondende, Richard, 80
 Brown (Broun), Mary, 61; Mr., 38; Robert, 104; Thomas, 61; Widow, 80
 Brown Cow Inn, 83

Brown's Clearing, 9
 Broxton Hundred, 12, 47, 48, 61, 65, 66, 72, 77, 97, 111, 113, 115, 116, 122, 125
 Brunen, Alice, 40; Calvin, 58; family, 47; Henry, 47; John, 10, 11, 20, 28, 29, 52, 53, 58, 62, 75, 85, 98, 108, 119, 120, 134; Rebecca, 61; Robert, 40; Roger, 40; Thomas, 58; William, 40
 Brunen Stapleford, 10, 40
 Brunn, 113
 Brunnino, Brunnio, Brunning, 73
 Brunnusel, 73
 Bruse, John, 24
 Bryan, Adam, 33
 Bryn, 129
 Brynkinnallt, 68
 Buck, John, 58; Samuel, 58
 Buckler, Thomas, 93
 Buckley, William, 104
 Buckloe, Mr. 93
 Bucklowe, 6, 108, 111, 116
 Budworth, 66; Great, 61, 72, 79, 90, 94, 114, 119; Little, 28, 46, 49, 97, 113; In the Frith, 28, 66
 Buerton, 61, 96, 124
 Buglawton, 119
 Bulclogh, Robert, 53
 Bulclogh, 53
 Bulkeley, Lord of Beaumaris, 53; of Eaton, 53; George, 61, 128; of Ireland, 53; Katherine, 53, 54; Richd., 104, 105; Robt., 58; of Standlow, 53; of Wiltshire, 53
 Bull and Dog Inn, 82; Bull and Gate Inn, 82; Bull's Head Inn, 82; Bull and Stirrup, 83
 Bunbury, Charles, 46; Henry, 46; Sir Thomas, 45, 128, 135
 Bunbury, 45, 46, 84, 95, 96, 97, 113, 133
 Burges, Thomas, 131
 Burgess, Miles, 80; Thomas, 80
 Burlace, Edward, 57
 Burland, 77
 Burleigh, Lord, 25, 34, 89, 112, 113; papers, 112
 Burnett, — 53
 Burrowes, Burroughs, Lawyer, 66; Ralph, 61
 Burstone, 121
 Burton, 125
 Burton Point, 3; Pariah Church, 3
 Burton by Tarvin, 122; in Wirral, 122
 Burwardale, 77, 97, 113, 114, 115, 124
 Burwardstone, 33, 67, 100
 Bury Walls, 8
 Bushell, Sir Edward, 90; Lady, 79, 90; Thomas, 27
 Butterbach, 45, 59
 Butterbach Bridge, 39
 Buttlar, Family, 102, 103; Margery, 58; Richard, 88; Widow, 32, 76
 Butley, 43, 131, 133
 Byley, 96, 113, 119

C

Cadwallader, 114
 Cainton, 66
 Calder Abbey, Cumberland, 7, 13, 114

Calders, 119, 125
 Caldry, 124, 125
 Caldey, Great, 44; Little, 44
 Caldicote, 103, 130
 Calley, Thomas, 56
 Calveley (Calverley), Eleanor, 48; Sir Hugh, 48, 102; Lady Mary, 61, 101
 Calveley, 72, 102, 130, 133; Hall, 70
 Calverley, see Calveley
 Calvintone, 12, 72, 95, 102, 103, 114
 Cambrian View, 81
 Cambridge, Richard, Earl of, 4
 Cambridge, 9, 12, 25, 51, 55, 90, 111, 113, 121; All Saints', 27; Christ's College, 55, 89, 90, 116; St. John's College, 7, 25, 89, 91, 104, 105; Trinity College, 121
 Camden Society, 53
 Campbell, George L., 101
 Canal Bridge, 59
 Canal Street, 83
 Canterbury, 55, 73
 Canterbury, Archbishop of, 63; Court of, 3; See of, 17
 Canute, 73, 74, 113
 Capenhurst, 119, 125
 Capper, John, 93
 Caracalla, Antonius, 16
 Carden (Cawarden), 40, 77, 102, 103, 114, 117, 130
 Carle, 113
 Carlisle, 8, 9
 Carnaham, John, 102; Margaret, 102
 Carnarvon, 105
 Carne, Edward, 30
 Carrick, 102
 Carroll, Lewis, 5
 Carucates, 115
 Castle Northwich, 2
 Catsolough, 72
 Cattenhall, 129
 Caughall, 17
 Cauntone, Calvintone, Cawrthone, 102
 Cecil Family, 89
 Cedd, 67, 84, 87, 119
 Cenapa. Cnapa, 73
 Ceolnoth, Cifnoth, 73
 Cœpmundewiche, 72, 95, 119
 Cestrasiria, 114
 Chad, St., 67
 Chadkirk, 87
 Chaloner, Jacob, 15
 Chambers' "Book of Days," 23
 Chancery, Court of, 59
 Chapel-en-le-Frith, 49
 Chappell, Nicholas, 128
 Charles I, 3, 60, 104
 Charles II, 26, 37, 45, 51, 57, 68, 69
 Charters, Latin, 21; Norman French, 21
 Chatham, 74
 Chatterton, Mrs., 78
 Chatwalader, of Wales, 114
 Chaucer, 10, 59, 92
 Chaumberlayne, Robert le, 66
 Chauntrell, William, 43; John, 43; Robert, 128
 Cheadle, 56, 87, 119
 Cheadle Bulkeley, 156; Cheadle Moseley, 56
 Cheaveley, 96
 Chel, Haagne de, 114
 Cheley (Chellie), 45, 59

Chelford, 113, 115
 Chelsea, 23
 Cheney (Chann), Cicely, 65; William, 65; Pedigree, 65; Thomas, 66, 104
 Chapin, 113
 Cheshire, Thomas, 116, 117
 Cheshire, 1, 3, 5, 6, 7, 9, 10, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 18, 20, 21, 23, 24, 25, 31, 33, 34, 36, 40, 41, 43, 46, 48, 50, 51, 53, 55, 56, 58, 59, 67, 68, 69, 70, 81, 89, 93, 97, 100, 102, 111, 112, 113, 114, 121, 122, 125, 129, 130; Charters, 14; Deeds, 29; Families, 23; Folklore, 33; Forges, 67; Manors, 12; Place Names, 10; Prophecies, 1, 46, 89; Roman Roads, 7; St. Allborough, 35; Schools, 25, 32; Townships, 28; Visitation, 25, 39, 65; Will, 32
 Chester. Archdeacon of, 30, 33; Bishop of, 25, 32, 36, 85, 88; Cathedral dignitaries, 6; Earls of, 7, 18, 23, 63, 71, 79; Friars of, 32; Mayor of, 29, 38, 85, 88, 128; Recorder of, 38; Volunteers, 13; Chester, 1, 2, 3, 5, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 20, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 30, 31, 32, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 41, 43, 45, 46, 48, 49, 52, 53, 56, 57, 59, 63, 64, 65, 66, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 77, 81, 82, 85, 89, 90, 91, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 100, 101, 102, 103, 106, 110, 112, 113, 114, 115, 116, 117, 118, 119, 120, 121, 122, 123, 124, 125, 129, 132, 135; Castle, 6, 18, 26, 46, 64, 110; Cathedral, 43; County Palatine of, 10; Diocese, 20; Hearth Tax, 57, 59; Holy Trinity, 16, 17, 26, 58, 82, 117, 123; Inns, 82; Le Leure, 114; Mount Carmel, 32; Parishes, 16; St. Bridget, 17, 18, 60; St. Giles, 61; St. John's, 17, 26, 58, 72, 115, 117; St. John's Hospital, 14, 28, 30, 47; St. Martin's, 17, 18, 26, 60; St. Mary's, 16, 17, 20, 34, 37, 39, 55, 58, 108, 110, 114, 123; St. Mary's Nunnery, 46; St. Mary Magdalen's Chapel, 83; St. Michael, 17, 18, 26, 60; St. Nicholas' Chapel, 83; St. Olave, 18, 26, 102; St. Olives, 61; St. Oswald's, 16, 17, 20, 27, 32, 34, 37, 39, 45, 46, 51, 52, 54, 55, 56, 57, 59, 61, 62, 66, 69, 70, 71, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 87, 90, 94, 96, 97, 99, 100, 103, 107, 110, 111, 114, 118, 121, 123, 126, 127, 128, 131, 135; St. Peter's, 17, 25, 26, 29, 30, 84, 88, 108, 128; St. Thomas, 61, 126; St. Werburgh, 2, 13, 16, 17, 20, 26, 38, 43, 46, 64, 65, 66, 69, 72, 83, 100, 101, 108, 111, 113, 114, 115, 128, 135; See of, 20, 30, 36
 Chesterfield, 8
 Chesterton, 8, 9, 16, 33
 Chetel, 113
 Chetham, Sir John, 25, 88
 Chetham Society, 10, 81, 104, 118
 Chetwode, Sir John, 13
 Chiochester, 16
 Childer Thornton, 44, 45, 123

- Chylt, Chilt (Child), Robert, 103;
Richard, 103
Chimney Money, 57
Chirk, 68
Chiswick, Rector of, 51; Church,
58; History of, 51
Chiswick, 51, 58
Cholmondeley Family, 1, 23, 39, 41;
Kendrick, 47; Lady Mary, 33;
Thomas, 1, 5
Cholmondeley, 77, 103, 115, 119
Cholmondeston, 96, 114, 130
Chorley, 71, 113
Chorlton Family, 28
Chorlton, 17, 39, 59, 96, 119
Chowley, 15, 47, 115, 130
Christleton (Christlington), 39, 48,
59, 65, 66, 88, 90, 96, 100, 117,
118, 120
"Christ's Croft," 46
Chroughton Heath, 39; Thos., 38
Chroughton, 59
Church Hulme, 46
Church Lawton, 119
Church Minshull, 25, 96
Churton, 40, 70
Cille, 73
Cillecrast, 73
Cinque Port, 63
Civil War, 2, 5, 23, 51, 69, 129
Claitone, 72, 124
Clarke (Clerke), Rev. Andrew, 101;
Ann, 57; Henry, 132; John,
20, 132; Richard Walter, 32;
Sabbath, 29; Samuel, —;
"Marrow of Ecclesiastical
History," 10
Clark's Gate, 45
Clatterwick, Richard, 75
Claughton, 24
Claverton, 96, 100, 102, 124
Claworth, John de, 86
Clayton (Cleaton), John, 103
Clive, Richard, 65
Clive, 96,
Clopton 65
Clotton Hoofield, 124
Cloy, 33
Clutton George, 15
Clutton, 119, 130
Clyffe, Thomas, 103
Clyffe, Wm., dean of Chester, 43
Coach and Horses Inn, 82
Coates' Reading, 41
Cochwillan, 121
Cook pence, 25
"Cocle," 72, 95, 97, 130
Coddington (Cuddington), Earl, 103;
Hunoth de, 40; Mabel, 40;
Ralph, 39
Coddington, 72, 90, 103, 113, 114,
115, 119, 130, 132, 133
Cogshall, 100, 114, 124, 130
Coke, John, 80
Cokshots farm, 44
Colbein, 73
Colben, 113
Colbert, 114, 126, 135
Colbrand, 73
Cold Mosse, 103
Colleshill, 119
College of Arms, 21
Collyer, Rev. W. B., 77
Collins (? Collye), Collis, Thos., 3
Combermere, Abbot of, 38, 88
Combermere, 129
Comonnell, in Carrick, 102
Condate, 8
Conewardsley, 72
Conewardsley Grange, 72
Congleton, 31, 41, 96, 100, 119
Conwy, — 121
Conwyals, Conyers, Ellen, 129;
Johnde, 129
Conyers, Conwyals, see Conwy
Cooke, Nicholas, 118
Cooper, Benjamin, 25, 121, 102
Copnal, 1
Coppenhall, 96, 113, 130
Copple, 130
Cork, Alice, 104; Ralph, 104
Corwen, 121
Costard, John, 80
Cotes, Bishop, 25, 90, 94; Geo., 91
Cotgrave (Cotgreave), de Cotgreve;
Alexander, 25, 89; Alice, 40,
48, 65, 88, 89, 122, 123; Arms,
25, 34, 40, 47; Cecily, 48, 66;
of Cotton, 47; Eleanor, 25, 88,
117, 123; Elizabeth, 48, 88,
117, 123; Ellen, 48, 88;
Emma, 48; Family, 26, 34, 39,
47, 48, 65, 66, 88, 117, 122;
Francis, 38; George, 89, 132;
Guilden Sutton, 48; of
Hargrave, 65; Hopkin, 65;
Hugh, 34, 39, 40, 48, 65; James
65, 88, 122, 123; Jane, 48, 58,
65, 88, 117, 123; John, 39, 48,
88, 117, 122, 123; Katherine,
48, 88; Kendrick, 40; Margaret,
48, 65, 88; Margery, 88, 122,
123; Mary, 25, 48, 89; Matilda,
41, 47; Maud, 88; Name, 123;
of Netherleigh, 48, 118;
Pedigree, 39, 47, 118; Peirs,
122; Peter, 88, 122; Ralph,
65, 66, 122, 123; Randle, 6, 23,
31, 34, 39, 40, 47, 48, 49, 65, 88,
89, 117, 118, 122, 123; Randolph,
28; Richard, 48, 65, 66, 88;
Robert, 25, 38, 48, 65, 66, 88,
89, 118, 122; Rose, 123;
Sibilla, 40; Thomas, de, 39, 40,
48, 65, 123; William, 25, 38, 40,
41, 47, 48, 65, 88, 89, 117, 118,
123, 132
Cotgrave, Notts., 40, 65
Cotgrave, Wilsonne, (see Wilsonne)
Cotton (Coton), Agnes, 47; Arms,
26, 47; Catherine, 47; Dorothy,
129, 130; Edward, 26, 40, 47;
George, 129; Joan, 47; John,
47; Manor, 48; Pedigree, 47;
Sir Richard, 111; William, 47;
William Chas., 26
Cotton, 26, 122, 123
Cotton Edmunds, 122
Coucher Book of Whalley, 14
Coughall, 59
County Palatine, 6
Coupland, 7
Courcey, John de, 101
Courtenay, Earl of Devonshire, 4
Coventrie, Joan, 102; Vincent, 102
Coventry, 3, 13, 86, 101
Cow Lane, 47, 117
Cowdock, William, 47
Cowford, David, 74
Cowles, John, 58
Cowper, Elizabeth, 66; Thomas,
60; Widow, 74
Crabball (Crabhall), 34, 37, 57, 59,
64, 66, 87, 118
Cranage, 68, 96, 119, 133
Crane, Rev. Thomas, 13, 97, 105
Cranmer, Archbishop, 92
Crewe, John, 54
Crewe, 98, 103, 104, 119, 124, 133
Crewood, 65, 129
Critchley, Benjamin, 60; Thos., 61
Croc, Crocl, Croft, 73
Croke, Robert, 80
Crompton, William, 60
Crompton, Lance, 7
Cromwell, Oliver, 20, 102
Cromwell, Thomas, 13, 52
Cromwell's Gate, 45
Croshawe, William, 124, 126
Crosse, Daniel, 61; Jonathan, 58
Cross Foxes Inn, 82
Cross Keys Inn, 82
Croston, 86
Croughton, 16, 51, 96, 118
Croughton, Edward, 27
Crow Inn, 117, 118
Crown Inn, 82
Crowton, Farmer, 1
Crowton, 48
Croxtan, Mr., 93
Croxtan, 96, 119
Croxtan Green, 93
Crue, Thomas, 80
Cuddington, see Coddington
Cuedley, 51
Cumberland, 7, 13, 23, 67, 92, 114;
Earldom of, 7
Cumbermore (Combermere), 20
Curfew Bell, 7, 14
Curtana Sword, 63
Cusant, Elizabeth, 123; Simon, 123
Curzon, surname, 33
- D
- D—, Mr. J., 29
Dalton-in-Furness, 15
"Danegeld," 116
Danes, The, 68, 72
Daniell, Alice, 52
Daniel, Thomas, 88, 122
Daniel, also D'Anyers, Thomas, 129
Daresbury, Family, 129
Daresbury, 25, 35
Dark Row, 82
Darnhall, 86, 87, 106
Darnhall School, 105
Dartford, 13
Darumpley, James, 102
Davenham, 25, 30, 71, 96
Davenport Arms, 71; Ellen, 71;
Family, 71; Millicent de, 33;
Richard, 71; Thomas, 58
Davenport, 96, 120
Daventry, 3
David, St., of Scotland, 114
David, 135
Davidson, Jaynkin, 128
"Davie Little," 83
Davies, Ann, 61; Richard, 52, 61
Davys, Davie, Davy, Alice, 3; Rev.
John, 69, 74; William, 3
Dawnse, John, 50
Daynetreth, Hugh, 80
Deal, 10, 14
Deane, Henry, 24; John, 24; Mr.,
99; Roger, 24, 25; Widow, 104
Dedde, John, 66

Dedol, 114
 Dedou, 114
 Dee, The, 6, 8, 18, 39, 45, 46, 49, 59,
 67, 70, 71, 103, 108, 111, 114, 128
 Dee Lane, 34
 Delbird, see Bird
 Delamere, Alice, 74
 Delamere, 96, 113
 Delamere Forest, 2, 26, 46, 49,
 56, 72
 Delves, Arms, 71; Mary, 71;
 Sir Henry, 106
 Denbigh, 106
 Denbighshire, 68, 69, 105
 Denmark, 5
 Denson, Mr., 110
 Denwall, Henry, 83
 Deorerd, 73
 Deorlaf, Deorulf (Diorulf), 73
 Deopenbech, 76
 Derby, Archdeacon of, 121; Earl
 of, 5, 10, 23, 36, 129
 Derby, West, 15, 22, 130
 Derbyshire, 58, 73
 Dersch, 114
 Devonshire, 36, 67, 72, 121
 Dichfelde, John, 130
 Dick o' th' ynn, 21
 Dickens, Charles, 66
 Dickson, Messrs., 82
 Didsbury, Co. Lanc., 7; Chapel, 7
 Dienlacsres Abbey, 91
 Dirtwiches, The, 67
 Disley, 87
 Diuma, 67
 Dobb, Roger, 118
 Dodcote-cum-Wilkesley, 114
 Dodd (Dod), Ann, 117; Catherine,
 48, John, 48; Peter, 48; Ralph,
 104; Sarah, 58; William, 117
 Doddington, 86
 Doddeston, 95, 100
 Dodelston, 17, 25, 125, 126
 Dog Lane, 104
 Domesday Book, 3, 9, 12, 26, 33, 56,
 61, 64, 67, 69, 74, 79, 84, 87, 92,
 95, 96, 97, 102, 108, 115, 116, 132
 Done, Anthony, 66; Dorothy, 53;
 Sir John, 10, 53, 66; Richard,
 48
 Done, 72, 97, 130
 Donning, see Dunning
 Doran, Dr., 41
 Dot, 103, 114
 Douglas, Sir George, 123
 Dowell, Dyke, 36
 Dowell, Mr., 57
 Down Cathedral, 101
 Downham, Bishop, 111; Thos., 72
 Downpatrick, 101
 Downwood, 62
 Drake, Sir Francis, 113
 Drayton, 92
 Drieton, 74
 Drinkwater, Peter, 47
 Drogo, 135
 Dublin, 18, 88, 89
 Duckington, 77, 115, 119
 Duckwood, 104
 Duestan, 12, 72, 97, 111, 116
 Dufnelm, 73
 Duke of Ormond's Head Inn, 82
 Duke Street, 102
 Dumfriesshire, 8
 Dunham, 113, 119
 Dunham Massey, 23, 26

Dunham o' th' Hill, 66
 Dunkirk, 21
 Dunne, Thomas, 7
 Dunning, William, 114, 115, 135
 Dunnine (Dunning), 73, 74, 114
 Durand, 136
 Durham, 91
 Dutton, Edward, 100, 132; Eliza-
 beth, 63; Family, 23, 35; John,
 63; Margaret, 61, 129; Master,
 11; Mr., 34, 38, 57; Peers, 80,
 88; Richard, 124; Thomas, 62
 Dutton, 10, 62, 119, 124
 Dykes, Roger, 103

E

E—, Mr., 1
 Eadlfe, 73; Eadlaf, Eadulf
 Eadmund, 73
 Eadric (Edric), 73
 Eagle and Child Inn, 82
 Earl's Eye, 13, 18
 Earl's Island, 18
 Earwaker, J. P., 3, 30, 32, 38, 51,
 55, 70, 122, 123
 Easham, Edward, 72
 East Gate, 57, 58; Street, 82, 133;
 Ward, 57
 Eastham, 90, 95, 125, 126
 Eaton, Alice, 61; Edward, 60;
 John, 60; Thomas, 32, 83;
 William, 60
 Eaton, 46, 48, 111, 115, 119
 Eccleston, Richard, 61
 Eccleston, 17, 96, 111, 119
 Echebrant, 119
 Edesbury (Eddesbury), 6, 56, 72,
 95, 97, 108, 111, 116, 119, 130
 Eddisbury, North, 108; South, 121
 Edgar, 73
 Edge, 77, 100, 119
 Edge Hill, 3
 Edinburgh, 101
 Edleston, 77
 Edmund, 73
 Edmunds (Edmonds), Henrietta, 6;
 Thomas, 6; Sir Thomas, 34
 Edric, son of Anel, 14, 119
 Edritone, 72, 119, 124
 Edwin, 119, 135
 Edward, 119
 Edward, St., 63
 Edward The Black Prince, 49
 Edward The Confessor, 26, 73, 74
 Edward The Elder, 26
 Edward I., 18, 40, 49
 Edward II., 73
 Edward III., 35, 57, 69
 Edward IV., 4, 48, 66
 Edward VI., 25, 32, 43, 55, 88, 90,
 93, 94, 122
 Edwinstree, 4
 Efrard, Erard, Frard, 73
 Egerton, —, 1; Arms, 125; Eliza-
 beth, 63; family, 23, 39, 125;
 Sir John, 125; Lady, 62, 63;
 Matilda, 40, 41, 47; Mr., —
 "Practice of Christianity," 75;
 Philip, 66, 125; Sir P. de M.
 Gray, 49; Robert, 40, 41, 47;
 Rowland, 125
 Egerton, 23, 125
 Eglingham Church, 56
 Egremont, Lord of, 7
 Egremont, 23

Egremont Castle, 7
 Ehewine (Elfwine), 73
 Elborough, see Hilbre
 Elcock, Hannah, 60; Samuel, 60
 Eleanor, Queen, 46, 63
 Elemod, Elenoth, 73
 Elftan, 73
 Eli, 119, 135
 Elizabeth, —, 132
 Elizabeth, Queen, 5, 14, 25, 35, 38,
 43, 50, 51, 58, 68, 71, 88, 91, 94,
 103, 113, 118, 131
 Ellacombe, Rev. H. T., 55, 56
 Ellesby, see Hellesby
 Ellis, —, 108; family, 41
 Elmaer, Elmer, 119
 Elstree, 4
 Elton, Bertram de, 47
 Elton, 119, 125
 Elward, 119
 Elric (Elurio), 119
 Elveldelie, 84
 Ely, 86; Bishop of, 86
 Endiwarn, 73
 Endley, Enelelie, Endelie, 84
 England, 4, 5, 9, 21, 22, 30, 32, 41,
 43, 45, 57, 63, 67, 82, 94, 107,
 113, 115, 131; Church of, 37,
 43, 53, 94, 101; New, 67
 Enton, 123
 Eoroth, 73
 Erblastook, 124
 Erohebrand, 119, 135
 "Eroildoune, Thomas of," 11
 Erlechin, 119
 Erne, 119
 Ernet, 119
 Ernu, 119
 Ernuin, 119
 Ernut Fot, 119
 Essentune (Essetune), 84
 Essex, Earl of, 13, 112
 Essex, 101
 Essul, 119
 Estwich, John, 92, 94
 Estwich, 94
 Ethelburga, 36
 Ethelfrith of Northumbria, 72
 Ethelmund, 126
 Ethelred, 73
 Etocetum, 9
 Etone, 84
 Evelyn, "Diary," 41, 57; John,
 41; Katherine, 41
 Exchequer, Chamber, 31; Court, 31
 Exestan, 72, 95, 96, 111, 116
 Exeter, Earl of, 25, 32
 Exeter, 73, 86
 Eyots, 18
 Eyton, Ken., 52
 Eyton, 105
 Eyton, Mr., 119

F

Faddiley, 77
 Færgim (Fargrim), 73
 Falcon Inn, 82
 Falconer, Elizabeth, 6; family, 6;
 Frances, 6; George, 6; Henri-
 etta, 6; Mary Wilbraham, 6;
 Thomas, 6; Dr. William, 6
 Fallows, Randle, 123
 Fallows, Thomas, 43
 Falybrome, Roger, 43

Farndon, 67, 95, 108, 119
 Faroe Isles, 113
 Farrington, Charles, 58; Robt., 27
 Faryndon, Robert de, 86
 Fastolf, Sir John, 56
 Fauconberg, Earl, 51
 Fawcett, Mr., 49
 Fender The, 36
 Fereth, 84
 Feringdon, Henry, 128
 Fernihaughe, Thomas, 60
 Ferry Bridge, 4
 Ford, 69
 Fidler's Lane, 49, 61
 Finchett, 70
 Finchett's Gutter, 52, 59, 70
 Fishes Royal, 5, 6
 Fisher, William, 66
 Fisher and Hill, 116
 Fitton, Charles, 132
 Fitton, John, 117; William, 117
 Fitton, Richard, 115
 Fitz-Duncan, William, 114
 Fitz Hugh, Letitia, 39; Mabella, 39;
 Richard, 136; Robert, 33, 39,
 40, 67, 76, 77, 100, 103
 Fitz Nigel, —, 95, 119; Family, 65;
 Robt., 41, 65; William, 79, 136
 Fitz Osborne, —, 133; Hugh, 103,
 116
 Fitz-Texson, Osborne, 95, 135
 Fitz Thurstan, Robert, 28
 Flaxyards, 65
 Fletcher, Alice, 122; Jane, 112;
 John, 80, 112; Joseph, 77;
 Maud, 112; Richard, 112, 122;
 Robert, 111, 112; Thomas, 58;
 William, 112
 Flint, 33, 119
 Flintshire, 38, 67, 68, 69, 125, 130
 Flodger, 73
 Floodcott, 69, 70, 114, 124
 Floyd, Edward, 104, 105
 Floyd, 114
 Fluellen, 114
 Fogg, Dr., 135
 Ford, 24
 Fordeham, John de, 86
 Foregate Street, 82, 110, 117, 118
 Forester Family, 40
 "Forster Sylver," 44, 45
 Forth, Le, 24
 Forthe, Thomas, 24
 Fosse River, 74
 Foul Lakes, 56, 62
 Foulk Stapleford, 48, 65, 88
 Foulwrych, 40, 47
 Fowres, William, 87
 Fox, —, 94; Ann, 42; Edward,
 78, 79; John, 42, 53, 135;
 Thomas, 43; William, 43, 135
 Fran, 119
 France, 5, 22, 23, 43, 131
 Francois, Richard, 58
 Frankendall, 66
 Fraser Township, 9
 French, Fleet, 21; Navy, 21;
 Revolution, 21
 Froethric (Frothric), 73
 Frere, W. H., 91
 Fressingfield, 16
 Friends, Society of, 35
 Frith, 49, 92, 96, 125
 Frobisher, 113
 Frodesham, Mr., 93; Randle, 80;
 Robert de, 66

Frodsham, 25, 34, 35, 36, 50, 51, 56,
 80, 90, 92, 95, 96, 129, 131;
 Castle, 69; Church, 76;
 Grammar School, 50; Street,
 117
 Fryer, Barthlam, 71
 Fuage (Focage), Tax, 57
 Fulco, 135
 Fulke Stapleford, 90, 130
 Fullalove, George, 104
 Furburs Fowl Lakes, 62

G

Gamel, son of Griffin, 119, 135
 Gamon, Gilbert P., 31, 34, 39, 43,
 57, 61, 65, 112
 Gamul, Anne, 118, 132; Eleanor,
 118, 132; Thomas, 118, 132;
 William, 118, 132
 Gamul, 87
 Gardiner, Robert, 37, 39
 Gairdner edition, "Paston Letters,"
 4, 89
 Garfield, Richard, 83, 97
 Gargrave, Ann, 90; Sir Cotton, 90
 Garnet, Robert, 131
 Garnons, William, 75
 Garston (Gerstan), Family, 14; Sir
 Adam de, 14, 28
 Garston, 14
 Gartside, Alice, 60
 Gastrell, Bishop, 25, 45
 Gawsworth, 87, 113
 Gayton, 125
 Gerard (Gerrard), Dorothy, 129;
 Family, 129; Gilbert, 60; Lord,
 62; Margaret, 129; Mr., 85;
 Richard, 65, 80, 129; Thomas,
 48, 65, 129
 Gerrarte, Thomas, 80
 Gerstan, see Garston
 George I., 59
 George II., 69
 George, Lord Bishop of Chester, 61
 George Inn, 82
 Gherbod the Fleming, 26
 Gilbert, Earl of Clare, 114
 Giles, Silvanus, 58
 Gillus, Gillys, Gyllis, 73
 Gilpin, Joshua, 121; Luke, 121;
 Mr., 111, 112, 113, 121
 Glascors Hey, 38
 Glasgow, 102
 Glasshouse Family, 35
 Glastor (? Glasior), Thomas, 3
 Gleaston, 15
 Gleave, George, 46
 Glegge, Family, 18; Gilbert, 43;
 John, 45; Mr., 132
 Gleunin, 119
 Gloucester, 73
 Gloucestershire, 59
 Glover, Joseph, 61; Thomas, 31
 Glym, Sir William, 86
 Gobbyn, Ellen, 3
 Goda (Godda), 73
 Godfrey, William, 58
 Godid, 119, 135
 Godric, Goodric, 73, 74, 119
 "God's Croft," 46
 Godstow Nunnery, 53
 Godwi (Godwine), 73
 Godwin, 119, 124

Goisfrich, 135
 Golborne Bellow, 90, 115, 125;
 Daniel, 115, 119; Mary, 61
 Golden Talbot, 82
 Goltyn, 124
 Goodman, Christopher, 7; John, 36
 Goole, 5
 Goostarde, John, 80
 Goostrey, 96, 113, 119
 Gordon Riots, 66
 Gotlac, 119
 Goulbourn, William de, 40
 Gouldson, Jonathan, 61
 Gower, Dr. Foote, 70
 Gowrie, Earl, 21
 Gowy Marshes, 17
 Gozelin, 135
 Grafton, 77, 103
 Graham, Col., 129, 130
 Grappenhall, 94, 95, 114, 119, 122, 125
 Gray's Inn, 123
 Greasby, 114, 125
 Gredington, 33
 Gregg, Edward, 61
 Green, J. E., 4, 92; Margaret, 58;
 Mr., 99; Mrs. J. E., 56; William,
 118
 Green Dragon, 82
 Greenham, Mr., 75
 Grene Marsh, 24
 Gresford, 72, 84, 90, 100, 105, 108,
 111, 116, 125, 135
 Gresham College, 38
 Grevasby, 44
 Grey (Gray), Arms, 125; Lady, 125;
 Lord, 125; Robert, 61
 Griffith, Dorothy, 58; Mr., 61;
 William, 121
 Griffith, King of Wales, 113
 Griffyn, Family, 35; John, 80
 Griffin, of Newton, 119
 Grim, 119
 Grinchel, 119
 Grindal, Archbishop, 111, 112, 121
 Grosvenor, Family, 79, 82; Maud,
 112; Sir Richard, 42, 61; Sir
 Thomas, 112
 Gruffydd ab Cynau, King, 114
 Grymesdiche, Janykyn, 80
 Gualo, 63
 Guilden Sutton, 16, 17, 39, 48, 96, 123
 Guilds-Mercatory, 68
 Gumfreston Church, 55
 Gunleof (Cunleof), 73
 Gunner, 119
 Gunnino, 119
 Gwyddelwern, 112
 Gwynedd, Owen, 114
 Gwynn, see Wynne

H

Hacon (Hacun), 124
 Haddock, Richard, 124
 Hadlow, 100; Haigh, 59; Great,
 34; Little, 34
 Halghton, 33, 67
 Hale John, 100
 Hale, Richard, 74
 Hale, 113
 Hales, John, 37
 Halton, Barons of, 64
 Halton, 26, 61, 79, 84, 72, 95, 100, 105, 124
 Hall, Dannot, 76; Family, 35;
 James, 71, 117

- Halliwell, Thomas, 61
 Hallowode, Nicholas, 110
 Hallwood, Mrs., 47; Nicholas, 110; Thomas, 58
 Hamestan, 72, 108, 111, 116
 Hamilton, Duke of, 101
 Hammond (Haughmond), 36
 Hamo (Haimo), 95, 135
 Hampshire, 123
 Hampstall Ridware, 47
 Hampton, 47, 77, 115, 121
 Hampton Court, 2
 Hand, Thomas, 60
 Handbridge, 74, 96, 102, 103, 115, 118, 119, 124, 130
 Handecocke, William, 86
 Handley, 87, 115, 119
 Hammer, 33, 67
 Harden, Dom Robert, 2; George, 103; John, 103; Thomas, 103
 Hardicaute, 73
 Harding, — 94
 Harding Mr., 118
 Hardwin, 135
 Hardware, Henry, 42, 88; John, 78, 79; Mary, 60; Mr., 11
 Hargrave (Hargreve), Arms, 15, 26; Family, 15, 22; Richard, 91
 Hargrave, 15, 26, 47, 48, 61, 66, 83, 122, 124
 Hargrave Stubbs, 15, 122
 Haregrim, 74, 113
 Harold, 74
 Harold, Earl, 69
 Harold I., 73
 Harper, Dorothy, 88
 Harrison, Sir Edward, 115; John, 58, 123; Mr., 9; Richard, 60; Robert, 57; Thomas, 58, 85; William, 80, 118
 Harryes, Harry, 80
 Hartill Church, 66
 Hartford, 61, 114
 Hartsteele, Thomas, 74
 Harvey, Hugh, 61; William, 60; Mr., 85
 Harwar, Robert, 60
 Haryngton, Lady, 131
 Haslhurst, Roger, 74
 Haslington, 129
 Hassall, Randle, 104
 Hassall, Thomas, 58
 Hassell, 96, 104, 119, 124
 Hasten, 124
 Hastings, 73
 Hatherton, 96, 130
 Hatton, — 110; Adam de, 35; of Aston, Chapelry, 35; Beatrice, 15; Sir Christopher, 35; of Frodsham, 34, 35; Geoffrey, 80; of Hellesby, 35; of Holdenby, 35; James, 36; Joseph, 35; of Kingsley, 35; Lords of, 34; of Norley Bank, 35; Peter, 36; of Quisty, 35; Richard de, 30; Thomas, 35; William, 15; of Woodhouses, 35
 Hatton, 34, 55, 61, 62, 84, 121
 Haurokes Jenken, 131
 Hawarden Effigy, 18
 Hawarden, Francis, 78, 79; Dan Robert, 13
 Hawarden, 26, 72, 95, 108, 111, 116, 119, 124, 125, 130
 Hazlitt, W. C., 34
 Headless Cross, 46
 Healies Knowle, 38
 Hearth Tax, 57
 Heath, John, 57; Richard, 58; Samuel, 37
 Heath House, 38
 Heaton, 125
 Hebrides, The, 113
 Hegham, Thomas de, 33
 Hellesby, Allan, 136; Alice, 136; Family, 28; Hugh, 80; James, 80; Rev. James, 51, 58, 68; Jeffrey, 80; Joceram, 135; John, 51, 69, 129; Peter, 135; Piers, 80; Richard, 50, 51, 58, 69, 135; William, 51, 66; Sir William, 35, 66
 Hellesby, also de Acton, Lord Alan de, 35
 Hellesby, De, also De Lee, see Lee
 Helsby (Hellesby), 21, 50, 51, 66, 93, 129, 135
 Helsby Hall, 8
 Hemingway, — 76, 79, 118
 Hen and Chickens Inn, 82
 Henbury, 71, 110, 130
 Hendley, 84, 130
 Henhull, 77
 Henry I., 7
 Henry II., 115
 Henry III., 13, 63, 135
 Henry IV., 47
 Henry VI., 4, 48, 59, 66, 89
 Henry VII., 2, 35, 51, 65, 131
 Henry VIII., 2, 13, 19, 24, 36, 37, 44, 50, 53, 59, 65, 93, 122, 129
 Henshawe, Miles, 78
 Heraldus, Earl (i.e., King Harold), 124
 Herbert, 135
 Herdman, William, 94
 Hereford, Bishop of, 10; Earl of, 63
 Hereford, 73
 Hereford, Edward, 79; Mr., 80
 Herle, Thomas, 7
 Herries, 132
 Hertford, 4
 Hervye, Margery, 132
 Heswall, 125, 130
 Hewitt, John, 88; Robert, 60; William, 60
 Hexham, 49, 92
 Heyes, Roger, 132
 Heywood, Dr., 69
 Hiatt, Mr., 128
 Hiccock, Richard, 58
 Hide, Robert, 60
 Higginett, John, 86
 Higginson, Richard, 58; Thos., 61
 High, Heywood, 38
 High Legh, 95, 114, 130
 Hignett, John, 48; Mary, 48
 Hilary, St., 33
 Hilbre, Prior of, 2; Hilbree, Co. Chester, 12; Island, 2, 3, 5, 9, 10, 16, 21, 43; Monastic cell at, 2; Salt Works, 5
 Hildburga, Isle of, 9
 Hildburgheye, 9
 Hill, The, 34
 Hilton, William, 13
 Hind, Mr., 43, 134; William, 10
 Hinks, William, 76
 Hocknell, Richard, 128
 Hodgkin, Richard, 74
 Hodgkinson, Thomas, 103
 Hoiloch, 84
 Hoke, Le, 24, 25, 37
 Holborn, 66
 Holdenby, 35
 Holder, D. B., 95
 Hole (Hoole), Robert de, 135
 Holforde, Edward, 7; Thomas, 10
 Holford, 10
 Holinshed, — 64
 Holland, Adam, 107; John, 94; Lord, 105; William, 105
 Hollingworth, Arthur, 59; Captain, 58; Family, 58, 59; Mr., 68
 Hollingworth, 58, 59
 Holliwell, Randle, 38
 Holme, Randle, 61, 64, 83, 90; of Tranmere, 41
 Holmes, 122
 Holmes, Randle, 15
 Holyhead, 86
 Holywell, 68, 102
 Hoole, Thomas, 58
 Hoole, 17, 39, 59
 Hoomes, Ralph, 127
 Hooton, 2, 37, 43, 45, 111, 125
 Hooton House, 129
 Hope, Le, 50
 Hope, 119
 Hope Mountain, 49
 Horns Mill, 66
 Horrocks, Thomas, 132
 Horrye, John, 80
 Horse and Groom Inn, 82
 Horton, Elizabeth, 38; Thomas, 38
 Horton, 77, 103
 Hoseley, 84, 100
 Hoton, Richard, 128
 Hough, Morgan, 24, 25
 Houghton, Henry, 76; Sir Gilbert, 102; Lady, 101, 102; Lettice, 58; Margaret, 102; William, 60
 Houghton Tower, 101, 102
 Hounde Medowe, Le, 24
 Howson, Dean, 128
 Hoylake, 5, 9
 Hoxier, — 122; Gawen, 58; Margery, 122; John, 122
 Hugh, Earl, 17, 95, 103, 113; of Avranches, 26
 Hughes, Eliz., 72; Henry, 37, 75
 Hugo, 135
 Hull (Hill), Agnes, 110; Henry, 58; Lucy, 110; Margaret, 110; Richard, 110; Robert, 110; Peter, 110
 Hull Hall, 70
 Hulme, Widow, 103
 Hulse, Robert, 103
 Hulton, Ann, 58; Edward, 58; John, 57, 61; Mary, 58
 Humphrey, Thomas, 118
 Hunfrid, 135
 Hunting, 124
 Hundin, 124
 Hundulf, 124
 Huntingdon, Lord, 112
 Huntingdon, 26, 45, 59, 65, 96
 Hurdingerie, 84
 Hurleston, Hugh, 117; John, 6, 7; Margery, 122
 Hurleston, 77
 Hurstage, Widow, 37
 Huscarl, 73
 Hussey, E. W., 127
 Huxley, 65

Huyton, 130, 131
 Hyooke, Hankyn, 24
 Hyde, William, 69
 Hyde, 72
 Hylle, Widow, 80
 Hylle, William, 80
 Hyrelonde, see Ireland

I

Iddinshall, 17, 97
 Ince, Katherine, 58; Mary, 58;
 Mr., 38, 79; Nicholas, 100;
 Richard, 78; William, 58
 Ince, 41, 96, 112
 Inderwaite, 24
 Inester, Mr., 34
 Inner Temple, 117
 Irby, 43, 44
 Ireland (Hyrelonde), John 61;
 William, 80
 Ireland, 53, 82
 Irvine, Fergusson, 24, 44, 49, 101
 Iscoyd, 33, 67
 Isel, 13
 Isherwood, Hugh, 124
 Intacke, 59
 Ives, Mr., 125

J

Jackson, John, 103, 104
 James, I., 1, 2, 5, 68, 69, 129
 James II., 49
 James VI., 21
 James, Isaac, 74
 Jannysonne, John, 80
 Jellicoeur, Mark, 58
 Jenkison, Richard, 80
 Joelyyn, Bishop of Bath, 63
 John, King, 63
 Johnes, John, 66, 76, 100; Robt., 99
 Johnson, —, 88; Ann, 60; Hugh,
 72; John, 27, 48, 61; Margaret,
 48; Margery, 88; Dr. Samuel,
 18, 68; Thos., 61; William, 48
 Jones, David, 126; Ellis, 126;
 Gerrard, 20; Thomas, 58
 William, 20

K

Kadaheym, 33
 Kawardin, 102
 Kelham, Augustus, 66; Family, 66
 Kelham, 66
 Kelmorrey, The Lady Elinor, 60
 Kelsall, Peter, 71
 Keltaerton, 119
 Kelum Family, 41
 Ken' le Clerc de Ege, 40
 Kenardeslie, 72, 97
 Kenclerk Richard the Little, also
 see Richard the Little
 Kendrick Anne, 41; Family, 41, 121;
 Greene, 41; Hugh, 41; Sir
 John, 41; Katherine, 41, 58;
 Margaret, 41; of Reading, 41;
 Thomas, 41; Wills, 41
 Kenyon, William, 58
 Kenrigg, Hugh, 78
 Kent, Hugh, 103; Randle, 103
 Kent, 74, 116
 Kerkman, Katherine, 58

Kettle, Robert, 104; Widow, 104
 Key, Mary, 37
 Kiddington, 132
 Kinderton, 8, 79, 90, 96, 119
 King, Margaret, 58; Richard, 61;
 Thomas, 61
 King's Head Hostel, 68
 King's Wood Lane, 49
 Kyngesleye (Kingsley), Bafe, 80
 Kingsley, 35, 59, 74, 114, 129;
 Hurst, 69; Hall, 129
 Kingston, 74
 Kinsey, Edward, 61
 Kintore, Titular Name of, 6
 Kirby, West, 2, 13, 18, 31, 32, 36, 38,
 44, 45, 65, 125; Church, 2, 3
 Kirk, Catherine, 117
 Kirkby, Col. Richard, 26
 Kirkby Walaee, 26, 44, 45
 Kirmincham, 96, 119
 Knottesford, Philip, 104
 Knowells, George, 80
 Knowle, 59
 Knowllys, Thomas, 80
 Knowsley, 129
 Knutsford, 7, 23, 95, 119
 Kyffin, Family, 121

L

Lache, 96
 Lache Dennis, 61, 124
 Laitone, 72
 Lambert, 135
 Lancashire, 5, 14, 21, 23, 42, 43, 51,
 67, 101, 102, 112, 128, 129, 130, 131
 Lancaster, House of, 4
 Lancaster, John, 60
 Lancaster, 67, 130
 Landican, 119, 125, 126
 Langdale, Family, 66; Marmaduke,
 66; Mr., 66
 Langley, Mr., 134
 Langtoft, —, 64
 Langton, Archbishop Stephen, 63
 Lane, John, 6, 7; Mr., 99
 Lansdowne, Miss, 112
 Larkton, 44, 77, 115, 119
 Latham, Family, 129; Isabel, 129;
 John, 129; Sir Thomas de, 129
 Latham, 129
 Latham House, 62
 Lathom, 43
 Landerdale, John, Duke of, 102
 Launcelyn, John, 43
 Laverton, 44
 Lawlor, Dr. H. J., 101
 Lawson, William, 44
 Lawrence, William, 67
 Lawton, 72, 96
 Layton, Dr., 20
 Layton, 72
 Leefeld Le, 45
 Lee (Lea), Ann, 61; of Cheshire, 41;
 Dr., 20; Elizabeth, 106;
 George, 60; Henry, 106;
 James, 104; Sir Richard, 106;
 Robert, 37; Thomas, 106,
 William, 60
 Lee (Lea), Sir Richard de, also de
 Hellesby, 28
 Lea, The, 70
 Lea (Cheshire) 17, 48, 68, 97
 Lea, 102, 126; Hall, 45; Lea Mill,
 45; Wood, 45

Lee, Newbold, 16, 96, 113, 119, 124
 Lees, 7
 Lees Drift, 9
 Leadbrook, 124, 130
 Leamington, 101
 Leche, Arms, 40; Harry, 80
 Ledsam, 119
 Ledsham, 61
 Ledsonne, Richard, 124
 Leech, Francis, 60
 Leech, Robert, 110
 Leftwich, 96, 113, 124
 Lefwin, 74
 Leigh see Leigh
 Leicester (Leycester), Earl of, 63;
 Sir Peter, 38, 71, 95; Richd., 34
 Leicester, 112
 Leicestershire, 72
 Leigh, Family, 13; Jack,
 Lord o'-th', 58; John, 13;
 Margaret, 13; Peter, 58;
 Robert, 13, 24, 37, 50; Dr.
 Rowland, 13; Dr. Thomas, 13;
 Sir William, 13
 Leigh, Little, 119
 Leighton, 44, 72, 92, 104, 124
 Leinesley, Hannah, 58; Robt., 58;
 Thomas, 61
 Leofa, 73
 Leofman, 73
 Leofnod, 73
 Leofnoth, 73, 74
 Leofsi, 73
 Leofwi, 73
 Leofwig, 73
 Leofwine, 73, 74
 Leonard, Alice, 60
 Leowidi, 73
 L'Estrange Arms, 15, 26, 48
 Lettenby, Henry, 37
 Leuenot (Leuinot), 124
 Lewiet, 124
 Leuing, Richard, 58
 Leuing, 124
 Leurio, 124, 135
 Leuin, 124
 Levenot, 119
 Leuin, 92
 Lewis, Sarah, 60
 Ley, Robert, 3
 Ley Hooks, 24
 Leyland, Christopher, 34, 132;
 Family, 43; Mr., 131
 Leyland, 86
 Leyton, 61
 Lichfield, Bishop of, 36; Lichfield,
 8, 86, 90, 119; See of, 67
 Lifno, 73
 Limesey, Bp., Robert de, 17
 Lincks, Edward, 58
 Lincoln Bishop of, 105
 Lincoln, 3, 20, 49, 73, 114
 Lincoln's Inn, 123
 Lincolnshire, 60, 74
 Linial, William, 76, 84
 Liptrott, William, 60
 Lisle, John de, 86
 Listing, 97, 98
 Litele, Mabel, 40; Wronon, 40
 Litherland, Henry, 43
 Little Fowl Lake, 62
 Little Leigh, 35, 100
 Littler, John, 117; Thomas, 48
 Littleton, 48
 Liverpul, Richard de, 14
 Liverpool, 3, 5, 22, 62; Mayor of, 5

Liverpool Road, 62
 Llandecvan, 86
 Llanrwst, 105
 Lloyd, Henry, 60; Thomas, 57
 Lockett, Randle, 103; Roger, 104
 Lodge Cottage, Delamere Forest, 26
 Loftie, Rev. A. G., History of
 Calder Abbey, 7, 13
 London, Bishop of, 63; Lord Mayor
 of, 6, 15, 41; Sheriff of, 41;
 London, 3, 4, 8, 9, 15, 16, 20,
 22, 23, 31, 35, 38, 58, 63, 66, 82,
 90, 92, 94, 106, 113
 Lookers Hey, 38
 Lostock Gralam, 8
 Loten, 124
 Lotheburn, 38
 Lothbury, 38
 Louis XVI., 21
 Lowe, Geoffrey, 43
 Lowndes, Ernest C., 34
 Lownes, Elizabeth, 103, 104
 Luddington Hill, 2, 46
 Ludlow, 82
 Lumby, Professor, 12
 Lunt and Curley, Messrs., 49
 Lupus, Hugh, 26, 39
 Lurting, Robert, 35
 Lurtinge, Henry, 24
 Luude, 124
 Lyme Handley, 87
 Lymesey, 17
 Lymm, 25, 130
 Lynial, Thomas, 69, 124
 Lyne, Lynne, James, 58; William,
 36
 Lynn, 108
 Lyonn, Edmund, 131
 Lyonsa, "Magna Britannia," 83
 Lytherpol, 86
 Lytle, John, 3
 Lyttlemore, Gylles, 80

M.

Macauley, Thomas, 102
 Maci, Robert de, 114; Simon, 114
 Macclesfield, Macclesfend, Adam,
 Dean of, 33; Cicely, 33; Ellen,
 48; Family, 32, 46; Isabel, 33;
 John, 33; Jordan, 33; Milicent,
 32, 33; Richard, 32, 33; Roger,
 33; Thomas de, 32, 46
 Macclesfield, Maxfeld; Church, 32,
 46; Deanery, 95; Hundred, 51,
 58; School, 32
 Macclesfield, 3, 9, 10, 32, 40, 51, 72,
 87, 90, 96, 108, 111, 116, 119
 Macsuthan, 73
 Maddock, Hugh, 58; John, 61
 Mældomen, 73
 Mælsuthan, 73
 Maenan, 121
 Mærtene, 73
 Magerison, Robert, 91
 Magna Aldersey, 35
 Maidstone, 59
 Mainwaring, Arms, 70, 71; Family,
 79, 85; George, 58; Jane, 71;
 John, 45; Mary, 71; Philip, 71;
 Sir Thomas, 61, 70, 71; Chapel, 70
 Maitland, Professor, 111, 115, 116
 Maker's, John, 24
 Malpas, William, 114, 126
 Malbank, 133
 Malbank Barony, 26

Malbedeng (Malbank), William, 136
 Malpas, Arms, 40; Family, 23;
 Barony, 33; Robert Fitz Hugh,
 Baron of, 40; William del, 40;
 Rectories, 13
 Malpas, 8, 9, 13, 23, 25, 39, 74, 76,
 77, 90, 95, 96, 100, 103, 108, 115,
 130, 133
 Man, Isle of, 36, 129
 Manchester, 7, 8, 9, 18, 42, 49, 91,
 96, 112, 125, 130
 Mandley, James, 80
 Mandeley Hall, 80
 Manley, George, 58
 Mannleigh, Manley, Peter, 80;
 Richard, 80
 Manley, 125
 Man's Reading, 41
 Mara, Hugo de, 125, 135
 Mara and Mondrem, Forest of, 49
 Marbury, 69, 124
 Marbury-cum-Quoisley, 116
 Marcellinus Ammianus, 16
 Marcud, 135
 Marcus, Earl of Tyrone, 121
 Margaret, Lady, 56
 Margaret, Queen, 4
 Married Hey, The, 38
 Marston, 96, 119
 Marple, 87
 Marscer, Robert, 80
 Marsh, George, 89, 90, 92, 94;
 Thomas, 58
 Martin, St., 14
 "Martinet," 31
 Marton, 2, 119
 Marton in Over, 18
 Mary, Queen, 30, 65
 Masci, Hamo, 17
 Mason, Ann, 122; John, 122-
 Massey, Massie, Charles, 104;
 George, 31; Sir John, 32, 88;
 Nicholas, 76; Robert, 43;
 Thomas, 60; Sir William, 31, 32
 Massey, 113
 Maston, 95
 Mauduit, Peers, 125
 Maunilunarini (Mainwaring), Wil-
 ham de, 114
 Maupas, see Malpas
 Mathew, Hugh, 50
 Matthews, Richard, 57
 Mawdesley, 14; Manor, 14
 Mawry, Thomas, 24
 Maylor, 32
 Maynan, 105
 Mead, Thomas, 130
 Mediolanum, 9, 16; 33
 Meere Stone, 59
 Megred, 73
 Mekin, Owen, 103
 Mellington, John, 94
 Melys, John, 24
 Melton, Abel, 115
 Meols, Great, 44, 124, 125; Little,
 124, 125
 Meols, see Melys
 Mercer, Richard, 61
 Mercia, Duke of, 10; Earls of, 17, 26
 Mercia, 67, 74, 81, 113
 Mere, 25, 95, 130
 Merioneth, 105
 Merey, 6, 15, 21, 46, 51, 132, 141
 Merton, Randle de, 18
 Meryll, Marvel, Marvyll, Ralf, 103
 Meryvale Abbey, 91

Meschin (Mustin), Ranulph, 7, 23;
 Ranulph, Earl of Chester, 7;
 William, 7
 Mesham, Richard, 13
 Meyrick, Myrrick, Dr., 111, 112,
 113; Edmund, 121; Elizabeth,
 121; Family, 121; Rowland, 121
 Michael, St., 60
 Mickle Trafford, 17, 124
 Middle Fowl Lake, 62
 Middleburg, 56
 Middlehurst, Thomas, 123
 Middlesex, History of, 51
 Middleton, 13
 Middlewich, 8, 66, 74, 81, 90, 95, 96,
 97, 113, 119; Deanery, 95, 96
 Mildestuio, 108, 111
 Millington, 95, 114
 Milton, Mulneton, Alice, 48, 65;
 Elizabeth, 71; Humphrey, 71;
 William de, 15, 48
 Milton Manor, 15; Brook, 45
 Minshull, Randle, 60; Richard, 58
 Minshull, 113, 114, 124
 Mitre Inn, 82
 Mobberley, 114
 Molineux, Molyneux, —, 88;
 Eleanor, 88; Lord, 129, 131;
 Richard, 132; William, 88
 Mollington, 59, 96, 119, 130;
 Banastre, 59; Great, 17; Lane,
 34, 37, 38, 44, 52, 57, 59, 70, 81;
 Little, 17, 119
 Mollington-Tarrant, Family, 28
 Monald, 135
 Monasteries, Surrenders of, 36
 Monk, Monk. Ann, 121; Lady
 Aramenta, 121; Family, 121;
 George, Paul, 121; William, 121
 Monmouth, Duke of, 102
 Montacute, Montague, Family, 68
 Montalt, Barony of, 26
 Montgomery, 75
 Moore, Alfred, 10, 13, 21, 116;
 Herbert, 7; Mr., 13, 104; Sir
 Thomas, 26
 Moorecroft, Thomas, 74
 Moorton, Thomas, 52
 Moran, 135
 Morcar, 113
 Moreton, John, 74
 Moreton, 24, 36, 37, 44, 45, 50
 Morfar, 124
 Morfee, John, 72
 Morgell, John, 117
 Morley, 112, 122
 Morone, Cardinal, 30
 Morrey, Robert, 61
 Morris, Canon, 14, 47, 52, 118
 Morris, Joseph, 116
 Mort, Thomas, 66
 Mortimers' Cross, 4
 Moseley, Thomas, 92, 93
 Mosse, Alan de, 14
 Mosse, Le, 24, 25
 Mosse, Robert, 58
 Moston, 38, 59, 117
 Mothershead, Sarah, 58
 Mottershead, John, 60
 Mottram, Adam de, 86
 Mottram, Hugh, 66
 Mottram, 33
 Mottram-in-Longendale, 58; St.
 Andrew, 87, 119
 Mottresheved, Richard, 43
 Mouldsworth, Alice, 60

Mouldsworth, 88; Great, 88
 Mouldsworth, Little, 42, 65
 Moulson, Moulsonne, Moulton,
 Agnes, 48; Anne, 41; Arms, 15,
 26; Beatrice, 15; Commodore,
 21, 23; Family, 14, 15, 22, 65;
 James, 15, 48; Jonathan, 15;
 Mary, 22; Miss, 15, 22; Peter,
 15; Richard, 15; Thomas, 22;
 Sir Thomas, 15, 41, 65
 Moulton see Moulson
 Moniton, 65, 96, 124
 Mucklow, William, 56
 Muller, Max, 10
 Mullineux, Henry, 110
 Del Mulne, Robert, 40; Stephen,
 40, 41
 Mulneton see Milton
 Multon, Margaret, 13; Thomas de,
 13; William, 13
 Mundret, 135
 Monkesyordes, 38
 Myddelton, Rofe, 80
 Myll Hill, 107
 Mylliner, Edward, 80

N.

Nannerch, 38
 Nannygreve, John, 80
 Nantelwyd, 121
 Nantwich, Namptwich Nantwick,
 Namwich, 1, 6, 7, 12, 31, 38, 64,
 65, 70, 72, 77, 84, 88, 92, 95, 96,
 97, 111, 124, 129, 130, 134
 Nantwich Willaston, 92, 96, 124
 Napoleon, 23
 Neild, Elizabeth, 23; James, 23;
 John, 23; John Camden, 23
 Neild's Orchard, 23
 Nelesbrother, —, 65
 Nelson, Lord, 14
 Nelston, Family, 14
 Nelston, 14
 Ness, 61, 119
 Neston, 2, 50, 61, 113, 119, 125;
 Great 37, 61; Little, 61, 124
 Nether Alderley, 119, 129
 Nether Peover, 74, 100, 114, 119
 Netherleigh, 39, 48, 96, 103, 115,
 118
 Netherton, Frodsham, 46
 Nettles, John, 74
 Neuton see Newbold
 Neutone, 115
 Neutthalle, Griffin, 80
 Neville, badge, 4; Richard, Earl
 of Warwick, 4
 Newe Medowe, Le, 24, 25, 37
 Newbold, Newbolt, Nicholas, 25;
 Roger, 44; Dan Thomas, 13;
 Sir Thomas, 2, 3
 Newbold, 18, 43, 96, 130
 Newcastle-under-Lyme, 8, 129
 Newcroft, 132
 Newhall, 114
 Newhaven, 89
 Newport, Richard, 100
 Newton, Randle, 103
 Newton, 18, 38, 39, 43, 59, 66, 96,
 103, 119; Chapel, 35; Common,
 39
 Newetonne, Robert, 80
 Nicholas, Elizabeth, 58
 Nicholls, Richard, 72
 Nigel, 135

Nile, The, 14
 Nixon, Nickson, Robert, 1, 2, 5;
 Prophecies, 1, 3, 5, 11, 12, 23;
 History, 1; "The fool," 1;
 Ralph, 2; Roger, 2; Elizabeth,
 2; John, 2; Localities, 46, 89
 Nookinger (Nogginsshire) Mill, 46
 Noctorum, 114, 125
 Noden Meadow, 104
 Nogginsshire Mill, 2
 Norbury, 87, 69, 113, 124
 Norfolk, 14
 Norley, 35; Bank, 35; Hall, 33
 Norley als Sparke, Family, 35
 Normans, The, 68
 Norris, Alexander, 5
 North Wales, 55
 Northamptonshire, 35, 56
 Northbourne, 10, 14, 116
 Northenden, 108, 130
 Northgate, 28, 30, 34, 47
 Northgate Street, 58, 82, 83, 85
 Northwich, 8, 47, 66, 90, 108, 111,
 116, 117
 Norton, 125, 130
 Norton Abbey, 50, 131
 Nortun, Thomas, 80
 Nostell, 90
 Nottinghamshire, 40, 66
 Nuthall, —, 129; Dorothy, 129;
 Margaret, 129
 Nutter, John, 7

O.

Oakhanger Moss, 103
 Oakmere, 46
 Occleston, 96
 Ochiltree, Lord, 102
 Ockleston, John, 80
 Odard, 135
 Odd Rode, 113, 119, 124
 Odesley, 84
 Odin, 135
 Offa, King, 18
 Offerton, 87
 Oldfield, John, 61
 Oldmixon, J., 1, 23
 Ollerton, 87, 95, 113, 119, 130
 Olufetan, Uppetton, Ulveton als see
 Uppetton
 O'Morgair, Malachy, 101
 Ordin, 124
 Ordadale, 131
 Orwell, 86
 Orleans, 16
 Orme, 124
 Ormerod, Dr., 46, 48
 Ormakirk, 14
 Orreby Arms, 15, 48
 Orreby Family, 22
 Orton, William, 25
 Osbern, 135
 Oscelet, 73
 Osgot, 124
 Oslac, 73
 Osife, 73
 Osmer, 92, 124
 Osmund, 135
 Ostrebrand, 124
 Otgrane, Richard, 41
 Othulf, 73
 Ouldham, William, 57
 Oulton, John, 61; Randle, 61, 103;
 Richard, 104; Robert, 103, 104;
 Widow, 103, 104

Oulton, 1, 5, 23, 96, 114, 125
 Oulton Mill, 46; Park, 46
 Oulton-Lowe, 96, 124
 Ouain, 124
 Outin, 124
 Over, 2, 97, 105
 Over Alderley, 113
 Over Lostock, 79
 Over Peover, 70, 72, 79, 95, 119
 Over Weston, 6
 Overchurch, 126
 Overleigh, 41, 96, 103, 115, 119, 124
 Overpool, 88, 96, 125
 Overton, William de, 39, 40
 Overton, 33, 40, 130; Church, 56
 Oxford, 11, 18, 31, 38, 51, 121, 123;
 All Souls, 20; Balliol Coll., 102;
 Brasenose Coll., 20, 38, 51, 117;
 Christ Church, 35, 94; St. Alban
 Hall, 20; St. John's Coll., 102;
 Queen's Coll., 102
 Oxfordshire, 53, 112, 130

P.

Paddock Hall, 15
 Pagen, 135
 Paleano, Duke of, 30
 Pallandine, Theodore, 71
 Palmer, A. N., 49
 Paris, Matthew, 64
 Paris, 22, 34
 Parker Family, 41
 Parkes, Catherine, 27
 Parkgate House, 49; Road, 52, 57
 59, 62, 70, 81
 Parnell, Sarah, 58
 Parry, Mary, 38; Thomas, 38
 Parthey, 15
 Pasfield, Robert, 19
 Passe Mart, Barro, 56
 Patrick, Bishop, 55
 Patrick Family, 39
 Patrick, St., 101
 Paul, 73
 Payne, Maud, 123; Sir Robert, 123
 Peacock Inn, 82
 Pearl Wall, 56, 62
 Peckforton, 96, 130
 Peel, Cresswell, 117
 Peel Hall, Little Mouldsworth, 42
 Peels Fold, 131
 Peile, Dr., 89
 Peirson, Mr., 85
 Pemberton, Edward, 47; Henry, 60
 Pembroke, Earl of, 63
 Pendleton, Penhulton, Henry, 92;
 John o', 21
 Pendleton, Penhulton, 21
 Penketh, Hugh, 50
 Penkridge, 8, 9, 33
 Penley, 33
 Pennant, Henry, 6, 12, 25, 124
 Pennesley, 37, 44
 Pennington, Dr. Allan, 60
 Pennocrucium, 9
 Pennsylvania, 35, 36
 Pensby, 36, 37
 Pentrathe, 33
 Peover, Little, 79
 Peover, Lower, 81
 Pere, Robert, 45
 Perkins, Mr., 53
 Perle Wall Hay, 62
 Perleway, 59
 Perrotte, Le, 24

Rider, Raff, 123
Ridge, John, 61
Ridley, —, 90
Ridley, Michael, 66
Ridware, Agnes, 47; Arms, 26, 47;
Joan, 47; Walter, 47
Ripley, Simon, 128
Riseton, 72, 95, 111, 116, 133
Riseton, 121, 122
Rhodes, The, 42, 135
Rhododendron Gardens, 24
Robert, The Cook, 136
Robert, The Seneschal, 114; son of
Picod, 114; of Rhuddlan, 132;
son of Thurstan, 14
Roberts, Hugh, 58; Lewis, 130;
William, 60
Robert's Field, 9
Rochester, 16, 86
Rode, 96
Roden, The, 8, 9
Roe, James, 11
Roelan, 108, 111, 116
Roger, Earl, 136; of Poitou, 136
Rogers, Jane, 47
Rogerson, Einion, 88; Hugh, 88;
Richard, 88; Robert, 7
Roman road, 18; camp, 18
Roman settlement, 96
Roman wall, 8, 9
Rome, 20, 30
Rome in Mosset, le, 36
Romiley, 87
Roode, 101
Roode (Rood Eye), The, 18
Rosamond, Fair, 53
Rosengrave, Agnes, 48; Alice, 48;
Arms, 15; Beatrice, 15; Cicely,
65; Family, 22; Pedigree, 15, 26;
Randle, 65; Richard de, 15, 48,
66; William de, 15
Rosengrave, 15
Rosslyn Missal, 101
Rotherne, 25, 96, 116, 130
Rotter, Giles, 80; Raffe, 80
Round, Mr., 61
Roundheads, The, 5
Rowley, Family, 129
Rowton, 41, 48
Royal Oak, Order of, 26
Ruabon, 105
Rufford, 14
Rimington, Eleanor, 123; Sir John
123
Rushey Lower (Rysshoke), Paddock,
24
Rushton, 46, 71, 113
Russia, 4
Russell, Edward, 58; Dr., 3; Mr.
27
Ruthven, Alexander, 21
Rutter, le Roter Dorothy, 129;
George, 129; John, 135; Joseph,
135; Margaret, 135; Surname,
21, 23; William, 59
Rutunium, 9
Rydney, Henry, 104
Ryland, Mr., 90
Ryle, John, 104
Ryley, John, 104
Rysshoke, 25

S

- St. Alban's, 4, 89
 St. Anna, Chester, 59
 St. Ann's Chapel, 39; Cross, 39
 St. Anthony's Hospital, 55
 St. Asaph's, 91, 94
 St. David's, 94
 St. John of Jerusalem, Prior of, 44, 45
 St. Lawrence Church, 70
 St. Mary's-on-the-Hill, 30, 31, 55
 St. Peter's Street, 89
 St. Werburgh's Lane, 82
 Salces, 73
 Sale, 64
 Salesbury, Hugh, 45
 Salford, 131
 Saltham Massey, 45, 50
 Salisbury, Ann, 58; Earl of, 89;
 Richard, Earl of, 4
 Salisbury, 84
 Salmon, John, 37
 Salop, 74
 Salt, George, 88
 Sandbach, 74, 89, 96, 114
 Sandbach Church, Whelock Chancel,
 Sandford, 12 [15]
 Sanders, Rev. F., 79, 111
 Sandwich, 8
 Sandy Ford, 2, 46, 89
 Saracen's Head Inn, 83
 Sargent, Randle, 57
 Sanghall, 34, 36, 37, 49, 59, 118, 124,
 125, 128, 132; Great, 49; Green,
 49; Little, 49; Road, 52, 56, 57,
 59, 61, 70, 81, 82
 Savage, Lady Eleanor, 123; John,
 30; Sir John, 123
 Saxons, The, 49, 68
 Sberne, 124
 Scotland, 5, 6, 20, 21, 67, 92, 102
 Scott, Bishop Cuthbert, 88, 90, 91,
 94; R. F., 89, 104; Widow, 104
 Sealand, 49, 70
 Seckerson, Elizabeth, 117; John, 117
 Seddon, Richard, 5
 Sefton, —, 76; Earl of, 129; Roger,
 Sefton, 88 [111]
 Sefton's Croft, 38
 Segar, William, 15
 Segerston, John, 88
 Segrid, 124
 Sennard, 124
 Severn, The, 8
 Sewell, Robert, 78
 Shaftesbury, Earl of, 102
 Shaw, George, 103; John, 103
 Shelburn, Lord, 13
 Sheppard, Robert, 108
 Sherd, Mr., 88
 Ship Inn, 117
 Shipbrook, 35, 84, 96, 124
 "Shipton, Mother," 11
 Shirlocke, Richard, 24
 Shocklach, 77, 103, 114
 Shoemakers' Row, 82
 Shone, Thomas, 135
 Shone, Richard, 58
 Short, Robert, 103; Valentine, 58
 Shotwick, 34, 49, 61, 67, 84, 125;
 Church, 61, 122; Ford, 49, 67;
 Lodge, 49
 Shrewsbury, 27, 100, 115, 116, 117;
 St. Mary's, 116
 Shrigley, Reginald, 43
 Shrode, Robert, 74
 Shropshire, 9, 33, 36, 41, 59, 66, 69,
 72, 74, 116
 Nig.
 Shrubsole, Mr., 9
 Shurlach, 96, 113
 Sibroc, 84
 Segferth, 73
 Sigewine, 73
 Silchester, 16
 Sinderland, 113, 124, 130
 Sittington, 113
 Skeat, Dr. W. W., 9
 Skelherne, Francis, 60
 Skelton, 92
 Slare, Benjamin, 75
 Slater, William, 61
 Smarley, Edward, 3; Emma, 3
 Smith, Smythe, Aliso, 88; Bishop,
 51; Hugh, 128; John, 52, 88, 94;
 Margery, 88; Mr., 112; Richard,
 24; Robert, 88; Thomas, 103,
 104; William, 80, 103, 104
 Smith, Torbuck, also see Tarbuck
 Smithfield, 48
 Snead, Elizabeth, 60; William, 58,
 128
 Snel, 73
 Snell, Andrew, 102; Dorothy, 102;
 Dr. George, 101, 102; Joane, 102;
 John, 101, 102; Margaret, 102
 Snelson, see Snelston
 Snelston, Family, 14
 Snelston, 14, 73, 96, 124
 Somerford, Booths, 96, 113, 124;
 Radnor, 96, 100, 119
 Somerford, Eleanor, 88; Henry, 88
 Somerset House, 2, 41; Beaufort,
 Duke of, 4
 Soudyforthe, 12
 Sotowiche, 84
 Soughton, 124
 Sound, 114
 Southampton, 123
 Southwark, 59
 Southwell, 121
 Southwicke, John, 123
 Southwold, 74
 Spain, 113
 Spanne, Thomas, 60
 Spark, Rafe, 80
 Sparke, John, 58
 Sparke, Norley, also see Norley
 Speeds, John, 59, 70, 81
 Spettle, 39
 Spone, William, 13
 Sprag, Thomas, 31
 Sproston, Ellen, 60
 Sproston, 96, 119
 Spurstow, 41, 96, 130
 Stafford, 33
 Staffordshire, 33, 47, 53, 96, 97, 119
 Staley, 7
 Stamford, 73
 Stanaves, —, 76
 Standlow, 53
 Staneley, Robert de, 33
 Stanlegh, 64
 Stanley, Family, 111, 129; Isabel,
 129; James, 50; Sir John, 43,
 129; Margaret, 129; Roland, 2,
 3, 43, 44, 111, 112, 113; Thomas,
 129; Ursula, 112; Sir William,
 37, 45, 66
 Stanlen, 64, 69
 Stanley (P. Staley), 33
 Stanney, John, 47
 Stanney, 45, 46, 124, 125
 Stanwey, Stanway, Anne, 104;
 Ralph, 107; Robert, 104
 Stapleford, 52, 88, 123, 134
 Stapeley, Stapley, 96, 113, 114
 Starkey, Starkie, Family, 64;
 James, 111; John, 48; Richard,
 64
 Staveley, Robert de, 33
 Stayley, 72
 Steele, Captain, 104; John, 104;
 Richard, 104; Thomas, 104;
 William, 104
 Stein, 124
 Steinchetel, 124
 Stennulf, 124
 Stephen, King, 31, 114
 Stephenson, Alice, 40; Robert, 40;
 Nicholas, 61
 Steward, Thomas, 74
 Stockport, 87, 96
 Stockton, —, 78; Hugh, 90, 124,
 126
 Stockton, 66, 77
 Stoke, 16, 39, 45, 46, 59, 96
 Stoke Poges, 14
 Stone, 8, 9, 33, 125
 Stonebridge, 37, 49, 52, 57, 59, 70,
 81, 82
 Stoneleigh, 69
 Stoneleigh Green, 64
 Stoneley, 96, 96, 124
 Stonelegh, 64
 Storeton, 74, 114
 Storeton, 125
 Stony Dunham, 66
 Stow, —, 55
 Strange, Lord, 10
 Stratford on Avon, 66
 Street, William, 12, 60
 Strete, Agnes, 3
 Stretton, 77, 103
 Streytche, Robert, 80
 Stringer, Hugh, 58; Thomas, 61
 Stuart, Mary, 102
 Stubbs, 65
 Stublach, 96, 113
 St., Mr. Ar., 53
 Suagar, 114
 Suck and Coulter Inn, 82
 Suffolk, 16, 18, 74
 Suga, 124
 Sumerled, 73
 Summr, 73
 Suppersfield, 24
 Surrey, 71, 123
 Sutton, Family, 39, 40, 51; John,
 43, 74; Mr., 118; Sir Richard, 51
 Sutton (Cheshire), 43, 58, 96, 97
 Sutton in Macclesfield, 40, 51
 Sutton (Middlesex), 81, 96, 113
 Sutton (Surrey), 66
 Sutton in Wirral, 124
 Sutton, Great, 112, 125
 Sutton, Little, 125
 Swanlow, 1, 2; Lane, 2
 Swartic, 73
 Sweartool, 73
 Sweden, 67, 73
 Sweet, Dr. Henry, "Oldest English
 Text," 10
 Swegen, 73
 Sweperfeld, 24
 Swythe, Sir Arthur, 2, 3
 Swift, Isaac, 61
 Swinlow, Charles, 52
 Symmekok, Roger, 80
 Symons, William, 103
 Synxon Mart, Antwerp, 56

T

Tabley, 130; Nether, 81; Over, 81, 95, 124
 Tailyer, Samuel, 80
 Talk, 119
 Tanton Bell, The, 55
 Tapley, Over, 88, 122
 Tarbock al's Torbock, Torboke, Torbec, Torbuck Arms, 129; Chaplain, "Sir Robert," 130, 131; Dorothy, 129; Edward, 129, 130; Ellen, 129; Family, 128, 130; Hall, 130, 131; John, 129, 130; Madam, 129, 131; Margaret, 129; Mary, 129; Rauf, 131; Sir Richard, 129; Thomas, 130; Sir William de, 129, 130, 131
 Tarbock, Torbuck, 128, 130
 Tarporley, 2, 36, 71, 119, 130
 Tarvin, Vicar of, 29
 Tarvin, 39, 53, 63, 65, 88, 96, 121, 122, 123, 134
 Tattenhall, Emma, 48; Family, 49; William, 48
 Tattenhall, 115, 119
 Tatton, 95, 105, 119, 124
 Taxall, 87
 Taylor, —, 89; Elenor, 25; Ellen, 89; Canon Isaac, 3, 10, 36; John, 37, 58; Joshua, 58; Peter, 135; Richard, 32, 58, 76
 Temple, Colonel, 97; Miss, 97
 Tereth, 84
 Tetton, 119
 Teverson, 125
 Teselin, 136
 Theobald's, 2
 Thickness (Thickens), Rowland, 27, 118, 131
 Thingwall, 44, 45, 125, 130
 Thom, Roger, 60
 Thomas, John, 72
 Thomas, Widow, 47
 Thomassone, Lawrence, 80
 Thomason, Sybil, 112
 Thomson, John, 71
 Thorald, 73
 Thornton, Henry de, 28
 Thorneley, —, 90
 Thorint(ou), Henry de, 14
 Thornton, 39, 59, 96
 Thornton Hough, 61, 130
 Thornton-le-Moors, 124, 135
 Throppe, Thomas, 60, 61
 Thurb, 14
 Thurmud, 73
 Thurstan, Robert Fitz, 28
 Thurstaston, 112, 125
 Thwaite, Inner, 24; Outer, 24; Spencer's, 24; Tasey's, 24; Whinney, 24
 Tidgar, 73
 Tildesley, Edward, 130
 Tildesley, Thurstan, 50
 Tilston, Richard, 78
 Tilston, 48, 77, 90, 100, 103
 Tilston Fearnall, 96, 124
 Tinguelle, 84
 Tintwistle, 72
 Tiotes, 73
 Tip Green, 68
 Tittenley, 61, 96, 119
 Tilton, 96
 Tiverton, 66, 96, 114
 Tochi, 125

Tomlynson, Hankyn, 44
 Tomson, Mr., 124
 Toulon, 21
 Torentone, 84
 Toret, Thoret, Toreth, 125
 Torkington, 87
 Torpley (Tarporley), 71
 Townsend, Richard, 58
 Towton, 4
 Trafford, Piers, 80; Samuel, 36
 Trafford, Mr. 132
 Trafford, Henry, 91
 Trafford, 39, 59, 96
 Trafford, Old, 47
 Tranmere, 26, 41, 63, 125, 126
 Tranmere Manor, 63
 Tranmole, Bernard de, 26; William, de, 63
 Tranmole Manor, 63; Wood, 63
 Travers, John, 57
 Treifford, Edmund, 112
 Treifford, 112
 Tresham, —, 131
 Trotan, 73
 Trotbeck, William, 45
 Trygan, Trygarn, Griffith, 27
 Tual, 135, 136
 Tummas o' th' Onse, 21
 Tunendune, 72, 110, 111, 116
 Turneour, John, 60
 Turner, Bondle, 103; Thomas, 67
 Turton, 128
 Tushingham, 115, 119
 Tusahingham, William, 60
 Twemlowe, John, 103
 Tyack, Rev. S. C., 100
 Tybroughton, 33, 67
 Tyderinton, Thomas de, 33
 Tyreshare, Isabel, 24

U

Ucheldref, 121
 Uotred, 130
 Udeman, 130
 Uffeton, al's Olufeton al's Ulveton, 102
 Ufton, 101
 Ulbert, 130
 Ulchel, 130
 Ulf, 73, 130
 Ulfac, 130
 Ulmer, 130
 Ulmod, 74, 130
 Ulai, 130
 Ulster, 70, 71, 101
 Ulueua, 130
 Uluiet, 130, 136
 Ulnoi, 130
 Ulure, 133
 Uluric, 130, 136
 Uluinichit, 130
 Ulviet, 92
 Ulvre, 72, 95, 130, 133
 Ulvric, 87, 96
 Unicorn Inn, 82
 United States, 4
 Upton, Master J. de, 33
 Upton, 17, 38, 44, 45, 59, 96, 114, 123, 125, 126
 Urkell, John, 43
 Urmeston, William, 36
 Ustanson, William, 91
 Utkinton, 46
 Utkinton, House of, 10
 Utterwaite, 24

V

Valance Le, 50
 Vale Royal House, 1, 2, 5; Abbey, 20, 23, 72, 86
 Vaughan, Griffith, 85; Bp. Richard, 85
 Venables, Venator, —, 95; Anthony, 107; Elizabeth, 106; George, Baron of Kinderton, 90; Gilbert, 78, 114, 136; Hugh, 129; Joan, 129; Thomas, 122; Robert, 61, 106; Gen. Robert, 41, 106
 Verd (Verdon), Norman de, 114
 Vernon, Family, 35, 133; Joan, 129; Manor, 133; Richard, 17, 129, 133; Walter de, 136
 Vicar's Cross, 59
 Victoria, Queen, 23
 Virginia, 66, 71
 Vilers, Alan de, 114; Payne de, 114

W

W. E., 1
 Wainwright, Dr. John, 60
 Wakefield, 4; Battle of, 4
 Wakes, The, 41
 Walberswicke, 74
 Wales, 6, 17, 32, 67, 94, 114
 Walgherton, 96, 113, 119
 Walker, Ann, 60; Edward, 80; Jane, 48; Robert, 48
 Wall, Alice, 38; Nathaniel, 93; Richard, 47; Robert, 38, 93; William, 67, 38, 118
 Wall, 9
 Wallasey, 25, 43, 45, 64, 125, 126, 133; Church, 41, 43; Marsh, 24; Pool, 36
 Wallerscote, 133
 Walley, Arthur, 58
 Walley, Robert, 128
 Wallington, 33
 Walmurley, William, 131
 Walsh, —, 88; Eleanor, 88
 Waltham, 72
 Walton, Edward, 27
 Walton, Jane, 123
 Walton, 102
 West Walton, 86
 Walton Leghs, 129
 Wapentake, 130
 Wanslow Lane, 2
 Wappinge, 74
 Warburton, Peter, 6, 93
 Warburton, 93, 119, 124
 Warde, Thomas, 37
 Wardle, 96, 113, 133
 Warford, 119
 Warmund the Hunter, 135
 Warmundestrou, 12, 72
 Warringham, 68; Church, 27
 Warren, Earl of, 63
 Warrington, William, 60
 Warrington, 8, 88, 102, 114
 Warton, 45, 59
 Warwick, 3; Earl of, 4, 89
 Warwickshire, 102
 Water Tower, Chester, 81
 Waterford, Marquis of, 121
 Watkin, W. Thompson, 7, 8, 18
 Watling Street, 8, 9, 33
 Watt, Arrat, 78, 126; Thomas, 61
 Watts, Robert, 62
 Waverton, 15, 17, 35, 48, 61, 65, 88, 96, 113, 119

- Weaver, The, 74
 Weaver, 96, 106, 124, 129
 Weaverham, 25, 51, 90, 100, 133
 Webster, Thomas, 50
 Welbourn, John, 86
 Weld, Edward, 48; Margaret, 48
 Wellington, 70
 Wellington, al's Willington, 33
 Welsh Hills, 49
 Welshman, Thomas, 61
 Wentworth, Family, 41
 Wepre, 119
 Werburgh, St., 72
 Werden, Robert, 61
 Werneth, 72
 Wervin, 17, 96, 114, 126
 Westminster, 63, 105
 Westminster Abbey, 13, 63
 Weston in Wybunbury, 64, 119, 121
 Westone Manor, 69
 Wetenhall, Margaret de, 129
 Wethen, Robert, 13
 Wettenhall, 97, 119
 Whalley, 87
 Wharton, 84, 96, 113
 Wheat Sheaf Inn, 82
 Wheelocke, Hugh, 103; John, 104
 Wheelock, Whelock, 15, 96, 113
 Whickstead, Margaret, 61
 Whiclock Such, 45, 59
 Whitby, Jonathan, 60
 Whitbie, Thomas, 39, 100
 Whitechurch, 8, 69
 Whitechurch in Shropshire, 64, 95
 Whyte, White, Rev. Eben, 77;
 Hamnett, 80
 White Field, 38
 White Lion Inn, 82, 83
 White Talbot Inn, 82
 Whitegate, 2
 Whitehall, 105, 129
 Whitehead Robert, 132
 Whitewell, Mary, 67
 Whitley, Elizabeth, 124
 Whytteleigh, William, 80
 Whitley, 124
 Whitmore, George, 37; John, 37,
 112
 Whitney, Elizabeth, 104; James,
 104
 Whittle, Whittel, Christopher, 128;
 Hannah, 60; John, 58; Mary, 61
 Whittingham, Alice, 58
 Whittington, 68
 Whytteleigh, Richard, 80
 Wiard, 73
 Widdens, William, 61
 Widnes, Name of, 21
 Wigan, Wyggan, John, 3; Robert,
 12, 13; Dom Robert, 2, 3, 9;
 Rev. William, 12, 13
 Wigan, 79
 Wighe, 130
 Wistetestone, Wightreston, 92
 Wigland, 40, 67
 Wigstanton, 92
 Wilbraham, Dorothy, 53; Family,
 6; Randle, 6; Thomas, 52
 Wilbraham, 70
 Wilcock, George, 135
 Wilkesley, 61, 96, 119
 Wilkinson, Wilkinson, Hugh, 103;
 Richard, 61
 Wilkinson Villa, 62
 Willaston, Wilavestone, 61, 65, 92,
 96, 104, 130
 Wilcoxon, Arthur, 35
 William (various), 136
 William and Mary, 51, 60
 Williams, —, 121; Alderman, 49;
 Ann, 117; Ellis, 117; John, 58,
 60; Mr., 61, 62; Richard, 132;
 Thomas, 86; William, 58
 Williamson, Richard, 58; William,
 61
 Willington, 33, 67, 96, 97, 119
 Willington, Old, 119, 133
 Willington, Wellington, als see
 Willington
 Wilme, William, 58
 Wilmslow, Chancellor, 25
 Wilmslow, 87, 91, 130
 Wilson, George, 51; Margaret, 132;
 Radcliffe, 132; Randle, 61;
 Richard, 58; William, 61
 Wilsonne al's Cotgrave, Radcliffe,
 132
 Wiltshire, 2, 53, 126
 Wilton, 36, 125
 Wimbolds Trafford, 75, 119, 124
 Wimboldsley, 96, 124
 Wincham, 196, 114
 Winchester, 16, 30, 63, 101
 Windsor, Old, 16
 Winges, 44
 Winnington, 61, 124
 Wintrelet, 130
 Wirden, Alice, 117; Richard, 117
 Wirral, Wyrall, Hundred, 3, 6, 13,
 21, 23, 24, 36, 43, 44, 49, 61, 81,
 88, 95, 96, 111, 112, 114, 116, 122,
 124, 125, 126; Peninsula, 36;
 Forest, 64
 Wirewall, 8, 9, 69, 124
 Wirvin, 39
 Wirwyn, 73
 Wisbeach, 86
 Wiase, Thomas, 66
 Wistaston, 92, 96, 130
 Wisterson, 92
 Witches, The, 74
 Withen Hey, 39, 59
 Witter, John, 60
 Witton, 61, 90, 114, 116
 Wixterston, 92
 Wlfgar, 73
 Wlfstan, 73
 Wodenott, Edmund, 45
 Wodewards, Edward, 80
 Wolfere King, 61
 Wolford, 94
 Wolstan Wood, 92
 Wolston, Cicely, 48; Harry, 48
 Wolston, 65
 Woltonwodde, 50
 Woltonwood, see Wooton Heys
 Wombridge, 8
 Wood, Anthony, 101, 102, 121;
 John, 104
 Woodbank Lane, 49, 61
 Woodchurch, 25, 36, 43, 125, 126
 Wooddys, James, 80
 Woodford, 87
 Woodhey, 52
 Woodhouse, 8, 35
 Woodhouses, 35
 Woodman, —, 1
 Woodnett, Thomas, 78
 Woodstock, 102
 Woodward, Rose, 123
 Woolton, 24
 Wooton Heyes, 24
 Worcester, 82, 101
 Worlaston, 96, 113
 Worleston, 113, 124
 Worsborough Hall, 6
 Worthenbury, 33, 67, 84, 90, 100
 Worthington, Mrs., 51; Mr., 51
 Wrenbury-cum-Frith, 24, 48, 49, 70,
 96, 113, 124
 Wrexham, 68
 Wrygan, Thomas, 53
 Wrightington, 130
 Wright, David, 66; John, 61, 103;
 Margaret, 132; Mr., 53; Richard,
 60, 128; Robert, 128; Thomas,
 58, 132; William, 58
 Wrights' Hey, 34
 Wrinehill Hall, 125
 Wrotham, 86
 Wroxeter, 8, 9
 Wulfnoth, 73, 74
 Wulfrie, 73
 Wulfai, 73
 Wullaf, 73
 Wulwne (Wulfwine), 73
 Wutter, Peter, 80
 Wybunbury, 31, 67, 68, 92, 96, 106,
 119
 Wychough, 40, 67, 77
 Wylkokson, John, 24
 Wybunbury, 104
 Wymnshaw, 66
 Wyndesore, Sir Andrew, 37
 Wynn, Gwynn, Griffith, 105; Dr.
 John, 105; Owen, 105
 Wynteley, Randle, 104; Thomas, 104
 Wythenshaw, Robert, 103

 Y
 Yale, David, 85
 Yale, Mr. D., 47
 Yannes, Yeannes, Anne, 7; Family,
 7; Hugh, 7; Mr., 7; William, 7
 Yarwood, John, 43
 Yong, Henry, 61
 York, Archbishop of, 66, 76, 83, 90,
 107, 111, 112; Duke of, 4, 89
 York, 3, 4, 8, 9, 20, 71, 87, 90, 111,
 113
 Yorkshire, 6, 13, 90, 125
 Young, Sander, 25

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276

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FROM MANY SCATTERED FIELDS.

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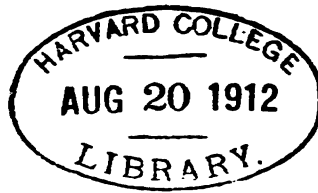
"OH, LET ME TEACH YOU HOW TO KNIT AGAIN
THIS SCATTER'D CORN INTO ONE MUTUAL SHEAF."

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TABLE OF CONTENTS.

Acton and Bunbury, 56
 Alvanley Lordship, 23, 61
 Apprentices for Virginia, 112
 Archers of Cheshire, 91
 Arrest of Mr. Legh in 1694, 37

Bacon, Trial of Lord, 75
 Baddiley Church Briefs, 43
 Bailiwick of Chester, Lease of, 73
 Bebington, Early Charter of, 57
 "Bidding" for Wedding Presents, 13
 Bidston Will, 6
 Bishop Law and the Cathedral, 21
 Bordland Tithes at Caldý, 24
 Boughton Tithe barn, 56
 Bradford families, 91, 101, 107
 Bradford, John, 91
 Bradford, Rev. Thos., 61, 70
 Brerewood family, 66
 Brettargh, Katherine, 89, 100, 118
 Brewhouse in Abbey Square, 81
 Bridge Gate, Guardians of the, 51
 Briefs for Collections, 29, 43
 Brownlow, Bishop, 8
 Bunbury and Acton, 56
 Burland notes, 110

Caldý, Great, tithes, 24
 Caldý, Little, Manor of, 35, 46, 54
 Catholics in Cheshire, 3, 12, 22, 77, 81, 83, 84, 113
 Charter, a "Forged," 14
 Charters, ancient, 19, 57, 93, 99, 102, 115
 Cheshire Archers, 91
 " in the Calendars, 77, 83, 84, 87, 89, 93, 99,
 104, 106, 109, 112, 114, 119
 " Family, ancient, 77
 " Gentry, lists of, 30, 34, 105
 " Highways in 1690, 40, 68, 83, 96, 115
 " Knights' fees, 1, 15, 43
 " Religious State of in 1580, 113
 " Schools and Masters, 116
 " Suits, 32, 40, 42, 45, 48, 50, 52, 60, 63, 65,
 68, 72
 " Weather Proverbs, 114, 115, 117

Chester, Abbey Square Brewhouse, 81
 " Bailiwick of, 1662, 73
 " Bridge Gate Serjeanty, 51
 " Cathedral Precincts, 64, 67, 69
 " Cathedral Reparation, 21
 " Deeds, 93, 115
 " Dee Mills, 57
 " Description of in 1690, 115
 " Gaol Governors, 105
 " Nuns of, 114
 " Poet, 61, 70
 " Rental, an old, 103
 " at the Revolution, 53, 56
 " St. Anne's Hospital, 19, 24
 " St. Anne's Lake, 18
 " St. John's Hospital, 33
 " St. Oswald's Briefs, 29
 " " Churchyard, 4, 6, 9, 11, 13
 " " Varia, 3, 21, 31, 38, 59
 " St. Peter's Rectors, 3, 10, 33
 " St. Thomas's Chapel, 74
 " St. Werburgh's, 109, 112
 " Siege of, 26, 59, 85, 97, 110, 116, 119
 " Will, 38
 Church Roll, Frodsham, 49, 66, 70
 Clergy, Dispensations for, 3, 104, 106, 109, 112
 Cotgrave family, 94
 Crane, Rev. Thomas, Letters of, 76, 96
 " " Patronage of, 16
 Cuddington Charter, 19
 Currie, Dr., 28

Daniell of Daresbury, 89, 99, 119
 Denwall Hospital, 107, 109
 Dee Mills, Lease of, 57
 Drinkwater of Thelwall, 2

Eastgate Ward, 97
 Essex Plot, the, 119

Fast and Thanksgiving Days, 38
 "Forged Charter," story of a, 14
 Frodsham and Alvanley Lordship, 23, 61 (2)

Frodsham a Century ago, 5
 " Church Roll, 49, 66, 70
 " Tombstone, 58

 Gallery as a Church Ornament, 31
 Gaol, old City, 106
 Gentry of Cheshire in 1673, 30, 34
 " " in 1745, 106
 Girl Apprentice in 16th Century, 75

 Handley Parish Records, 87
 Helsby, Raikes house at, 32
 Hilbre, old lease of, 51
 Hollis or Holes family, 77
 Holme, letter of Randle, 2

 Knights' Fees in Cheshire, 1, 15, 43

 Lancelyn of Poulton, 57, 75
 Lapse of a Cheshire Living, 88
 Legacies, an old Table of, 21
 Legh of Lyme, arrest of Mr., 37

 Maccolesfield Deeds, 99
 Mollington, find at, 73
 Molyneux and Talbot alliance, 72
 Moulson family, 105

 Nantwich; wick-house leads, 52, 60
 Newton-by-Chester, 104
 Nixon's Prophecy, 20, 86
 Norris rentals, 35, 46, 54, 103
 Northgate Ward, 116
 Nuns of St. Mary's, Chester, 114
 Nutter, Dean, as a money-lender, 96

 Parkgate road bridge, 73
 Paupers' legal Settlement, 33
 Plurality, a, 3

Poole of Cheshire and Pole of Devon, 10, 64
 "Portmanteau," 103

 Raikes House at Helsby, 32
 Relic of a Wreck, 26
 Religion in Cheshire in 1580, 113
 Revolution of 1688, 53, 56
 Rowton Heath battle, 8, 17
 Runcoorn as a Health Resort, 58
 Runcoorn Priory, 28

 St. Anne's Hospital, 19, 24
 St. Anne's Lake, 18
 St. Bridget's Ward, 85
 St. Martin's Ward, 110
 St. Michael's Ward, 119
 Saughall, Wreck at, 26
 Schools and Masters, 116
 Shrewsbury-Molyneux Puzzle, 72
 Siege of Chester, 1646, 26, 59, 85, 97, 110, 116, 119
 Stanley of Hooton, 84
 Star Chamber Cases from Cheshire, 40, 42, 45, 48,
 50, 52, 60, 63, 65, 68, 72

 Tithes of Daresbury, 89, 99
 Tombstones and Registers, 58
 Trinity Ward, 27

 Vanbrugh, Sir John, 19
 Vaughan, Bishop, Letters of, 25
 Virginia, Cheshire Apprentices for, 112

 Warmincham Lordship, 21
 Weather Proverbs of Cheshire, 114, 115, 117
 Wickhouse leads, 52, 60
 Wills, Cheshire, 6, 38
 Wirral Forest, 33
 Wistaston, discreditable Rector of, 38
 Wynn, will of David, 6



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NOTES.

[777] KNIGHTS' FEES IN CHESHIRE IN 1252.

The following is a translation of the list of the Knights' Fees in Cheshire given in the Red Book of the Exchequer, fo. 82 (ed. H. Hall, p. 184). The spelling has been preserved, and the baronies or manors of the holders of the fees have been supplied (within square brackets) when they are not mentioned in the original. Some of the divisions which had already taken place in the original fees are noticeable—e.g., the barony of Malpas held by Robert Patrick and David de Malpas; and the fee of Matthew of Thurstaston, successor of Robert of Rhuddlan in part of his barony in Wirral, held by three men. The division of the Wich Malbank fee has a bearing on the pedigree, for it shows that the eldest daughter's share (see Ormerod iii, 423) had been divided into two, one held by her daughter Philippa Countess of Warwick (who must have been still living in 37 Hy. III.; she was married as early as 4 Hy. III.), and the other jointly by Adam Mustel and Lawrence Sanford. The lands of one of Lady Philippa's sisters certainly came to Lawrence Sanford, but Adam Mustel seems to be unknown. Possibly these two were husbands of Philippa's nieces.

The even number of fees in the total should be noticed. The assessment must have been made before the Malbank lands were divided. The date of the document is 1252.

Cheshire—Fees of the county according to the inquiry made by Alan la Zouch then Justiciary.

	k. f.
Hamo de Masey [Dunham Massey]	5
Roger de Venables [Kinderton]	10
Warin de Vernon for part of Wych Malbank ..	5½
Do. for Schypbroke	6½ + ½
James de Audithele (part of Wich Maubank) ..	4
Philippa Countess of Warwick (do.)	3
Adam Mustel and } (do.)	3
Laurence Saunforde }	
Edmund de Lasey, of the barony of Hauletone [Halton]	8
Walkelin de Ardene [Aldford]	7
Roger de Monte Alto [Montalt]	2½
Thomas de Meingnewarin [Warmingham]	4½
Robert Patheric [half of Malpas]	3
David de Malo Passu [do.]	3
William de Bordele [Boydell of Dodleston]	4½
John Fitz Alan [Dunham on the Hill]	2
Kingesle with appurtenances [Kingsley]	1
Rowales [Rullos] fee (Waverton, &c.)	1
Pulforde [Pulford]	2
Patrick de Haselewelle, } [part of Rhuddlan] ..	1
Bertram de Molis, and } Matthew de Thorintone }	
Edmund de Soterleghe [Stoke]	1
Heirs of Adam de Helleby hold Acton [in Weaverham] for	½
Geoffrey de Ditton [Dutton] in Chelde [Chedale]	1
Earl of Aubermarle [Albemarle] in Fuleschawe [Fulshaw]	1
John de Grey in Adelintone [Adlington]	½
Sewale de Chiderintone [Titherington]	½
William Bridone in ward at Swettenhan [Swettenham]	½

[778] PETER DRINKWATER OF THELWALL.

In the Harleian MS. 2039 (ff 240, 241, and 188) are two letters and a rough tricking of arms. The first of these, truly described in the Catalogue of the Harleian Collection as "an odd sort of a Letter" reads as follows:—

"Mr. Hulme

My selfe & some others my freinds are uppon preffrment in Poynte of marriage wth persons of quality, from whom it is desired, whether or noe, Wee can hy our Pedegree, give a Coate of Armes. Admitt its my Case beeing a Wydowre. From ye Herralds at London searchinge the Records wee have it sett forth (w^{ch} I und'stand you seeme to oppose), And I much admire it, in regards the fower [? fear] or favor the gentry, the loss yo'r profit, and such in these parts that enioy y'r place when you are dead, who are but of a late standinge. Yo'r Late Father was my Familles kynd freind and since his death I have found yo'r respect & you have had myne, Witnes the money I have paide and provided you uppon sev'all funeralls to my loss at Dunham, w^{ch} I wish may remynd you, wth desire, that both my selfe or any of my syne & name, may rather fynde yo'r favour in this case [?] then opposission w^{ch} can noe way advantage you. There are some in & of Cheshire have by Gods providence got goods & states & soe obteynde a Coate of Armes & many Nobly borne beeing poore, & there issue are little regarded, Wise Cecill saith, That gentil is but ancient riches, I could say more touchinge the corruption of names, w^{ch} y'r quarrell But that I leave to yo'r Consideracion ever restinge.

To you as unto

(Signed) PETER DRINKWATER
gener's.

Thelwall ye 27 Apr. 57.

This letter is endorsed:—

"To my much esteemed
freind Mr. Randle Hulme
at the city of Chester. These."

and is sealed with the arms he desired to have confirmed to him.

The trick of the arms referred to above, gives them as:—Argent, two bars and a canton gules charged with a cinquefoil or. Crest: A swan argent, The latter is on a wreath and placed directly above the shield. To the right of the crest is a helmet beside which is the somewhat unnecessary remark:—"This Helmett first upon the Coat & then the swan & wreath bearing the crest upon the helmet." A note attached to the cinquefoil explains that it "is called a sinck foyle or outward springing." In addition to "gu" being written on the bars are remarks:—"This gold" and "This filde is to be gold" respectively, but this last is doubtless an

error, the field being another metal. Underneath the trick are the notes:—

"Drinkwater alis Durumwater beareth
argent two barres and a canton gules
charged with a cinquefoile gold."

"There is Durumwater & Derwinckwater all
one coat and one falmlei and for abbreviation
Drinkwater."

To this Randle Holme the second of the name replied:—

Mr. Drinkwater. I rece'd yo'rs 29th April 57 since w^{ch} tyme it pleased god to visit me with sicknes & an Infirmitie in one of my leggs that I was forced to become a stranger to my owne Closest till now that it hath pleased him to sett me on foote againe (this cause hindered me in the answearinge your l're). As nere as I can to give both yo'r selfe & yo'r friends satisfaccoon is thus, yo're desire in respect of y'r preferm't of either yo'r selfe or others of the family to know what Cote you by descent may beare, whether law'llly the Aimes you have sealed with or some other (by Authority) by reason I doe much question the truth of this now borne, w^{ch} you say is by tolleration from some heralds att London found in searchinge records.

(I answeare) the cote given is . . . by the Cote & Crest of Mr. Derwent of Derwent in the County of Lancaster (an antiently family liveinge neere Derwent river from whence it is conceived he tooke his surname) his descent is entred in the Lancashire Visitation Ano 1567, with that Cote, so that then it could not be appropriated to yo'r family of Drinkwater as now assumed, for all the conceites devise of the note I have, which was said to be tricked some Heralds in London calling it Drinkwater al's Drannwater or Derwinkwater or Durumwater and soe Doe assume the s'd Coate—but herein is the error, they mean Derwyn or Derwentwater aboord & soe fram it to Drinkwater, But I have conversed with Dooctor Jackson a gatherer of Antiquities who liveth at the s'd place to know if any Drinkwaters be in Lancashire of note or Cote Armors, or that beareth the name of Drentwater, by corruption of tyme & place called Drinkwater he answered nev' knew or read of any of that name that did take it from Derwentwater, onely he knoweth one Mr. Cliffe who liveth by ye Drim or waterside to be called Mr. Drinkwater as others in like nature may be, who hath drunk nothings but water this 20 yeares & upwards & so is called Mr. Drinkwater to this Day of a nickname it had it(s) first denominacon, I viewed all my Lexicons and other bookes & all agree it to be Derwent Cote.—And for to help your Assumpit I find in two Alphabets two of the name of Derwentwater who bare, blew, two barres Argent on a q'rter gules a Cinquefoile Argent, the other Derwentwater Mounsier John about E. iv. tyme who bare Argent two barres gules a Handkerchaffe Argent tassles or, both these Cotes nowe in the mater to Derwent Cote, beinge Argent two barres and a

Canton gules on the Canton a Cinquefoile Gould, and these by supposition may be descend' from Derwent water & hold the name, w'ch if it were not soe that the corruption of tyme & alteration of place might be called Drinkwater then the point stands thus, I must be satisfied in the descent of yo'r proceedeinge from that family of what shire soev', to beare one of the twoe coates of Derwent-water (& not Derwent's Cote) to seeke a descent from other Counties without proffe will doe noe good.

& for yo'r further satisfaccon of the name of Drinkwater in Cheshire I find it antient—for in the Excheq'r of Chester Roule 99 I find Jo. Boydel of Lyme—to bringe his writt against Jo. Holme & Agnes his wife & Thomas Drinkwater by Plea of Assize of novel Disseisin of tenen'ts in Lyme 39 E. iii. from this Hulme I am descended & from the other I consid—— & those of Thelwall you may be descended if scruteny were made therein—— in Halton Co't Rolls, I find Arnold Drinkwater of Sutton & Rafe Drinkwater of Antrobus to live 27 H. viii. & Jo Drinkwater of Bodon to live 1560 but noe cotes ent'red for them or any other till Mr. Peter Drinkwater of Chester Alderman sonne to Jo. Drinkwater of Sutton had one confirmed for the posterity of the s'd John. I have seene a contrary cote to all these w'ch came from Ireland used on the body of Mr. Nath Drinkwater sonne to the s'd Peter but on w't grounds I know not, I conceive because the herald knew not his father's Armes.

(The result of all this is) I should be ready to serve you my old friend in what lyeth in me or any my books, & I know you would not but upon good grounds I should doe it & although eich in these dayes doe beare & doe what is good in their owne eyes because there is no kinge in Israell, yet a tyme may come eich must give an account therein of the truth of the beareings by descent or grant. I conceive the name of those Drinkwaters of Lyme to be some other name, my reasons I have give, what I have found I have writt, & upon further heareinge from you I shall doe what lyeth in me to give you satisfaccon, & not stand in opposition to truth but accordinge to my place cleare doubts & correct abuses and in frindly office be ready to serve you, & soe remaine as ev' I have byn y'r loveinge friend to Command.

(Signed) RANDLE HOLME.

Chester this 12 June '57.

Endorsed:—"For Mr. Peter Drinkwater
at his house in Thelwall theis."
J. H. E. BENNETT.

[779] A PLURALITY.

The following dispensation by Bishop Majendie in 1804 has several points of interest in connection with local history.

Henry William, by Divine Permission Bishop of Chester. To our Beloved in Christ the Reverend Thomas Mawdesley Clerk Master of Arts Vicar of

Saint Oswalds in the City and our Diocese of Chester, Greeting. Whereas you have by Petition in writing under your hand, represented unto us that you are the licensed Stipendiary Curate of the perpetual Curacy of Saint Peter in the said City and actually serve the said Cure And that your Vicarage of Saint Oswald is a Benefice of small value and have petitioned us to grant you our License to reside out of the Parsonage House and out of the Parish of Saint Oswald aforesaid pursuant to "An Act passed in the 43d Year of the Reign of his Majesty King George the Third," for the purpose of exempting you from pecuniary Penalties and Forfeitures. And whereas we are fully satisfied of the truth of the necessary facts stated in your said Petition, and have duly considered all the Circumstances therein set forth. Therefore, We do by these Presents grant you our License (to continue in force for two years from the Date hereof unless We or any of our Successors shall judge it expedient to revoke the same) to reside out of the parsonage House and out of the Parish of Saint Oswald aforesaid You compleatly repairing without unnecessary delay the parsonage house and buildings belonging to your said Vicarage and you having provided for the serving of the said Cure to our satisfaction.

Given under our Hand the twenty-eighth Day of March in the Year of our Lord One Thousand Eight Hundred and Four and of our Consecration the fourth.

H. CHESTER.

Is there any other case known of a Chester incumbent holding at the same time a stipendiary curacy in an adjoining parish? Were there any special circumstances which made the living of St. Oswald's "of small value" in 1804? Why is the Rectory of St. Peter's here described as a "perpetual curacy?"

E. C. L.

JANUARY 14, 1903.

NOTES.

[780] ROMAN CATHOLICS IN CHESHIRE, 1717-1767 I.

The following extract from a return made for the Diocese of Chester may be of interest as shewing the growth of Roman Catholicism in fifty years in Cheshire, between the dates 1717 and 1767. The extract is taken from a complete return now to be seen in the Bishop's Registry at Chester and will serve as a specimen. The letters "n.r." mean that "no return" was made.

HOLLY.

An account of Papists within the Diocese of Chester.

	Anno	Anno	
DEANRY OF CHESTER.	1717	1767	
St. Bridgett	-	3	
St. John Baptist	46	43	John Cowling
Little St. John	-	-	Priest
Saint Mary	7	13	
Saint Martin	7	9	
Saint Michael	-	1	
Saint Olave	-	3	
Saint Oswald	12	46	All in Chester
Bruera	-	-	
St. Peter	-	9	
Trinity	-	1	
St. Werburgh's Cathed- ral	-	1	
Barrow	-	1	
Christleton	-	-	
Dodleston	-	-	no kind of Dis-
Eccleston	1	-	senters
Farndon	-	-	
Guiden Sutton	-	1	
Hawarden	-	4	
Holt	25	1	
Iscoyd	-	-	
Ince	1	-	
Plemondstall	2	1	
Pulford	-	-	
Tarporley	6	-	
Tarvin	4	-	
Hargreave	-	-	
Thornton	5	1	
Waverton	-	-	
Tot.	116	138	

DEANRY OF WIRRAL.

Backford	2	-	
Belbington	-	3	
Bidston	-	9	
Birkenhead	-	-	
Bromborough	n.r.	26	
Burton	-	35	*See footnote
Eastham	30	50	†See footnote
Heeswall	-	1	
Neston	18	69	
Overchurch	-	-	
Shotwick	13	2	
Stoak	-	3	
Thurstaston	-	2	
Wallasey	n.r.	-	
Westkirkby	-	6	
Woodchurch	2	1	
	65	207	

(To be continued.)

*John Stanley Massie of Puddington Esqre. Rd. Reeve Pr :

†Sr. Row'd Stanley, Bart. Eastham. Anth: Carrol Pr. to Sr. R. Stanley.

[781] ST. OSWALD'S CHURCHYARD, 1575.-1625. I.

The object of this paper is to try to sketch the Churchyard as it was 300 years ago, and to illustrate it by extracts from St. Oswald's Churchwardens' Accounts for the above period. The Churchyard then embraced the land on the south side of the Cathedral, that at the east end up to the City Walls on the east, and the old Abbey Court on the north and also a small piece at the west end. The general impression one gains of its condition 300 years ago is that of an open space, trespassed upon by cattle, kept in a filthy state, without any paved footpaths before 1593, and until 1619 neither levelled nor enclosed.

Ancient Plans.—What can we get from maps? There are six of this period, or a little before or after, with which the present writer is acquainted.

i. The Plan of the Monastery at the time of the Dissolution (1539), in the Holmes' Collection in the British Museum (Lysons' "Magna Britannia," vol. ii., p. 452), shews four openings into the Churchyard—two on the south side (viz.: one at the top of Werburgh-street, and another about 15 yards from the City Walls), and two on the west side (one opposite to the west entrance to the present Music Hall, which at that time stood back some 15 yards from Northgate-street, and a much narrower opening at the south-west corner of the buildings of the Monastery, almost opposite to the west door of the Cathedral—near the south-west corner of the present King's School). The plan also shews a clear space on the south side of the present Music Hall.

ii. The Map by William Smith (of Nuremberg), Rouge Dragon, of 1580, depicts the Churchyard as a large open space, but does not afford much guidance, as the Cathedral is placed too far to the north, and the Bishop's Palace is omitted altogether.

iii. The Map in Braun's "Civitates Orbis Terrarum," 1572-1618, also omits the Bishop's Palace. It shews, however (what no other map that I have seen shews), a wall or paling running south-east from the south-west corner of the Cathedral, and another running up to the City Walls at the east end, while below the Walls on the south-east there is an enclosed space planted with trees.

iv. Speed's Map, 1610, shews a wall or paling running south from the south-west corner of the Palace, and enclosing the Churchyard on the west side, and another running from the south-east corner of the south Transept to the top of Werburgh-street on the east side; and also a passage into Northgate-street, where the present Music Hall-passageway is.

v. The Plan of the Fortifications in 1643 throws practically no light on our subject.

vi. Hollar's Ground-plott, 1653, gives the wall from the south-east corner of the Transept to Werburgh-street, and the Music Hall-passageway, and

also what looks like a wall enclosing a space in front of the west door, and another wall beginning from the south-west corner of the Cathedral, and running south for some little way, and then turning west up to Northgate-street.

Entrances.—A comparison of the above will suggest that we must look elsewhere than to maps for definite information as to the Churchyard, so far as its boundary walls are concerned. As regards entrances to it, it may be fairly assumed that there were ways leading into it opposite the west door of the Cathedral, by the present Music Hall-passage, and at the top of Werburgh-street; and perhaps another between this last and the Walls. But the description of the Chester streets in the time of Edward III. (given in "Sheaf," 1st series, vol. i., 671) shews that there were once two others on the south side, viz., Leen Lane and Godstall Lane. The latter still exists in a modernized form. Leen Lane ran parallel to it, nearer to Northgate Street. The following is the description:—

"In Estgate Strete:

On the northe syde of the saide strete is a layne that goithe out of the saide strete by the mease (messuage) side late William Stanmer, and so to the Kirke yorde of Sante Oswaldest caulyd Leen Lane, and benethe it upon the same syde nere the Estgate is a Layne caulyd Sant Goddestall Lane, and so goithe out of the saide strete into the saide church yarde and upon the syde nere the Estgate ther ys a lane caulyd Saint Werburghe Lane and it shoutythe into the forsaide church yarde."

Walls.—We may learn something of the boundary walls of the Churchyard from the limits of the monastery as laid down in 1509 in the Award between the Abbot and the City of Chester, quoted by Canon Morris in his "Chester during the Plantagenet and Tudor Periods," pp. 134-5: "Limits of monastery should begin at great west gate thereof, within the same gate, and soe following within the said wall of the monasterie, northward, nigh unto the town wall of the city, and so following within town wall unto the postern in the same wall going into a place called caleyard or convent garden, accordinge to the walls and ditches of the same: and so to returne again to the said postern, and from thence following within said towne wall southwards towards the Eastgate Strete against the end of a stone wall that abutteth nigh upon St. Werburghe Lane, that lyeth from the abbey toward the Eastgate Street, so from the stile, following within town the ould wall that abutteth nigh upon the said town wall, unto the church stile unto the west end of the new church stile, at the west end of the new church, including the new houses built at the same because they be inhabited by citizens havinge theire entrie and regresse unto and from the said houses towards the streete of the saide citie, and soe following by the saide newe houses northward within the wall of the said monastery, unto the saide greate west gate, where the limitt began."

The "church stile" would be at the top of Werburgh Street, and it and the wall in which it was set were still in existence as shewn by entries in the Churchwardens' Accounts:—

1601. Paid for making of the Wall going into the Church Yardvjs.

Item paid for the carriage of sixe lodes of Stones, and two lodes of Clay, at 9d. the loadevjs.

Item paid for lime and stone for the Wall...xxiiijd.

1610. For a loade of stonne and mendinge the wall at the Church steelevs. xd.

Item for the carriage of the stone and for clay . xd.

1615. Paid for stone for the wall of the Church-yard gate and for makinge the walliiij. s. iijd.

The "new church" referred to is, of course, the present Music Hall. And if the first 'stile' mentioned stood some 15 yards from the City Walls, we have in the three stiles spoken of, three openings into the Churchyard accounted for of the four shewn in Randle Holme's Plan of the Monastery at the time of the Dissolution, the one at the west end of the Cathedral not being noticed.

E. C. L.

(To be continued.)

[782] FRODSHAM A CENTURY AGO.

The following account of Frodsham, copied from a Gazetteer published in 1808, is of some interest. The derivation of the place-name may be dismissed as erroneous:—

FRODSHAM, a market town and parish in the hundred of Eddisbury, Chester, on the banks of the river Weaver, 10 miles from Chester, and 193 from London; containing 272 houses and 1,551 inhabitants. Its name is supposed to be derived from a ford over the river before the erection of its present stone bridge. The town consists of two main streets, spacious and well paved, intersecting each other at right angles about the middle of the town. The church stands on a lofty hill, at the extremity of one of these streets, and is a very handsome ancient building, repaired and beautified in 1790. The town has a well-endowed free school. The circumference of the parish is about 31 miles, bordering on the forest of De la Mere, and containing about 10 small villages, besides the market-town. The principal employment of the inhabitants is in the refining of salt, and in a small manufacture of cotton. A graving dock and yard have been lately erected here, for building and repairing of vessels. At the west end of the town formerly stood *Maurice castle*, the seat of the earls Rivers. On Beacon-hill, above the town, was formerly placed a signal-beacon. This hill is now cut out into walks, having a gradual ascent to the summit, whence there is a charming prospect of the surrounding country, intersected by the rivers Mersey and Weaver, and the navigable canal. The town is well supplied with water from several excellent springs, one of

which discharges 1,700 gallons in a minute, and is used as a cold bath. The market is on Thursday; and fairs on the 15th May and 21st August, for cattle. The living is a vicarage, value £23 13s 11d., in the patronage of the dean and canons of Christ church, Oxford.

JANUARY 21, 1903.

NOTES.

[783] AN EARLY BIDSTON WILL.

The following will of David Wynne of Bidston, dated 1571, is from the Prerogative Court of Canterbury, though it is not quite clear why it should have been proved there and not at Chester. Probably this was due to the fact that a portion of his property was in Mold and another portion in Lancashire, while he himself lived and had possessions in Cheshire.

It is not at all certain in what capacity he was settled at Bidston. He was evidently a man of considerable means and unless he was the Earl of Derby's bailiff and lived at the Hall, it is difficult to assign him a residence and occupation, in this—at that date—comparatively obscure village. It is possible that he was Incumbent of the Parish Church; but if so it is odd that he does not so describe himself in his will. It is significant, however, that he refers to "Sir Robert my curate," no doubt Sir Robert Urmston, who at this time and for some years afterwards was Curate of Bidston. He also speaks of "Sir William now chaplain at Morton." This in all probability was the "Sir William Yemenson" or Edmundson who in the 1563 Visitation (*MS. Bishop's Registry*) is mentioned as "curatus capelle de Morton" in Bidston Parish. It may be added that he is described in the margin of this Visitation as "pauper"! If indeed we have here in David Wynne the name of another Vicar, it will go some way to fill up the gap in the list of Vicars or Perpetual Curates at Bidston. Arthur Swift, who was Incumbent from *ante* 1541, seems to have died or resigned between the Marian Visitation of 1554 and that just referred to in 1563, and we know of no successor until the Rev. John Martin appears in 1581, but as he died in 1610 there is nothing improbable in his having held the cure from as early as 1571. If then it can be proved that David Wynne followed Arthur Swift, say about 1560, and held the living until his death in 1571, and was then immediately succeeded by John Martin, we have with the material now collected a complete list of the Incumbents from the founding of the See to the present day.

WM. FERGUSSON IRVINE.

Birkenhead.

4 Sept. 1571. I DAVID WYN of the of Bidstone in co. Chester.

I give 40s. towards the building of the Parish Church of Molde, & 10s. to the building of Parish Church of Bidstone. To the poor of Molde 40s.

To John Wyn my nephew's son & heir of John Wyn my brother £10. To Alexander Wyn my nephew 20 marks; to Peter Wyn my nephew £10; to Margaret dau. of my said bro. John £10; to Elizabeth sister of the said Margaret £10; to Katheryn sister of the said Elizabeth £10; to the first of the said 3 dau's that shall be married £6 13s. 4d.

To David ap Rees Lloide £5. To John ap Roger my nephew being a poor boy 33s. 4d. to help him to service. To the children of Edward ap Gruffith ap Richard ap Gwyn, £4.

To John ap William ap John £4; to Edward ap William 20s.; to Gruffith ap William 20s.

To the dau. of David ap Edneved my nefe 40s. To John ap Richard ap Jevan 13s. 4d. To John ap John ap Ellys 6s. 8d. To Jevan ap Jevan 5s. To Jevan ap John ap Richard 5s. To Margery Bedson 3s. 4d.

To Sir Robert [Urmston] my curate 2s. To Sir William [Edmundson] now chaplain at Morton 2s.

I will that Elizabeth my wife have all my goods, in Cheshire & "Longcastershire"; also £5, on condition that she do not claim any more of my goods or any of the land now in my possession in mortgage in co. Flint & elsewhere.

The residue of my goods to my said brother John whom I make ex'or.

John Gruffith Esq., & Howell ap John ap Harrys, gent., to be overseers.

To Miles of Penberton [*sic*] my Godson 12d.

Witnesses: Ithell Wyn, Will: Kelley, Edw. ap Thomas, Roh. Apemberton [*sic*], John Martyn, Thos. Ley, Thos. Madocke, Hen. Benet, John ap John ap Ellis Griffith & Ithell, Rob. ap John ap Rees, Jevan ap Jevan.

Proved 5 March, 1571[-2].

[784] ST. OSWALD'S CHURCHYARD, 1575-1625. II.

(Continued from No. 781).

Environment.—What can we learn, next, as to the surroundings of the Churchyard? By the courtesy of the Dean of Chester, I have been allowed to make extracts from three old Leases copied into one of the Chapter books, which help to bring the scene vividly before us.

Let us begin by the west-end of the Cathedral. A photograph, taken about half a century ago, shews on the left, as we approach the west door, the old Bishop's Palace, occupying the site of the present King's School, but projecting as far into the street as the Vaulted Chamber does. The street is a narrow one, with no footpath on the left, and on the right only extends in width to the right-hand

side of the west door, but was once still narrower as in the Churchwardens' Accounts for 1617, we find—

Paide for takinge up the grate and stoope and levelling p't of the Churchyard and enlarginge the way to the Church at the King's beinge in Chester 0. 11. 10.

I shall refer to the 'grates' later on. But what was the 'stoope?' From an article in the 'Sheaf' (vol. I. of the 1st series, 620) we learn that in Halliwell's Archaic Dictionary, a 'stoup' in the North is a 'short stout post driven into the ground,' and that such posts at one time were common as boundary marks, or as mere ornaments in front of the city mansions of our gentry and substantial householders. May I hazard the suggestion that this was an old boundary mark between St. Oswald's Ward and the Corn Market Ward, and one of those referred to in the list of the Wards of the City (cir. 1333-9) given in the "Sheaf," vol. I. of 1st series, No. 1297? "Saynt Oswald's Ward. From the Stolpis in the Corn Market, &c." . . . "The Corne Market Ward. From the same stoules in the Corn Market, &c." The Corn Market then stood in Northgate Street.

To return to the photograph. Where the Palace wall projects (i.e. at the south-west corner of the present Vaulted Chamber) a railing, with gates in it runs at right angles, and between it and the west front of the Cathedral on the south side are numerous grave-stones. On the nearer side of the railings a narrow lane goes off to the right, in the direction of the Common Hall (now the Music Hall).

Between this lane by the Bishop's Palace and the Common Hall there was 300 years ago a garden enclosed with a stone wall, and also stables, malt-rooms, and other buildings, as is shewn by a Lease, dated 25th April, 1662, in which for an annual rent of two shillings the Dean and Chapter let "All that parcell of ground ancyently Inclosed out of the Churchyard Called St. Oswald's Churchyard as the same is and for many yeares last past hath beene inclosed with a Stone wall and converted of late yeares into a Court and garden with divers building Stables malt roomes and other Edifices erected and standing thereupon and now in the possession or occupation of the said Henry Harpur and Dulcibella his wife or their Assignee or Assignes, and abutting on the high way leading to the Bishop's Pallace to the Church of St. Oswalds on the north part and to the Comon Hall on the south part and adjoyneing to the tenem't called the wolfs head upon the west part and to the Churchyard aforesaid on the East part with all waies waters liberties and hereditaments thereunto belonging." [The "Wolf's Head" is a sign that has long disappeared.]

Then comes the Common Hall, in those days some 15 yards shorter than now on the West side, and as we have seen, there was a stile in the wall

opposite its west door into Northgate Street, and a passage on its south side. On the other side of this passage stood the Vicarage, which is thus described in a valuation made in 1649 ("Sheaf," vol. III. 1st series, 2037): "One Viccaridge house, standing neare the Common Hall in Chester, now in the occupation of Mrs. Bridge, wife to the late viccar: which Consisteth of one Hall, one Buttorie, Sixe little chambers, and a Stable and Haylofte much out of repaire, and one garden about 2 pole, with a little yeard before itt." According to Mr. Thos. Hughes the Vicarage itself stood upon the spot now occupied by McHattie's warehouse at the north-west corner of the ancient Leen Lane; but the property included everything up to God's-Stall Lane.

Continuing eastward, between God's-Stall Lane and Werburgh Street lay three gardens at the rear of a house in Eastgate Street, and with a right of way into the Churchyard. This appears from a Lease, dated 28th April, 1662, by which the Dean and Chapter, for an annual rent of 4s. 4d. let "All that free entrie and way through the Churohyarde of St. Warburgs afores'd from a certaine Messuage or burgage in the Eastgate street of the said City wherein Will'm Aldersey aforesaid did inhabit and dwell and all those three gardens or garden places lyeing neare the Churchyard of St. Warburgs aforesaid heretofore in the tenure of Will'm Aldersey, with all buildings thereupon erected and all wayes passages easements p'fits comodities privileges and appurtenances to the said gardens or any of them lyeing belonging or appertaining or therewith now or at any tyme heretofore rightly held used or enjoyed or deemed accepted reputed taken or knowne to bee as part parcell or member thereof or thereto belonging in any wise."

At the top of Werburgh Street, on the East side of the great gate of the Churchyard apparently stood the house of Mr. William Fisher, who was 'seessed' in Warburge Lane, and who is more than once mentioned in the Churchwardens' Accounts:

1593. To Wm. Greene for sixe days worke in taking downe the hill by Fisher's garden and laying it even iijs.

1594. For mending the locke by Fishers and for a shoote for the same vjd.

1595. For a sparr for the grate by Fishers, and for a side sparr, and to the Workmen xvd.

1619. For tynber and workmanshipe for the greate gate next Mr. Will'm Fishers xxijs. vjd.

Lastly we come to the "Green Churchyard," which is defined for us by a Lease, under date 28th November, 1631, by the Dean and Chapter, for an annual rent of 11s. 8d., of "The severall parcels of land hereafter mentioned, that is to say one garden in St. Oswald's Churchyard in the City of Chester and one other parcell of land comonly called the Greene-Churchyard and joyneing to the East end of the said Church, and extending in length by the wall side of the said City from the house of Daniell Butler unto a garden plott adjoyneing to the house

of Charles Ducker one of the Præbendaries of the said Cathedral Church, and all buildings thereupon erected and builded" "together with free Ingate Outgate and liberrall passage as well for Carts Waines and horses as for people on horseback or on foot to and from the premisses at all tymes whatsoever." There is one reference to the "Green Churchyard" in the Churchwardens' Accounts:—

1604. To Richard Stockton for a boulit and a locke for the greene-churchyard doorexzd.

Where was this door? Had it taken the place of the first stile mentioned in the 'Limits of the Monastery in 1509,' and was it the easternmost opening in the south wall shewn in Randle Holme's plan? or did the wall or paling exist, with this door in it, which is shewn in Speed's map of 1610 as running from the south-east corner of St. Oswald's Church to the top of Werburgh Street on the East side?

E. C. L.

(To be continued.)

[785] BISHOP BROWNLOW.

In a little life of the late Bishop Brownlow (Clifton), issued by the Catholic Truth Society, it is stated that he was born on 4th July, 1830, at Wilmslow Rectory, his father being William Brownlow, rector of the parish. "The early training of the future Bishop was of that deep and thorough kind which leaves its mark on a lifetime. From the Bishop's scanty references to his family we can gather that the home-life at the Cheshire rectory must have sown the good seed with no stinting hand. Piety was fostered in the household. A sister of the Bishop, Melise Brownlow, who was three years his junior, died in 1857, after a life of singular goodness and self-forgetfulness. Her last days, though full of suffering, were passed in complete resignation to God's holy will. Shortly after her death her brother published a pamphlet with the title 'A Short Memoir of Melise H. M. Brownlow,' which was the earliest of his published works." William Robert Brownlow was educated at Rugby and Cambridge (Trinity College) and ordained in the Anglican ministry, but in 1863 was reconciled to the Church of Rome, ordained, and finally became Bishop of Clifton (1894), dying 9th November, 1901.

JANUARY 28, 1903.

NOTES.

[786] ROWTON HEATH. I.

The following account of the defeat of King Charles I.'s army at Rowton Heath is of particular interest as being written by the chaplain of the victorious side. It forms a pamphlet of fourteen pages, 5in. by 7 inches.

G. P. GAMON.

A Tract Entitled

The Kings Forces Totally Routed By the Parliaments Army, under the Command of Major Generall Poyntz and Cheshire Forces, on Routon-Heath, within 2 miles of Chester, Sept. 24.

Together with

The State of the Siege at Chester
and

A List of the Lords, Knights, Commanders and common Souldiers slain and taken prisoners

There being above one thousand prisoners taken, and the whole Army Routed

Ordered by the Commons assembled in Parliament, that this be forthwith printed and published

H: Elsaynge, Cler: Parl: D: Com:

Printed for Edward Husband, Printer to the Honorable House of Commons Sep. 29, 1645.

To the Honorable William Lenthall Esquire, Speaker of the House of Commons

Honourable Sir

Wee still keep the Suburbs of Chester, and yesterday joining our forces with Major Generall Poyntz, God gave us a great victory over the Kings Army, whereby God hath not only given us, but the Kingdom much cause of joy and thankfulness: We have such earnest business at present upon us, that we ourselves cannot have time to represent to you the particulars, but have commanded the Chaplin to our Forces, who was an eye witness to all that was done, to give you a full accompt thereof: All that we shall trouble you with at instant, is to renew our humble requests, that you will be pleased to expedite our Remonstrance, and procure a speedy Order for moneys to be with all possible speed conveyed to us; otherwise, we shall not be able to keep such Forces together, as are necessary for this work: And so with tender of our Service, rest

Your most humble Servants

Chester Suburbs,

G: BOOTHE.

Sep. 25. at 3.

PH: MAINWARINGE.

Post Meridiem.

ROC: WILBRAHAM.

A True Relation of the great Fight, and Routing the Kings forces on Routon Heath Sept: 24 (1645).

It pleased God upon Saturday morning, Sept. 20 1645, about break of day to deliver into the hands of Cheshire forces, though few in number, under the command of Col: Michael Jones, and Adjutant Louthian, the Suburbs of the city of Chester, formerly accounted for to Sir Wil: Brereton; in which expedition (though by storm) we lost but one man; the Enemy fired most part of the Suburbs Cow-lane, St. Johns Lane, and the street without the Northgate; our care was to hasten to the taking of the City, without which the diseased county could never be cured. Upon the Lords day we brought in our Artillery, fixt a battery, and upon Monday made a great breach in the wall, resolving to storm it at night, which we endeavoured in 3 or 4 places, but the ladders proved too short, and the breach too high on the inside, so they made their

retreat with the losse of two men, and some wounded. The Suburbs were entred by Captain Gimbert, the breach by Captain Finch, both of them stout and trusty men; though God deferred that mercy we hoped for, in gaining the City, he gave us a better, the utter Routing and spoiling of the Kings Army, which was thus performed.

Our intelligence upon Monday Sept 21st [22nd?] was, that the King was at Chirke Castle, intending for Chester: Upon Tuesday, two trusty men were sent to seek Major Gen: Poyntz, who was appointed to follow the King, but we heard nothing of him; they meeting with him at Whitechurch, and acquainting him with our present condition (who were like to be stormed that night) he hastened away, marched all night, though tired with long marches before: About six a clock Wednesday morning, he advanced within a mile of the Enemy, three miles from Chester, the one not knowing of the other; upon notice, both set themselves in a posture; General Poyntz upon Hatton Heath, divided from the Enemy on the Milne Heath by a lane, they being betwixt him and the City: he first charged them though upon a disadvantage, because the Enemies whole body was not come up, but had a repulse, in which that gallant Gentleman Col: Graves was sore wounded, and Col: Bethell, but not so dangerously; about 20 men slain, many wounded; but we hear the Enemies losse was greater.

However, upon the retreat, it was noised that Gen: Poyntz was utterly routed, which was sad news to our forces in Chester; who upon consultation, at first thought it fit to quit the Suburbs, least the Army miscarrying, all should be lost; but upon Intelligence that Poyntz kept his ground and stood in a body, they resolved to keep what ground they had gotten for the gaining of Chester, and to assist General Poyntz with Horse and Foote, which he sent for, and they promised: The Signall of their march from the Suburbs, was the discharge of two piece of Ordnance, at which there was great shouting in Generall Poyntz campe, who without us could neither charge the Enemy, nor make good their Retreat if need should require: God in his good Providence deferred the work to that time of the day, that we might finde the fruite of many Prayers made for us, it being the monethly Fast, and by this accession to vindicate our innocency, who were asperst for a factious county, and mutinous Souldiery, though we can professe it before God and the World, that we know not that county where the Gentry and Commanders are more firmly semented in the band of true affection then this, nor a Souldiery more obedient to commands, constant upon duty, and now free from mutinies. Many of the Gentlemen of the County resorted to us, gave their best assistance for the carrying on of this work, upon whose shoulder no small burden lies to regulate these troubled affairs:

It was agreed by them, that Col: Jones, a dextrous and resolute Souldier, should go out with the com-

mand of Horse and Foote, 350 and 500. The Foot were led by Col. John Booth governor of Warrington, who was very forward in that Expedition: Adjutant Gen: Louthian, a man of known worth, was to keep the Suburbs; a work of great trust and courage. When these forces joined with Generall Poyntz there was great joy in the camp, the Enemy formed themselves into a body upon Roughton Heath, two miles from Chester, and stood in Batalia, being about 5000 as their own party confessed, having drained their Garrisons: We hastened towards them in the best posture we could, the Horse was the Battell, because many, the wings were Foot, because few; they had the Wind and Sun; we had God with us, which was our Word, counterpoising all disadvantages, and countermanding all strength; a little before 5 a clock, we joined in a terrible storm, firing in the faces of one another, hacking and slashing with swords neither party gained or lost a foot of ground, as if every one were resolved there to breath their last: Whilst the dispute was so hot and doubtful, our Musquetiers so galled their horse, that their Rear fled, perceiving their losse by them, upon whom they made no execution: their van perceiving that, faced about, and fled also: We had nothing then to do, but to pursue and make execution, which we did to purpose, for though the ways were strewd with Arms, Portmantles, Cloak-bags, and Horse, we left those to any that would pillage, and fell to execution: Some part we chased to Holt Bridge, the most towards Chester; some say the King was in the field, others that he went out with a party, next after mentioned; but certain it is, he went out from the City by the North gate, and thither retreated, for that gate is without our works.

(To be continued.)

[787] ST. OSWALD'S CHURCHYARD, 1575-1625. III.

(Continued from No. 784.)

Its State.—But now, leaving the surroundings, let us look a little more closely into the condition of the Churchyard itself. Canon Morris remarks (p. 172): "The churchwardens and other authorities repeatedly complain of persons throwing filth into and doing other damage to the churchyards and cemeteries, and even aldermen set no better example of order and decency." For example, in 1551 "Wm. Aldersey, Alderman, with W. Dymocke, Ralph Aldersey, Alderman, Richard Modesley are fined 12d. each for defiling the Cemetery of St. Werburgh, and Stephen Holbyner and Rauf Wright, Churchwardens of St. Oswald's, for not seying the Churchyarde kept clayne." In 1554 "Ralph Bamvyle, Ralph Aldersey, Peter Strete, Wm. Aldersey, John Carver, were fined 2s. each for defiling St. Oswald's Churchyard." At the Bishop's Visitation in 1557, it was alleged that "the churchyard is defiled by animals and cattle (per brutes et cattalia)"; the churchwardens appeared, and stated "that Thomas Green rents

the churchyard." Still the offence continued, as a few extracts from the Churchwardens' Accounts will shew:—

1575. Paid to two laborers for two dayes for making cleane the Church Yard..... iis. iiijd.

Paid to the bellman for goeing to warne that noe mucke shold be cast in the Churchyard ijd.

1576. Paid to two labores to make cleane the Church Yard xvj.

1577. To the bellman for goeing about, for filthyeing the Churchyard ijd.

Itm. paid for making the Church Yeard Cleane

xvj.

1595 To Moneley for making cleane the way by my Lo: house..... ijd.

1600. Paid Deane for making cleane the Church Yard 180. Aprilis 1600 xvd.

Itm. paid Wm. Cooke for making Cleane the Church Yard xvij.

1607. For one yt. did macke clayne the Church-yarde agaynst Ester xd.

1613. Paid for makinge the Churchyard cleane agaynst Easter iis. iiij.

1614. Paide for keepinge the Churchyard cleane all the yeare viijs.

1615. Paide to widdow Seale her wages for one yeare for clensing the Churchyard..... viijs.

1618. Paid to a man to watch who brought any mucke into the Churchyard vjd.

Nor was this the only nuisance to be complained of, for in 1575, ijd. is paid to the bellman "to warne the Citizens not to lay any trees in the Churchyard." The practice of leaving unwrought trees lying about would not add to the safety of the Churchyard at night when the system of lighting was so insufficient.

E. C. L.

(To be continued.)

REPLY.

[788] "RECTORS" OF ST. PETER'S.

(See No. 779.)

Referring to an article headed "A Plurality," in Hemingway's "History of Chester," 1831, vol. ii., p. 86, we read as follows:—"At present the minister" of St Peter's "is licensed as a perpetual curate. The living is now considered only an augmented curacy;" and on p. 88, "The first nomination that can be found in the registry office of perpetual curates to St. Peter's is that of the Rev. Peter Newton, but it is without date. . . . There is also a stipendiary curate's nomination, dated 1731, by the Rev. Robert Fogg, perpetual curate. . . . The Rev. John Hatton (the present incumbent) was licensed to the said perpetual curacy on the 24th July, 1815." Ormerod makes a statement to the like effect.

I well remember the Rev. Charles B. Tayler, incumbent of St. Peter's in 1840, and for a few years onwards, a man of exceptional character and

abilities, and I am pretty sure that he did not assume the title of Rector, whatever his immediate successor, the Rev. Frederick Forde, also a right worthy man, may have done.

J. W. W.

FEBRUARY 4, 1903.

NOTES.

[789] POOLE OF CHESHIRE AND POLE OF DEVON.

A question having been raised as to the relationship of these families, I am favoured with a copy of the following very interesting letter obtained from the Harl. MSS., Brit. Mus., by Miss Poole, of Alsager. The question that arose, in the reign of Elizabeth, touched the extinction of the Devon family of Pole of Pole (Pool); and whether it was revived by the marriage of an heiress to one of a wholly different family, viz., the Pooles (or Poles) of Poole, in Cheshire? Now, in the "History of Cheshire," 1882, a note communicated by the late Rev. E. H. Mainwaring Sladen, gives an inscription of an ancient monument in Shute Church, Devon, by which Miss Poole shews clearly enough that "Johan (Joan) dau. and heire of JOHN POLE" (then heir male—or a younger son?—of the original Devon family), married "ARTHUR second sonne" (called in other evidences JOHN, 'eldest' son) of Sir Wm. Pole of Wirhal, co. Chest., knight, by a daughter of Sr. Wm. (or Sir John) Mainwaring of Pyver (Peover, co. Chest.). By him she had issue JOHN POLE, living circ. 1487, whose issue through successive marriages into the families of Code of Cornwall, Tytherleigh of Tytherleigh, and Drake of Ashe, had thus (in the fourth generation) WILLIAM POLE of Shute, Esq., who married a Popham of Huntworth, and "died the xv. of August An. 1587, beinge of the age of lxxij. yeares and vj. dayes," leaving issue male from whom the present Poles of Shute? See, however, Burke's "Baronetage." "Sir Wm. Polein Wirhal" (as the old monument puts it) must have been son of Sir John Pole, Kt., 1370-80. There were no Cheshire knights of the name save of that stock.

The subjoined letter of 1620, however, naturally enough differs in some respects from the foregoing note; but doubtless the monumental sculptor is more to blame for the discrepancies than the fiery and able old author of the letter; which names the heiress as Elizabeth, not Johan; and John, not Arthur, as her husband; and he was son of John, not William. The heiress's husband is said to have been of the Poles of Nether 'Peover'—an error perhaps for Nether Poole? However, there is sufficient evidence to substantiate the connection; and as other accompanying notes are long, and interesting also, they may be registered in the "Sheaf" on some future occasion.

T. H.

Mr. Clarendiaux

I know your worth to bee such, that you will right where you finde wro: [wrong] offered. I am inforced to appeale to yo'r iudgement betwixt yo'r deputies in their last visitac'on of Devonshire and myselfe. They in their firste letters written unto mee from Lynton questioned mee for publishinge a letter of Mr. Yorke [York Herald] for givinge of the armes of Cheshire and other thinges of much bitterness. ffor the firste I answered them and now you that it is moste false, I never published that letter: ffor it was not in my handes two dayes before Sr. Thomas Prideaux tooke it from mee, and kept it vntill I sent for hitt to shew it unto them. And I never gaue anie man (themselvs excepted) a coppie thereof And yett they press me in their third letter that they are able to prove hitt by gentlemen of worth w'ch thinke I know they are not able to doe.

Secondlie that I was discented of the familie of Cheshire, I sent vnto them divers deeds wherein my ancestors finde discente have sealed w'th those Armes. And yett neuerthelesse in their third letters they write that it is fitt I should send upp my evidence: for say they their bee men yett lyvinge that knew yo'r grandfather, what he was and where his dwellinge was: And moreou' you varie in yo'r discent sometyne derivinge yo'rselfe out of the house of Cheshire, sometyne from de la Pole, and sometymes descended from le Pole of other shires. I vnderstand not their meaning in that they write their bee men lyvinge that knew my grandfather what hee was, and where hee dwelled: But I pray you judge the truth of this, my grandfather Died one hundred and six years paste and left my father within one yeere old & in ward: And is it likelie anie now lyvinge knew my grandfather: And therefore (I must censure) this laste letter was directed out of some spleene, or els ignorance. I know their is not anie that durst avouch this vnto my face, but I live in the cendic'on of other men subjecte vnto slanderous tongues w'ch will whisper and not speake out playnely to be understoode. And surelie if yo'r deputies doe understand ancient deeds they might have repressed this question. you know Mr. Clarendiaux that de la Pole al's Pole and Pole are one and the selfe same, altered by tymes and neede not prove hitt vnto you that know it. And it cannot be proued that ev'r I altered my discent from the firste pedigree that I caused to be drawn, An'o D'ni 1587 by Mr. Yorke. And because it is not so full and p'fect, and also false in the discent of Cheshire, at that tyme unknown unto him and my selfe I requested Mr. Richmond [Herald] and his fellow, that they would crave yo'r assistance and furtherance in allowinge that w'ch you shall find true, and helping what you shall find unp'fecte [unperfect]: ffor the w'ch I promise to giue you full contentment: ffor I desire not to have a false and patch'd discent w'ch giveth a glorious concite unto unworthie p'sons.

My descent shalbee drawn by deeds of myne owne or such as have ben in my suncestors keepinge and by records of lands w'ch ar' discented from my progenitor and were in my grandfather or myselfe. I will not sett downe any thinge but yealds a reason theirow.

Now to give you taste of my grandfather of whom the most question is had, I will tell you (as I find) what he was and whear hee dwelled. The land left him to discent was worth four thousand* pounds [per annum ?] of w'ch I possesse a good p'te at this tyme, some he sold other my father sold, and so accordinge unto tymes, inheritance alters. Hee dwelled (as I am assured) at Charestoke uppon his owne land, and their died one hundred and six yeeres passed, he married two wyves both gentlemen.

I shall desire you to have yo'r approbacion for w'ch I shalbee graetfull and yeeld unto you sufficient recompense. And so I rest

yo'r assured loving friend to my power.

this 15th of Januarie 1620.

WM. POLE.

[790] ST. OSWALD'S CHURCHYARD, 1575-1625. IV.

(Continued from No. 787.)

We next come to the question of paving, a work which was not taken in hand until 1593, and certainly not before it was needed, if we may judge from the following item:—

1593. To Wm. Greene and Roger Dobb for carrying Smith's Cinder the 22th of december to lay in the way that the people might come to the Church dryshodd vjd.

Grates.—Connected with the paving the question of 'grates' and ditches. Here again let me quote Canon Morris (p. 270). Speaking of the 'paving of the streets, he says: "It would appear that the pavement was carried like a causeway along the middle of the streets. On either side ran open water-channels which would be crossed at intervals, opposite the householders' doors, by a kind of small causeway or iron grating. . . . In 1575 the old orders about repairs were repeated, and it was further enacted that substantial iron gratings should be provided by a given day at all 'greeces' or stairs." There are numerous items in the Accounts for the making and repairing of such 'grates,' in the Churchyard and the positions of some of these are specified—'by my Lorde house,' 'by the Vicar's house,' 'by the Corne markett' and 'by Fishers.' They were made apparently not of iron but of wood. Where 'the grate' is mentioned without further description, it would no doubt be the one "by Fishers," i.e., at the top of Werburgh Street, near the Church door.

These are some of the items:—

1575. Paid to mr. Robert Brerewood for timber to make the gates and grates of the Churchyard and carryeing to the Church Yeardeiij.s. viijd.

*Some £24,000 modern.

Item to a Worke-man for fixeing the grates... vjd.
 Item paid for getting of a large stone to sett upon
 the side of a grate iiijd.
 1583. For menning of a pew w'oh hath a backe
 and for a sparr to the grate by my Lorde house... vjd.
 Item for a sparr to the grate by my Lo: house and
 for setting up of the same vijd.
 1594. For sparrs to make the grate by my Lords
 house xxd.
 Item to the Workemen for the making of the
 same grate xijd.
 Item a man for fixing of the same grate iiijd.
 Item to Dobbes and another man for mending the
 grate by my Lords house, and the two gates, and
 for making cleane the Church Yard the xjth, xijth
 and xiiijth of October 1594 iijs.
 Item for a sparr for the grate by the Corne
 Markett viijd.
 1595. For a sparr for the grate by Fishers, and
 for a side sparr, and to the Workmen xvd.
 1601. Paid for five sparrs for the grate iijs. vjd.
 Item paid for Laying of the grate xd.
 Item paid for Feyeing the grate ijd.
 Item paid to the Wright for making of the grate
 and the gate iijs. vjd.
 1612. Payde for mending two barres in the grate
 xijd.
 1616. Paid for sparrs and workmanship for the
 grate next ye Corne Market xxiijd.
 1619. For sparrs for two grates ixs.
 Item for fowre sides for the grates xs.
 Item paid for makeinge the saide grates xjs.
 Item paid for mending the grate next unto the
 Cornemarket and for Timber nailles and lead... xxiijd.
Paving—This work was taken in hand in 1593,
 when a start was made with a footpath (of cobble
 stones) from "the Liche Gate to the Church doore."
 This was followed in 1596 by paving "from the Church
 doore to the Comon hall end," and also the way by
 the Bishop's house, and in 1600 by paving the way
 by the Vicar's house. The accounts show—
 1593. For tenn tunn of stones to pave the Church
 Yard at ixd. a tunn viijs. viijd.
 Item for the Carriage vjd. a tunn iiijs.
 Item for two loads of Sand xijd.
 Item to the paver for paveing from the Liche
 Gate to the Church doore vijs.
 [The Liche Gate was doubtless the one at the top
 of Werburgh Street.]
 1594. To the paver for mending for pavem'ts... vjd.
 1596. Charges for paveing from the Church
 doore to the comon hall end.
 Inp'mis for nyne tunn of Stone of
 Thomas Johnson vijs. iiijd.
 Item for the carriage of them from the
 Watergate iijs. vjd.
 Item for two loades of Stones more of
 Wm. Taylor ijs. viijd.
 Item five loads of Sand ijs. vjd.
 Item to a Workman to carrie Stones
 and to worke in the Church-Yard one
 whole day vjd.

Item to the paver for paveing the
 aforesaid pavem't w'ch is threescore and
 three yards vja. vjd.

Sixty three yards would carry the pavement
 further than the east end of the Common Hall, but
 not so far as the Northgate Street end: perhaps it
 was carried to a point in the Music Hall Passage
 where it would join the pavement in front of the
 Vicarage, which the Vicar had, doubtless, made in
 accordance with the order of 1575, "that every
 person shall upon his and their owne proper costs
 and charge repair pave and make all the pavements
 righte over againste every of their dwellinge howses,
 lanes, backsides, orchards and grounds in all parts
 and places within the saide citye, the liberties and
 franchises thereof and so farre as their owne dwellinge
 houses lanes and backsides orchards and grounds do
 extend" (See Morris, p. 271).

Charges for paveing the way by the B'pps house.

For a load and a halfe of stones xxiijd.

Item for a load of Sand vjd.

Item to the paver for paveing the afore-
 said pavement iijs.

Then later we find—

1600. Paid for stones to pave w'thall in the lane
 before the Vicars doore xijd.

Item paid for stones to the pavem't xxiijd.

Item paid for three lodes of sand for the pavement
 xviijd.

Item paid to two laboreres for carrying stones
 and other labo'r about the pavem't xxiijd.

Item paid Garratt for his labo'r about the pavem't
 and helping the pau'r ijs.

1615. Paide towards paveinge of the lane by the
 vicar's house iijs. viijd.

1618. For makinge a gutter to loose the Water
 from the Church doore ijd.

E. C. L.

(To be continued.)

FEBRUARY 11, 1903.

NOTES.

[791] ROMAN CATHOLICS IN CHESHIRE, 1717-1767. II.

(Continued from No. 780.)

The apparent increase in numbers may be due to
 less concealment than at the earlier date, though
 Bishop Gastrell no doubt desired accurate returns.
 The names of the priests in charge of the various
 missions are among the most interesting features of
 the report; for instance the "Catholic Family
 Annual" gives no priest in Chester before the Rev.
 James Lancaster, about 1794. It mentions the
 Rev Thos. Worthington at Hooton in 1742, and
 then skips to 1806; and at Puddington, after
 mentioning the execution of Fr. Plessington in
 1679, it adds, "No record of succeeding priests can

be found till the year 1785 when the Rev. John Shuttleworth came." His successors are given thus—1786, W. Blaoce; 1792, Ralph Platt (assisted by John Carter, 1834-7); 1837, Richard Gillow; 1845, Peter Perry; 1849, Thomas Crowe; 1851, Peter F. Baron; and since Father Baron's death in 1894 the services have ceased.

The following is a further instalment of the numbers returned :—

	Anno	Anno	
DEANRY OF BANGOR.	1717	1767	
Bangor	2	-	no kind of Dis-
			senters
Overton	-	-	Do.
Hanmer	n.r.	-	*See footnote
Worthenbury	-	-	Do.
	2	0	
DEANRY OF MALPAS.			
Aldford	n.r.	-	Ex'd
Coddington	-	-	
Hanley	-	-	
Harthill	-	-	
Malpas	14	-	
St. Chad	-	-	
Whitewell	-	-	
Shocklach	n.r.	-	
Tattenhall	3	-	
Tilston	-	-	
	17	0	
DEANRY OF NAMPTWICH.			
Acton	10	1	
Burledam	-	-	
Wrenbury	-	-	
Audlem	3	-	
Baddiley	-	-	
Barthomley	-	2	†See footnote
Haslington	-	-	
Bunbury	40	14	
Burwardsley	-	-	
Coppenhall	n.r.	-	
Minshull	n.r.	-	
Namptwich	5	5	
Wibunbury	-	-	
Wistaston	-	-	
Marbury	-	-	
	58	22	
DEANRY OF MIDDLEWICH.			
Asbury	6	-	
Congleton	-	-	
Brereton	-	-	
Little Budworth	4	1	
Davenham	-	1	
Lawton	-	-	no Dissenters of
Middlewich	2	-	any kind
Over	-	1	
Wettenhall	-	-	

*Added later—7 returned in Dec, 1767.

†Cook and under-Cook to Mr. Crewe of Crewe.

Sandbach	-	1
Goostrey	-	-
Holms Chapel	-	-
Swettenham	-	-
Warmingham	-	-
Whitegate	2	10
	14	14

(To be continued.)

[792] "BIDDING" FOR WEDDING PRESENTS.

The custom of giving wedding presents had a precursor in the old "Biddings"—a copy of one of which, I have recently found was sent to an attorney-at-law, of whom my paternal grandmother was a client in respect of a Welsh estate. It is printed on a small quarto sheet of letter (not 'note') paper, within an ornamental press border; and is headed "February 24th. 1827." It is in good-sized, clear type, with many capitals.

"As we intend to enter the Matrimonial State on Thursday, the 22d. Day of March next, we are encouraged by our Friends to make a BIDDING on the Occasion, the Same Day, at the Wheaten Sheaf, in Bridge-Street, Carmarthen; at which time and place the Favour of your agreeable Company is humbly solicited, and whatever Donation you may be pleased to confer on us then, will be thankfully received, warmly acknowledged, and cheerfully repaid whenever called for on a like Occasion,

By your most obedient Servants,

RICHARD DODD,

Clerk to Chas. Morgan, Esq.

ELIZABETH RICHARDS.

"The Young Man's Father (Thomas Dodd, Gardener) desires that all Gifts of the above Nature, due to him, be returned to the Young Man on the above Day, and will be thankful for all Favours conferred.—Also, the Young Woman's Stepfather (Captain David Jardine) and her Mother (Anne Jardine) and her Sister (Anne Richards) desire that all Gifts of the above Nature, due to them, be returned to the Young Woman on the above Day, and will feel obliged for all additional Favours conferred."

X.

[793] ST. OSWALD'S CHURCHYARD, 1575-1625. V.

(Continued from No. 790.)

Levelling.—This was a good beginning, and the parishioners were evidently in earnest at last about improving the condition of their Churchyard. In 1619 they set to work to level and enclose it, collecting a Cessment of £7 2s. 11d. for the purpose, and many of them assisting personally in the task of levelling. The payments include—

1619. Imprimis paid to one workeman his wages for levelling the Churchyardxxs.

Item paid for gathering the stones in the Churchyard and cartage awayijs. vjd.

Item paid for a wheele barrowe for the workman
ijs.

Item spente at severall tymes upon divers
parishioners w^{ch} did bestowe theire laboure towards
the levelling of the Churchyard vjs.

Item paid for horse hire and other expences in
collectinge the Cessement made for the levelling of
Churchyarde ijs. vjd.

1624. Paid unto div's labores for levelling the
Church Yarde xiijs. vjd.

Item paid unto the paver for worke don by him
at the same time vjs.

Item paid for paveing the lane before Mr. Thick-
nesse doore some of the Channells in the Church
Yard and for sand and stones xs. jd.

Item paid for paveing at the gate before the
Cornem'kett and for stones flaggs and Laborers
xjs. ijd.

The Gates.—Lastly, there was the enclosing of
the Churchyard. Even before 1619 something had
been done in this direction, for we hear of 'the
Churchyard gate' (in Werburgh Street), and of
'the gate next to Lo: house' (i.e. leading from the
Palace to the Common Hall), also of 'the gate
before the Corne markett' (i.e. into Northgate
Street) and of 'the twirle before the Vicar's doore'
(in Music Hall Passage), and the first two were well
provided with locks and keys: but the 'twirle'—a
word suggestive of some kind of turnstile—was not
sufficient to prevent stray horses from making their
way into the Churchyard.

1575. Paid to Hughe Stockton for makinge a bolt
to the Churchyard gate vjd.

1583. To Tasker for Timber vjs. viijd.

Item to Hugh Stockton for Iron worke xd.

Item to the wrighte for making the Gates. ijs. iiijd.

1590. For a lock for the gate next to my Lo:
house vjd.

1591. For timber and sparrs to make the two
gates and the grates ijs. iiijd.

1593. For two stoocke lockes and two kayes and
fourer great nayles and two stables for the two gates
ijs. vjd.

Item for timber to make the grates and the Gates
xvjs.

Item for a dubble sparr of fourteene foote xiiijd.

Item for a band of Iron viijd.

Item for a new stocke locke for the gate by my
Lords house and for a stable xijd.

1595. For timber to make the gate by my Lo:
house ijs. vd.

Item to Stocken for a lock and three kays for the
gate by my Lo: house ijs. vjd.

1605. For a locke for the Church-Yard gate xiiijd.

1610. For timber for the grate and for the twirle
before the Vicar's doore vjs. jd.

Item for an Iron pinn and for plates and nailles
for the twirle xvjd.

Item for making the grate and the twirle
ijs. iiijd.

1611. For a dubble sparr to keepe horses for
goeing by the twirle and work xvjd.

1614. Paide for a newe gate for the Churchyarde
xxijs. vjd.

Item paid for Iron worke and for a Locke and
kay for the same gate ijs. xd.

1617. Paid for mendinge the lock of the gate and
for three kayes 0. 1. 3.

1618. For mendinge the grate and the gate before
the Corne markett and for Timber viijs. vjd.

But in 1619, when the Churchyard was levelled,
stronger measures were taken for its enclosure, and
out of the money raised by the Cessement, a new
'greate gate' was erected by Mr. Fisher's house at
the top of Werburgh Street, and also three new
doors—one, we may presume, by the Cornmarket,
another opposite the Palace, near the south-west
corner of the Cathedral, and the third in place of
the twirle by the Vicarage.

1619. For tymber and workmanshippe for the
great gate next Mr. Willm. Fishers xxijs. vjd.

Item for Ironworke locke and kay for the same
gate ijs. xd.

Item paid to laborers and for clay and other
expences at the settinge of the stoopes of the said
gate ijs. iiijd.

Item paide for Bords Timber workmanshippe and
nailles for the three doores w^{ch} doe enclose the
Churchyard xxxijs. ijd.

Item paid for hookes hinges lockes kayes and
other Ironworke for the saide three doors xvs.

Item paid to Robt. Johnes for tending the
Churchyard and lockinge the gates for half a yeaer
endinge the xxvth of March 1620 vs.

Here our sketch of St. Oswald's Churchyard must
end. We have seen the beginnings of the change
from slovenliness and neglect to decency and order.
But as we look upon the same scene now, with its
wide well-paved street, and the trim greensward, it
is difficult to realise what a neglected spot God's
Acre was 300 years ago. Before leaving our subject,
however, it may be worth while to ask how much
now remains of what then met the eye of anyone
walking through the Churchyard. The Bishop's
Palace has gone, the old weather-beaten walls of
Cathedral and Church have been restored and
re-faced, the gardens have been built over, the old
houses replaced by shops and offices: and all that
now remains of the old picture is the stone frame-
work of the Music Hall, and one little unrestored
corner of the South Transept in which stood the
door of St. Oswald's Church.

E. C. L.

[794]

A "FORGED" CHARTER.

A needful warning as to the care with which
ancient documents have to be studied, and the ability
necessary to the avoidance of a misuse of "facts" is
supplied by the story of a late well-known local
antiquary, who lived to be young at 70, and only old
at 90—an able accomplished lawyer (as the times go),
who had written several interesting books and
genealogical articles (though chiefly compiled from
printed collections and old copies of the Harl.

MSS order). He had perused a charter of franc-marriage full of "facts" of Hen. VI. reign, relating to the Egertons and Lanes; and being unable (in the early "Sixties" of last century) to find in the old pedigree its proper place, came to the conclusion that the charter had been "forged" by the monks ("for an innocent legal purpose"). Thereupon, he sat down and wrote a long and well-written article which was duly printed in the transactions of the Chester Archaeological Society—whose chief founder (over half a century since, rector of Gawsworth, and brother of the late Admiral Massie), had the assistance of the, afterwards aggrieved Sir P. de M. Grey-Egerton. Some twelve or fourteen years following the publication of the article in question, this rather big error of 'fact' was of course discovered. Yet in the teeth of the all but glaring misuse of the 'facts,' it was more than amusing to find that its author absolutely refused to admit his blunder! In the meantime, it had long rankled in the mind of the owner of the charter that his family evidences had among them 'forged' ones. But "facts" are often enough double-edged tools to one-ideal workmen; who, without them, are unable to form more than a halcyon single opinion upon any point where another labourer in the field would be able to form half-a-dozen—one of which 'must' be accurate.

X.

FEBRUARY 18, 1903.

NOTES.

[795] THE KNIGHTS' FEES IN 1300.

In a previous article (No. 777) the Cheshire knights' fees were printed as they were in 1252. The present list shows them fifty years later, and notes in *parentheses* have been added to facilitate identification. In some cases, e.g., that of Simon de Provence, something more definite seems desirable. On comparing this with the earlier list some interesting changes will be noticed—e.g., in the division of the Malpas barony. The free tenants of the forest of Macclesfield have been added, and the boroughs. The list was prepared and returned to the King (Edward I.) in obedience to the following mandate:—

Edward by the grace of God king of England,
Lord of Ireland, and Duke of Aquitaine. to
his beloved and trusty Richard de Masey his
justice in Cheshire. Greeting.

Because for the preservation of our royal crown and the common benefit of magnates and nobles as of the whole people of our realm and also for safely avoiding the losses scandals and danger which may (as times past and present alike teach us) arise from the rebellion of the Scots our enemies and rebels,

should it chance to be endured any longer: We have determined and propose, our Lord granting it, to be present at Carlisle on the feast of the Nativity of B. John Baptist next ensuing, with horses and arms and the whole service proper for setting out therefrom against the said Scots in order by the help of God to repress manfully and strenuously their rebellion, bad faith, and wickedness.

We command you on the faith whereby you are bound to us, and firmly enjoin that you together with our beloved and trusty Hugh de Audley [Aldithelegh] and Fulke l'Estrange or either of them without delay cause to be forewarned asked and moved on our part all and singular of your jurisdiction [bailiwick], as well within as without its liberties, whosoever they may be—knights, esquires, and others—having £40 of land and revenue or more, even if they do not hold from us, that they so provide for themselves from their horses and arms and prepare themselves without delay that they may be with us at the said time and place ready and prepared for setting forward thence with us at our wages against the Scots aforesaid, and that they do not fail herein, under forfeit which we shall judge fitting to ordain thereupon at our good pleasure.

And of the names as well of those so by you forewarned as also of the names of all others of your jurisdiction whom we by another breve of ours have lately ordered to be by you summoned to us at the time and place aforesaid to set forward thence with us with their service against the Scots aforesaid, you shall clearly and openly certify us in our Wardrobe before the second Sunday of Lent next ensuing, under your seal and the seals of the aforesaid Hugh and Fulke or one of them; returning to us this breve. And our breves which we send you directed for the aforesaid Hugh and Fulke thereupon you shall transmit to them. *Teste me ipso*, at Wetherby, January 14

(Endorsed.)

There is no knight, esquire, or other person in my jurisdiction who has £40 of land or revenue (as I carefully enquired in the presence of Sir Hugh de Audley and Sir Fulke l'Estrange, associated therefor on the king's behalf) except those who hold from our lord the king in chief, whose names are set forth in a certain schedule attached to this breve, and all those have been summoned and asked on behalf of our lord the king that they be present at the time and place contained in the breve with horses and arms and their whole service due to our lord the king according to the tenour of our lord the king's other mandate thereupon sent to me; &c.

Names of those who hold from the King in chief by knight service in the County of Chester.

Hamo de Masey (Dunham)
Hugh de Dutton (Dutton, &c.)
Hugh de Venables (Kinderton)
Guardian of the heir of Nicholas de Audley
(Nicholas died in 1299. Part of Malbank)
Randle de Bertumley (? Praers—Part of Malbank)

Guardian of the heir of Thomas de Crue (Part of Malbank)

Henry de Lacy Earl of Lincoln (Halton)

John de Ardene (Aldford)

Robert de Montalt (Montalt)

Guardian of the heir of Warin de Mainwaring (Warmincham Warin died 17 Ed. I.)

John de Boidell (Dodleston)

Richard FitzAlan Earl of Arundel (Dunham on the Hill. Richard died in 1301)

Parsoners of Kingsley

Robert de Pulford (see Ormerod ii. 854)

Patrick de Haselwell

Hugh de Thornton

Bertram de Moelles

(For the last three names see No. 777)

Roger de Soterley (? Stoke)

William de Hellesby (Acton in Weaverham)

Guardian of the heir of Geoffery de Chedle (Dutton; Ormerod iii., 621)

John Phiton (Pownall)

Guardian of the heir of John de Corona (Adlington)

Hugh de Tuderington (Ormerod iii., 698)

Richard de Swetenham (Ormerod iii., 74)

Reginald de Grey (Baron of Wilton and Ruthin; held Tarporley)

Ralph de Vernon ('Sir Ralph the Old'; Shipbrook)

Robert de Wynigton (Ormerod ii., 200)

Richard de Lostok (Lostock Gralam)

John de Wetenhale (Ormerod iii., 479; ii., 192)

Richard de Suttone (held part of Malpas)

Urian de Sanpierre (another part of same)

Rotheric son of Griffin (another part of same)

Guardian of the heir of Simon de Provence (? Little Saughall)

Robert de Netherton (see Ormerod ii., 61; Frodsham)

Philip and Robert de Ponte (Frodsham Bridge)

John de Orreby (Foulk Stapleford)

Heirs of Philip de Baumville (Storeton)

All the Free Tenants in the Forest of Macclesfield.

Richard de Vernon (Marple &c.; Ormerod iii., 840)
Robert de Dounes (Downes and Taxul, Ormerod iii., 781)

Guardian of the heir of Thomas de Orreby (Gawsworth)

John de Sutton (hereditary forester; Ormerod iii., 761)

Roger de Stanley (Disley, Ormerod iii., 832)

Thomas de Wich (? Worth; Ormerod iii., 687)

Robert Chaumpein (Upton near Macclesfield; Ormerod iii., 703)

Richard de Sutton (hereditary forester; Ormerod iii., 761)

Guardian of the heir of Jordan de Distceles (Ormerod iii., 831)

Roger de Daneport (master forester; Ormerod iii., 61, 68)

Guardian of the heir of Richard de Stokeport (Ormerod iii., 796)

John de Motquin (? de Moterum or Mottram; Ormerod iii., 693)

William Pygot (Butley)

Heirs of Clotton, Waverton, and Dudden (Rullos fee)

The borough of Frodsham

" Macclesfield

" Northwich

" Middlewich

[796] THE REV. T. CRANE'S PATRONAGE

The following interesting letter has been forwarded us by Mr. W. H. Bradford. It shows Mr. Crane in his study as the antiquary discussing some curious coins sent him by a friend; it shows him also as the pastor of a parish, anxious to appoint the most suitable man he could find to the post at his disposal. The letter seems to have been addressed to a Mr. Corbett, about 1807; if this date be correct the Bishop of Chester who receives such high commendation was Dr. Majendie.

Reverend Sir,

I at last received your coins by Mr. Nicholls, who brt. them in a canvas bag the last day of Aug. saying yt. they were not to be returned to you, till they were called for. Being informed you were expected at Mr. Nich's. house on a visit, I perused them immediately, yt. there mt. be no delay when you came.

I received in due time your kind favour of Oct. 9th, but I waited to see Mr. Nicholls before I answered it to know whether he expected you soon. He has been on ye rural Dean's Visitation and I only saw him a few days ago.

I am very happy to hear yt. Mr. Corbett returned safe from his boisterous voyage. I wd. not wish any friend to cross ye Irish Sea, unless he went between ye middle of May and ye middle of Sep. in wh'h part of ye year I never heard of any accident.

The coins are returned into yr. bag packed in small parcels thus endorsed: 1. Roman—2. Roman Coins obliterated—3. Obliterated—4. Tokens—5. Counters—6. Current Money—7. Miscellaneous.—The bag is directed to you

Among the Roman Coins I only find one rare. Faustina ye elder w. ye Peacock on ye Reverse, one of ye marks of ye deification of a Female. Faustina with a common Reverse is a very common coin.

For beauty of preservation the following coins are to be valued, tho' otherwise they are common.

One of Diocletianus—one of Maximianus—one of Constantine ye great coined at London—a notice coin of Constantine jun. coined at Lions, a coin of ye same emperor remarkable for ye word Tranquillitas being falsely spelt by ye blunder of ye mintmaster wh'h wd. endear it to a thorow-paced

antiquary. One of Flavius Julius Constantius, w. Gloria Exercitus, is instructive because it contains ye figures of ye warlike Standards of those days.

Among ye obliterated coins if any had been curious, I wd. have so described them, but they are all unworthy of notice. The three Tokens of Southwark, Chester, and Bristol are uncommon. The Counters are chiefly German. They give no information and are of no use. I think Tokens and Counters of so little worth, yt. I never collect ym. Someone of your ancestors seems to have travelled on ye Continent and to have brt. to England money from ye different countreys thro' wh'h he passed. Those coins w. S. Mark's Lion belong to Venice. The rest tell their country by their Legend.

Of ye Miscellaneous Coins, ye E. of D.'s cast Penny of ye Isle of Man is scarce. All his stamp money is common. The Ave Maria is properly neither money nor medal, but a papal trinket, 1690. When K. James 2 was in want of money in ye war between him and K. Wm. 3, he coined sixpence, shilling, half-crown and crown, of ye metal of Church Bells, and canons, promising to give silver for ym. when he recovered ye throne. Of this coinage wh'h ye Antiquaries call Gun money you have two half-crowns marked xxx, thirty pence. The half-penny, struck by ye Irish Papists in ye reign of K. Charles I. is not in a condition good enough for a series. The Farthing of K. James ye 1st is in good condition. I thank you for your kind offer of duplicates. I think I see none in this collection, wh'h I wd. wish to possess.

The Vicar of Over is Patron of ye Chapel of Wettenhall: which has been twice vacant during my incumbency. It has only single duty on Sundays, and no occasional duty: and may be held w. any preferm't w. in proper distance. The annual income is nearly one hundred pounds. I used to think patronage a great burden to ye conscience of a Xtn and I now feel it is a very great burden. The Bp. of Chester has taken uncommon pains to be acquainted w. ye private lives of the clergy. To him I applied on ye former vacancy to recommend a Clergyman of morals and learn'g and he recommended such a one as set my mind perfectly at ease. W. his help I have filled up ye latter vacancy by giving it to a clergyman who has a wife and ten children: who od. live, but od. save nothing. He called at Crane-street to thank me and went home a very happy man.

Ld. Grosvenor has some books and coins of value. In ye summer he has promised to send his carriage to convey me to Eaton as he did ye last time I went thither. His Lp. called on me a few days ago and is in good health and spirits.

FEBRUARY 25, 1903.

NOTES.

[797]

ROWTON HEATH.

(Continued from No. 786.)

A memorable service was performed by the Shropshire Forces, at the appointment of Lieutenant Louthian, who were part of them that kept the Suburbs. When Collonel Jones was marcht out to join with Gen. Poyntz, there issued out after him through the North gate (with which party it is affirmed the King went) about six hundred horse and three hundred Foot of the Kings and Queens Regiments and General Gerrards Lifeguard. Adjutant Louthian sent after them about two hundred of the Shropshire horse, commanded by Liuetenant Collonel Coots in Chiefe, the second division by Col. Prince, the last by Major Fenwicke and two hundred foot- commanded by Captain Daniell, these gallantly performed what they undertook, routed and chased the enemy, slew the Earl of Leichfield and others, tooke divers principal officers and followed the execution foure miles.

After we thought the work was ended, the enemy made head again, and they that escaped in the field and about Chester, joined in another body, fell upon part of our forces with advantage (for they were desperate seeing they had lost the day) drove them to our mud walls, where the guards made execution on them, and some small measure upon eurs in the reare, through mistake: so they fled towards Bridge trafford being ignorant of the Foote, where they were driven into deep ditches, and boggy places. The Countrymen set on them there, took one hundred horse and sixty persons. Others fled into the forest where they are met with.

Whilst we were thus engaged in the field the enemy taking advantage of the small number left in the suburbs attempted the regaining of them in many places; but were every where gallantly repulsed with loss by Adjutant Louthian.

We cannot give a particular account of the number of the slain, which were many, neither know we our own loss, but that it is very small. We have taken the Earl of Portlands brother, with many considerable persons: Knights, and officers, above one thousand prisoners; And its probable that of the five thousand they say was in the field, the King will hardly rally one thousand, wee desire the honour of this Victory may be given to God alone, to whom alone it is due, his Instruments behave themselves gallantly, the Cheshire Horse were known mostly courageous, we desire not vainly to glory in anything God hath done by us, but let the world say whether we have been backward in the worke committed to us as some have suggested. Let Souldiers judge what it is for so small a force to

maintaine the leagner at Beeston, take and keep the outworks of Chester, to assist others afar off, and these in the field, and run all hazard, rather than quit a foot of what we have gained. Neither will we fix here: These are but the beginning of action to us, since our new moddle, so successful, so much dispised.

Upon Parliamentary supplies already Petitioned, we trust in him, whose souldiers we are, to give as good account of our after proceedings, both in reducing this County and assisting the neighbourhood.

Prisoners Taken at, and after the Rowting of the Kings Forces on Rowton Heath within two miles of Chester the twenty fourth of Sept: 1645.

Knights & Collonels.

Sir Philip Musgrave Major Generall
Collonell Sir Thomas Dawbricheate

" Sir Thomas Daeres
" Sir Michael Constable
" Sir Thomas Goswre
" Sir Henry Stradling
" Sir John Phillem Heitter
" Weston, sonne to the late Lord Treasurer
" Gifford
" Cromwell
" Fletcher

Lieutenant Collonels.

Lieut: Col: Matham

" " Millington
" " Hatton
" " Salkeld
" " Ruly
" " Broughton
" " Rutherford

Majors.

Williams Cap. St. Michaels, Capt.
Morris of the Queens Troop,
Magduggell with him a scarfe
Magdoole taken, which the Queen
Lacymouth took from about her
neck, and gave him to
wear as colours for her

Captains.

Martin
Swinlue
Henshaw
White
Gibbon
Starling
Sheley
Connyers
Johnson
Dixon
Presse
Louthier
Wiley
Moreton
Simpson
Bell
Boulton
Vaughan

Lieutenants.

Cottrell
Morgan
Bartrom
Astelby
Story
Colborne
Constable
Mansfield
Skipwith
Jefferson
Power
Brooke
Whitney
Ellyott

Cornets.

Elsing
Juyan

Cornets (Con.) 20 more gentlemen
Rainsford Troopers 800 to 1000
Morley Master Sherburne of
Peirson Stannyhurst
Fitz-Williams Master Will: Leighton
Smith " Lewis Darcy
Quarttermasters. " Henry Boucher
Thos: Shelden the Kings " James Montague
Qtr. " Gilbert Markham
Qtr. Collizer These very considerable
" Lowe gentlemen.
" Brere *Slains.*
(No names) 2 Lords, 2 Knights, 1
Trumpets 5 Col., 1 Lieut. Col., and
Corporalls 2 3 hundred and more
Gent: of Kings Life- officers and Common
guard 17 Souldiers

Finis.

GILBERT P. GAMON.

[798]

ST. ANNE'S LAKE.

I have stumbled accidentally upon what appears to be the answer, or at least the direction in which the answer is to be found, to a question which I raised in the "Sheaf" a few months ago (619). The question arose out of the St. Oswald's Parish Boundaries in 1620, in which the following passage occurs:—

" Part of Newton. . . . And from the Corner of the said Withen Hey wee went over Crosse the said Common towards Chester unto the Corner of a Close in the occupation of John Picke, and after the west side of the said feild downe the Rake unto flookers Brooke.

" Boughton. Item from Newton Common afore-said we went to St. Anna. The boundaries of our parish about that Towneshippe are as followeth. First beginninge at the Blewe stone by Spittle wh: separateth the liberties of the citie from the Contrey" &c.

On this I asked the question, "What is the 'St Anns' referred to above? It is clearly not the St. Anne's Chapel adjoining St. John's Church. Was there ever a St. Anne's Chapel, or St. Ann's Crosse, at Boughton?"

The following passage from the Bounds of the City in 1573, published in Vol. II. of the First Series of the "Sheaf" (1041) points to its referring to St. Annes lake:

" And folowinge that sithe or ryver untill you come to flowkersbruck, and so folowinge on unto and over the highway ledinge to the saide Cittie from hoole, fredsham, and that way, and over a little stonne bridge in that highe way and passing estward and folowinge flowkersbruck right by the lands of Robert Vawdrey, esquior, and betwene one clausure which Roger Radford nowe holdeth by lease upon the north parte and Chester filde upon the Sowthparte. And unto a little pingle or clausure nowe in thoccupa'ion of Thomas Richardson: which Richardson hath there turned that brooke, called flowkersbruck, out of the right course

upon a filde called Spittle filde, southwestward. And so folowinge that brooke untill yow come to an higher way leadiinge from Chester to hoole heathe, to a lake there called in olden tyme St. Annes lake," &c.

Can any reader of the "Sheaf" help to locate this "St. Anns Lake?" It must have been somewhere between the present General Station and Boughton Church. E. C. L.

[799] SIR JOHN VANBURGH, ARCHITECT AND
DRAMATIST.

In the only volume of the Second Series of the "Sheaf" a question appeared on page 28 as to a statement in Tymm's *Family Topographer* to the effect that Sir John Vanburgh, the famous architect of Blenheim, was a native of Chester. I have been looking into the matter, an article on Vanburgh in the December number of Munsey's Magazine having revived my curiosity, and now send you the following rather belated reply to R.'s query.

From the Dictionary of National Biography it appears that Sir John was the son of Giles Vanburgh of London and afterwards of Chester. He was born in 1664 and was christened at St. Nicholas Acons on the 29th January in that year (N.S.). His mother was Elizabeth fifth and youngest daughter of Sir Dudley Carleton and his parents migrated to Chester in 1667, where his father appears to have established a business as sugar-baker, just at the time when English trade with the West Indies was developing. His father was buried at Holy Trinity Chester 19th July 1689, and his will was proved at Chester by his widow five days later. The widow survived her husband many years, being buried at Thames Ditton on the 13th August 1711.

The writer in the Dictionary states that Sir John "was probably educated in Chester" and was sent to France in 1683.

Can any of your readers say whether there is any evidence to shew that this famous man was once a scholar at the King's School? He is certainly a prize worth securing to anyone who is interested in the alumni of that institution.

I notice with much interest that in the Holy Trinity Registers which appear from time to time in the Parish Magazine a number of entries relating to the family of Giles Vanburgh are to be found. These are as follows.

1668. Mary dau: of Mr. Giles Vanbrugh borne the 3rd of Nov: and bapt: the 19th Nov.

1669 [70] Victoria dau: of Mr. Gilles Vanbrugh 25th January.

1671. Elizabeth dau: of Mr. Giles Vanbrugh 4th May.

1672. Robina dau: to Mr. Giles Vanbrugh 22nd Sept.

1673. Carleton son to Mr. Giles Vanbrugh the 18th Sept.

1675. Giles son to Mr. Giles Vanbrugh the 3rd Sept.

1676. Catherina dau: of Mr. Giles Vanbrugh the 9th Oct.

1677. Dudley son of Mr. Giles Vanbrugh borne the 21st Oct: and bapt: the 25th Oct.

1678. Kendrick son of Mr. Giles Vanbrugh 21st Nov [bapt.].

1679 [80] Charles son of Mr. Giles Vanbrugh 27th February.

1681-[2] Philip son of Mr. Giles Vanbrugh the 31st January.

It is interesting to note the names of two of the sons—Dudley and Carleton—evidently after Giles Vanburgh's father-in-law, Sir Dudley Carleton.

In concluding I cannot help saying how grateful all who are interested in Chester history feel to the Rector of Holy Trinity for his excellent and public-spirited action in printing his early Register.

HISTORICUS.

[800] CUDDINGTON.

The following summary of a charter relating to Coddington or Cuddington (probably the latter) is taken from the Towneley abstracts of the Little Crosby Charters:—

"To all the faithful of Christ &c. I, Madoc ap Eyneson of Cudinton, have released to Hugh de Scotton and his heirs [my right] in a sellion of land in Codinton . . . by the gift of Jordan my son. Witnesses: Philip de Egerton, William de Malpas Hugh de Bykerton, Patrick de Larcheton." 5 Ed. III.

From the place in which it was found it seems reasonable to conclude that here we have an ancestor of the Anions of the Crosby district.

J. B.

MARCH 4, 1903.

NOTES.

[801] ST. ANNE'S, CHESTER. I.

I recently examined the MSS. in the Harleian Collection quoted in Lysons' "Cheshire" as having reference to the above, with a view to obtaining some information respecting the "St. Ann's" mentioned in the description of "St. Oswald's Pariah Boundaries in 1620" ("Sheaf," iv., 39). I copied the following documents as I considered they would not be unacceptable to readers of the "Sheaf."

The first reference given is MS. 2125, fo. 258. This relates to "The Antiquity of the Anciante and famous City of Chester, with many notes collected by some experienced in authors of great antiquitie," and in fo. 268 among the churches then [ante 1651, probably about 1622] in ruins, the following entry is made:—"St. Annes Church, the lands remaining but ruined and not to be found."

MS. 2159, fo. 112, contains the following rental which appears to have been taken in 1622:—

"A rental of the Hospitall or Fraternity of St. Annes within the city of Chester, whose house was in St. Johns Churchyard, at the east end of the sd. church.

FOREGATE STREET.

all those two mess's with the gardens to the same belonging in foregate Streete in the tenure of William Birde.....	s. d.
all that cottage with its appurtenances in the south part of the streete aforesaid in tenure of Helen Lewys	16 0
all those two messuag's there with gardens thereunto belonging late in the tenure of Thomas Walton	10 0
all that mess' with a garden there in tenure of Will' Walton	8 0
all that mess' there in tenure of Helen Banister.....	4 0
all that mess' w'th a garden there in tenure of Alice Radford & her assignes	8 0
all that mess' there w'th its appurt's in the tenure of Rich Harper or his assignes.....	12 0
all that tenem't with a garden there late in the tenure of John Chetton or his assignes	18 0
all that mess' with appurt's there in tenure of Wm. Shingleton	6 8
	16 0

COW LANE

all those two messuages with one croft in Cowlane late in the tenure of Nicholas Pemberton	
all that barne there in tenure of Richard Woodward	10 0
all that stable there in tenure of Rich Sheppherd	8 0
	4 0

ST. JOHNS LANE.

all that p'cell of Land lying voyd in St. Johns lane end, and late in ye tenure of John Smith Alderm' or his assignes.....	13 4
all that mess' therein tenure of Henr. Littlor	8 0
do. do. Bethell	8 0
do. do. Thomas Huson	8 0
do. do. Thom' Streete	8 0
do. do. Hugh Crosse	8 0
do. do. Thomas Joinson	13 4
do. do. Bugdale(?Dugdale)	10 0
do. do. Cowper	10 0
all that message in Eastgate street late in the possession [of] Peter Bostooke.....	10 0
all that mess' in Eastgate street in the possession of Rich Woodward or his assignes	17 0
all that mess' there in tenure of Seath Rosemington (?Rosingreve)	6 8
all that mess' in the Eastgate street in the tenure of Sr. Laurence Smith Knight...	2 0
all that mess' there in the tenure of Thomas Eaton.	13 4

CASTLE LANE.

all that message with its appurtenances in Castle lane in the tenure of Henry Dalby	12 4
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NORTHGATE ST.

all those two messuages in Northgate streete w'th gardens thereunto belonging in the tenure of Robert Jones	16 0
all that mess' therein tenure of Thomas Cooke	8 0
do. do. Henry Janion	8 0
do. do. Richard Cooke	8 0
all that message or Burgage there, with a garden in ye tenure of Jeffrey Lyngley	4 0
PARSONS LANE.	
all that message with appurtenances in Parsons lane in ye tenure of Thomas Smith draper	2 0
all that mess' there in the tenure of Henry Snape	3 0
all those two messuages there in tenure of Patrick Allen	6 0
all that tenem't there, with a garden in the tenure of Joh: Gregory	6 8
OU' LEGH.	
all that p'cell of land lying in the territor's of Chester in the tenure of Mathew Ellis	1 0
all that p'cell of land there in the tenure of Hugh Powell	6
all that other p'cell of land there in the tenure of John Smith, or his assignes	2 0
payd {anunc: Mary the receipts of St. Michaelmasse Annes within the city of Chester payable to the crowne	17 8 4

It is noticeable that the items here given total to £16 13s. 10d. and not £17 8s. 4d.

J. H. E. BENNETT.

(To be continued.)

[802]

NIXON'S PROPHECIES.

(See No. 703.)

In Richard James's "Iter Lancastrense" (Chetham Society) are the following lines:—
 in silence of a country life
 Amongst the dingles and the Apennines
 Whose safety gave occasion to old lines
 Thus riming: When all England is aloft
 Then happy they whose dwelling's in Christ's croft;
 And where, think you, this croft of Christ should be
 But 'midst Ribbochesters Ribble and Mersey?

(lines 356—362)

The lines about the place of safety which occur in Nixon's Prophecy were thus "old lines" in 1636, the date of this poem, and were considered to apply to South Lancashire. The editor in a note (p. 73) does not refer to Nixon, but remarks that, "like some others of the kind, it serves for different counties besides Lancashire. In Yorkshire it is given thus:—

When all the world shall be aloft

Then Hallamshire shall be God's croft."

Perhaps some of our readers may be able to give older versions, or versions fitted to other counties.

J. B.

[808] AN OLD TABLE OF LEGACIES.

The following record is extracted from the Vestry Book of St. Oswald's Parish, Chester, beginning 1677 :—

A true and perfect Coppie taken out of ye table of Laegasies which hangs in the parish Church : as Followeth.

The guifs of severall pious Charitable and well disposed persons to the poore of the parish of new St. Oswalds within the Cittye of Chester since ye yeare of our Lord 1596.

Mr. Hugh Offley Ald: of london Left 3s. in money and 1s. in bread to 12 poore householders once every 8th month for ever to bee paid by the treasurers of this Cittye, as will appear by the contents of his will, remaineing in a frame in St. Peters Church.

Mr. Thomas Greene Ald: Left one pound to bee paid by the treasurers of this Cittye every good friday for ever.

Thomas Worrall Carter left 10li. the use to bee paid to ye poore of St. Thomas his Warde every good Friday for ever.

Mrs. Jane Fisher Late wife of Mr. William Fisher Left 20li the use to bee p'd on good friday for ever.

Mr. John Brereton Ald: Left 10s. to bee paid by the treasurers on the 23rd day of Aprill for ever.

Mr. John Edwards of Cheausley Left 10li. they use to bee p'd for ever on St. Johns day ye Evangelist to 12 poore householders ye haveing noe other relieffe from ye parish.

Mr. Richard Bavand left 10li. ye use to bee p'd every good friday for ever.

Mr. William Bannister Left 10li. they use to bee paid every good Friday for ever.

Mr. Edward Bather Ald: Left 10s. to bee paid yearly for ever on St. Johns day ye Evangelis out of Owler hall ground in huntington : hee Left alsoe 1s. 8d. to bee given in bread to 10 poore people ye first Sunday in ye month for ever to bee paid out of Huntington medows.

Mr. Edward Russell left 2 pound 10s. yearly to 12 poore people within this parish to bee given them in bread every sabbath for ever : hee Alsoe Left 12 buckett and a reale to hange them on under they South Window in the Parish Church.

Gruffyth Trygarn } Church
William Pike } Wardens

Ano 1677

Ordered. That ye abovesayd Legacies be Distributed according to ye wills of ye Benefactors to ye most necessitated and most Poore Householdars, and not any Part thereof to any Common Beggars, in the parish.

Some of the above-mentioned Charities are still in existence, and are administered by a Scheme of the Charity Commission, viz :—

1. Edward Batho's Charity, founded by Will dated 14th November, 1628, the present endowment being a rent-charge of £1 issuing out of Huntington Lower Meadow ;

2. John Brereton's Charity, founded by Will dated 8th August, 1631 ; the present endowment an annual sum of 10s. received from the Trustees of the Municipal Charities out of a sum paid by the Corporation of the City of Chester ;

3. Hugh Offley's Charity, founded by Will dated 14th May, 1594, with which is amalgamated Matthew Anderton's Charity, founded by Will dated 1693 ; present endowment an annual sum of 7s. 9d. received from the Parish of St. Peter out of a sum received from the Trustees of the Municipal Charities out of a sum paid by the Corporation of the City of Chester ;

4. Edward Russell's Charity, founded by Will dated 7th June, 1666 : present endowment a rent-charge of £2 10s. issuing out of lands in Great Boughton.

The remaining Charities named in the above Table of Legacies, and several others left subsequently, have apparently been lost.

E. C. L.

[804] THE WARMINGHAM LORDSHIP.

The following is an extract from the Harleian MS. 2079 :—

"ye Trussells, lords of Warmingham in Cestr' marr'd into ye fam's of ye Pantolfs, Sir Warren Mainwaring, Sir Wm. Butler (baron) of Wem, Salop ; Savages, Corbets, Venables, Sir Baldwin Frevile, Ludlows. John de Vere Earl of Oxford marr'd Eliz. sister and heiress to Sir Ed. Trussell ; and their issue John de Vere 16th Earl, marr'd Marg't sister to Sir Ed. Gold. This Ed: (sic) then sold Warmingham and other lands in Cestr' to Sir Christ'r Hatton, Lord Chancellor."

One of the Trussells (qy. also 1st of Warmingham), viz., Sir Willm. Trussell, knt. of Marston-Trussell, co. Northants, was temp. Edw. II. the first Speaker of the House of Parliament (Lords, and Commons' Representatives, combined), and delivered the sentence on the Despensers. His connection with Cheshire was by the marriage of his daughter to Sir Willm. de Hellesby, knt., last lord of the entirety of that manor, as son and heir of Alan of Hellesby.

XOERPTS.

MARCH 1st, 1908.

NOTES.

[806] BISHOP LAW AND CHESTER CATHEDRAL.

The following letter, dated from the Palace, Chester, on 1st July, 1818, shows the efforts made a century ago to preserve the Cathedral :—

Reverend Sir,

With the full approbation and concurrence of his Royal Highness the Prince Regent, acting in the name and behalf of his Majesty, I issue this Circular to my Clergy ; and request you, to preach

a Sermon in your Church, and to make a personal application through your Parish, in order to provide the means, so much wanted, for the Repair of our Cathedral.

It may perhaps be unnecessary for me to apprise you, that the Funds of the Capitular Body, are unequal even to the annual Expenses of the Cathedral, much more to the Repair of it. From this cause, and from an anxious wish on the part of the Dean and Chapter, to leave nothing undone which they could accomplish, they have become involved in a considerable degree of Debt. An accurate Survey and Estimate have been made by Mr. Harrison, the Architect: and from these it appears, that at least 7,000*l.* are required, for the decent repair of our ancient and venerable Fabric. Unless something be done—and done soon, the Building must inevitably fall into a State of disgraceful Dilapidation. Such a circumstance would undoubtedly excite a strong feeling of regret in the mind of every Friend to our Ecclesiastical Establishment. It would, I am sure, be more peculiarly painful to them, who are locally interested, in the welfare and credit of our Cathedral Church.

With confidence, then, I make this appeal to the Clergy and Laity of my Diocese; humbly but earnestly requesting, that their wonted Liberality may be exercised, on an occasion, every way so worthy of it. They cannot, I trust, be indifferent to the success of a measure, connected, as this is, with the best Interests and Character of the Diocese of Chester.

I would recommend that the Sermon be preached in the course of the present, or the following month.

The Donations which you may receive, as also the amount of your Parochial Collection, will be published in the papers, and may be transmitted to the Committee, at William Ward's, Esq., Registry Office, Chester.

I am, Rev. Sir,
Your Friend and Brother,
GEO. H. CHESTER.

Mr. Ormerod's description of the building was written about this time. He is very gloomy: "It is to be feared that the general decay is far beyond any restoration which the slender funds of the cathedral can supply, and that the lapse of another century will probably level a considerable portion of the venerable fabric with the ground."

E. C. L.

[806] ROMAN CATHOLICS IN CHESHIRE, 1717—1767.
III.

(Continued from No. 791.)

The deaneries of Macclesfield and Frodsham complete the return so far as Cheshire is concerned. The entry at Park Hall in Alderley is noticeable: "the late Mrs. Stanley" was an unmarried lady, Mary the daughter of Sir Thomas Stanley of Alderley, 3rd baronet, by his wife Christiana

daughter and heir of Sir Stephen Leonard of West Wickham in Kent (Earwaker's "East Cheshire"), and she died 3 July, 1766, so that the word "late" was written in afterwards in the return. With respect to the Sutton mission, the numbers for which are given in the earlier return under Prestbury and in the later one under Macclesfield, the "Catholic Family Annual" for 1901 has the following:—"Till the beginning of the eighteenth century Maas was offered up in the private chapel at Sutton Hall, near Macclesfield, the residence of the family of Bellasyse Barons [and Viscounts] of Fauconberg. About the year 1716 Thomas Lord Fauconberg apostatised and the priest was sent from the hall. The little flock, however, clung to the old faith and evading the watch put upon them by the Baron, maintained the priest, who was forced to go about disguised, and Maas was said secretly in various places in the neighbourhood. About 1720 two maiden ladies named Orme came to reside at Sutton Lane Ends, about three miles from Macclesfield, where having erected a residence they privately set apart a large room to serve as a chapel. Till 1792 Maas was celebrated at intervals here, the mission being supplied from Manchester." There appears to be some confusion in the account of the Fauconberg title in Ormerod (iii 760). According to Collins Thomas Belasyse 2nd Viscount (and 3rd Baron) Fauconberg, who married a daughter of Oliver Cromwell, was created Earl Fauconberg in 1689, but dying without issue, the title of viscount descended to his nephew Thomas (son of Sir Rowland Belasyse by Anne, heir of the Davenports of Sutton), whose eldest son, conforming to the Church of England, received an office at Court and was finally created earl (1756).

DEANRY OF MACCLESFIELD.

	Anno	Anno
	1717	1767
Alderley.....	-	9 *See footnote
Cheadle.....	-	1
Gawsworth.....	-	-
Mobberley.....	-	-
Mottram.....	-	1
Woodhead.....	-	-
Northenden.....	-	-
Prestbury.....	83	2 †See footnote
Adlington.....	-	-
Bosley.....	-	-
Capesthorpe.....	-	-
Chelford.....	-	-
Forrest.....	-	-
Macclesfield.....	-	38 ‡See footnote
Marton.....	-	-
Pointon.....	-	-

* John Mackay Priest to late Mrs. Stanley of Park: blind & incapable of Duty.

† A Maas House in Sutton belonging to Lord Falconberg.

‡ Sutton in this Return. Mr. Hulme the priest.

	Anno 1717	Anno 1787
Pott.....	-	-
Rainow	-	-
Salterford	-	-
Siddington	-	-
Sutton (erased) re- turned by Macc.	-	-
Wincle	-	-
Stockport	-	8
Chadkirk	-	-
Dialay	-	-
Duckenfield	-	-
Marple	-	-
Norbury	-	-
Taxall	-	-
Wilmslow	-	-
	88	59
DEANRY OF FRODSHAM.		
Ashton on Mersey	-	-
Bowden	-	1
Carrington	-	-
Ringley	-	-
Great Budworth	10	55
Little Leigh	-	ret'd in the Par.
Nether Peover	-	3
Whitby	-	-
Witton	-	1
Frodsham	14	4
Alvanley	-	1
Grappenhall	-	11
Lymm	1	1
Warburton	-	-
Knutsford	-	-
Rosthern	1	-
High Leigh	-	-
Over Peover	-	-
Over Tabley	-	-
Runcorn	39	-
Aston	-	12
Daresbury	-	13
Halton	-	-
Weaverham	1	6 §See footnote
	66	108
The Cheshire Deaneries thus shew a total increase of 127 in the half century—		
Chester.....	116	138
Wirral	65	207
Bangor	2	-
Malpas	17	-
Nantwich.....	58	22
Middlewich.....	14	14
Macclesfield	83	59
Frodsham	66	108
	421	548

§ Francis Swarbrook [and] Letitia Latchford teach
School.

The summary shews—

	1717	1787
Archd'y of Chester	6846	15999
„ Richmond...	3462	9140
	10308	25139

a gross increase of 14,831.

The return ordered in 1790 gave a total of 27,228.

[807] FRODSHAM AND ALVANLEY LORDSHIPS. I.

Some notes of Elizabethan times relating to the once beautiful borough town of Frodsham, will be read with interest. They are extracts from "Exchequer Bills and Answers," 21, or 22, Elixth-1578-9. (Record Office, London, 1892.)

BILL OF COMPLAINT of Sir John Savage, Knt. v. Sir Edmund Trafford, knt. John Talbot, George Beeston (*nobiles et barones minores*), William Whitby, John Parry, James Thomasson, Raph Johnsson, William Middleton, & Richard Hether (or, qy. Hetton—Hatton). Reciting the seizin of Her Majesty of the Manor or Lordship of Frodsham, containing a certain 'Shepecote' standing upon Woodhouse Green; a certain parcel of land commonly called 'Woodhouse Green,' containing 60 acres; one other parcel of land called 'Lee More,' containing 200 acres; & one other parcel called 'West More,' containing 200 acres; (460 acres) all in the Parish of Frodsham. And Reciting that in Easter Term 21 Eliz. Sir Gilbert Gerrard, knt. Mr. of the Rolls, then H.M. Attorney General, did institute, in this Court of Exchequer, an Information of intrusion against Sir Edmond Trafford, Knt., George Beeston, Esq., William Whitby & John Perry, for certain intrusions by them committed upon the s'd 'Shepecote' & parcels of land; and that Trafford & Beeston claimed the premises as part of the Manor of Hellesby; & that Cause had been set down for hearing before Her M's. Justices for the County [Palatine] of Chester, since which divers charters and evidences had come into the possession of the present defendants.

[These (additional?) charters were probably lent by the Helsbies and Astons. An extant charter shews that "Alan, lord of Hellesby," granted to Adam and Piers de Hellesby, his sons, considerable acreage in 'Woodhouses' and Alvanley, circa A.D. 1276. But, the Woodhouses estate not being mentioned in any other Helsby charters, may possibly have been disposed of before Elizabeth's reign.]

The Answer of George Beeston:

That such evidences as this Defendant & Sir E. Trafford had in their hand & custody they did lawfully detain & keep for the preservation of their estate & interest.

Hilary Term, 24 Eliz. Savage v. Holbrook, et al. (Bills & Answers. Chester, No. 8, Record office).

BILL OF COMPLAINT of Sir John Savage of Rock Savage co. Chester knt. v. Henry Holbrooke ['John Whitby' struck out], Richard Kelsall, Raphe

Holbroke & John Holbroke.—Reciting seisin of Her Majesty in the Lordship of Frodsham, & right of tenants to common of pasture in Alvenley. And reciting Lease under the Great Seal, of the Lordship to Savage.—And reciting that Defendants had wrongfully enclosed lands; & were ministered in their enterprises 'by diverse gentlemen of worship within the County,' so that Plaintiff should hardly have any indifferent [impartial] trial at the common law.

Easter Term, 24 Eliz. Answer:—Traverse of right of Common, & say Dfts. were tenants to Raph Ardene, Esq., owner of the Manor of Alvenley, & enclosed lands by his license, or that of his father.—*Replication of Plaintiff.*—*Rejoinder of Defendants.* *Trinity Term, 24 Eliz.*

X.

(To be continued.)

MARCH 18, 1908.

NOTES.

[808] ST. ANNE'S, CHESTER. II.
(Continued from 801.)

MS. 2176, fo. 97, contains the following inquisition in a collection of various papers concerning the Ecclesiastical History of Chester, proving that a certain house in Chester, at one time belonging to St. Anne's, was given to the Grammar School of Witton.

"Inquisicio cap't apud Castr' Cestr' 26 Aug' 6. R. Carl' anno 1630 coram Jo ep'o cestr', Tho Smith milit', Tho Stafford in ll. Bach'o offi'cl, Tho Marbury ar., Will Forster s. Theol. profess'a, Jo Ley et Will Bispham clericis, comission' pro dño Rege virtute comisse ad pios usus in com. Cestr', per sacra' Will Burgeny de Pulford gen., Tho Bulkley de Bikerton gen., Jo Aldersey de Agden gen., Rafe Astley de Golborne bellow gen., Rich Edge de Tattenhall gen., Geo. Hitchin de Hanly gen., Joh. Horton de Aldersey gen., Robt Walker de ead', Jo Ashton gen., Henr' Phillips de Cristleton gen., Edw Bryan de ead' gen., Rand' Cotgreve de eade' gen., et Jo Hanky de Churton gen., supr Sacram' suu' Dicunt that the house in Forgate street in Chester now in the tenure [of] Peter Marshall is parcell of the lands purchased by Sr Jo Deane Clerke & by him assigned unto Feoffees in trost among other lands to & for the use of the free gramer schoole in Witton neere Northwich in the said county of Chester & hath bene comonly reputed & taken to be parte & parcell of the Sarazens head & there with by the sd feoffees set let occupied & enjoyed & was parte of the dissolved monastery of St Annes in Chester.

"The order.—Whereupon we the comission' afores'd do order that ye rents & profitts of the s'd house men'oned in the Inquisi'o'n belonging to the Sarazens head in Chester, & so to the schoole of

Witton shall henceforth be payd to the feoffees of the s'd schoole for the use thereof & no otherwise."

Further documents relating to St. Anne's are preserved at the Record Office, Fetter-lane, and it may not be inopportune to quote the references to them here as given in "Lancashire and Cheshire Records" published by the L. and C. Record Society. At page 66, among the Records of the Palatinate of Chester, Extents and Rentals:—

"Chester: Possessions of the Fraternity of St. Anne. 6 Hen. iv. to 21 Edw. iv."

and again at page 114, among records of the Superior and Abolished Courts:—

"Possessions of the Fraternity of Saint Anne in the City of Chester." (First Account.)

"Rents and farms in the City—Saynt Anne's House with houses, gardens, &c., demised 12 Feb. 1 Edw. iv. for the term of 100 years. Foregate Strete. Cowlane. Seynt Johns lane. Estgate Strete. Castell Lane. Iremonger Rowe. Northgate Strete. Parsons lane. Watergate Streets."

The messuages and tenements here mentioned are entered as leased to divers persons for terms of years, at various dates from the reign of Edw. iv. to that of Edw. vi. Then follow:—

"Rentes and farms in divers towns called Felde Renttes—Newton. Hole near Chester. Seynt Annes Heye near Seynt Annes Crosse. Baxter's Hey. Rents Resolute. Charges on Sundry tenants for arrears of rent."

J. H. E. BENNETT.

[809] BORDLAND TYTHES IN GREAT CALDY.

In Harl. MS. 1994 (fo. 161) is a paper headed "A Shedule of all the lands, meadows & yards within the township of Great Caldey als' Caldey Grange out of which doe issue, arise, renue and grow certaine tyths of Corne, hey, flax, and hemp, commonly called Bordland Tyths." It reads as follows:—

Mr. Gleggs two holmes, and his two lilymore meadows, Edward Youngs holme, one piece of land lying upon ye backside of ye house of Thos: Bryan als' Shaw lately deceased, being by estimate sixe measures of barley sowing, Mr. Gleggs seven lands lying between the old hay brooke and Mr. Warringtons Bollon his Crosse hay meadow, his little Scablons meadow and his stocs hay meadow soe farr as up'n anie flood ye water covers his two Rake hayes Edward Youngs upper rake hay with ye meadow therein, soe farr as up'n anie flood ye water covers Mr. Gleggs yarden hay, his Carr hay, his norcroft als' holcroft, Robert Coventrys Abbots yards, Mr. Gleggs vicar (sta . . ?) (margin torn here) all his longe hayes and there two meadows, his hay & meadow at the bottom of it lyng up'n the backside of Will'm Tompsons house, ye browne, als' underweat now divided into four meadows.

Mr. Gleggs pigeon house Croft; his two fields below ye pigeon house croft and one upon the old heyas, and Calvercroft, savinge seven butts shootinge

Crosse and lyinge close to the Calvercroft ditch, his pingle, saving the Crosse sute lyinge North and South his toun Larton hay, his thistle hay. Robt: Coventrys Cow pasture, Mr. Gleggs longe hay, his falemous field Robte: Coventrys galelowns, hunger croft, and the such meadow, Edward Youngs hill hay, and his pingle, Mr. Gleggs further Larton hay, his two arkabutts, his two hill hays, and Edward Youngs Rye hay and two peeces of hadlons in the neerer old hay shootinge up'n Mr. Gleggs Tupyards, Edward Youngs Tupyards, his yard and Mr. Gleggs greene yard at the bottom of them, Linikers yards lyinge up'n the backside of Linikers Barne, Robte: Coventrys yard Henry Guiles pingle, Colleys als' Will'm Parris old yard Henry Liniker's yard and Will'm ap Robt's yard.

Hinderton als' Smythes—plocke all the tenement now in the possession of Afm Totty or her assignes, savinge all the p'te of land about twentie yeares since enclosed off the low heath and shootinge from her oven house, to Frankie berch hays.

The Rake house now in the possession of Richard Coventry and Thomas Phillipps or their assignes Contayninge one parcel of land lyinge between Mr. Gleggs holmes and Newton Rake and fr'm Newton rake to Newton Well, contayning theise sev'all parcels the Car meadow, the short hay, the long hay, the brooke hay and the yard up'n the backside of the foresaid Richard Coventrys now dwellinge house as also one acre of meadowinge or thereabouts lying amongst Newton Meadows.

In Larton, Will'm Warringtons sixe loones, his staoke yard and Croft his cowcroft his grasse hay at the head of the cowcroft, one butt in the wall hay next unto Cowcrofts ditch but one and all the cuttings at the upper end to the old pitt his hill hay his hill field was divided into two p'ts of his two bollows.

In Newbald Mr. Coventrys farms and meadow savinge about eight measures sowing between the great Marble Stone and his soundy hay, his soundy hay, his little new hay, his great new hay, the great flatt by the house now divided into two, his two crofts by the house, his Sawghon flatt from the foot-way Northwards, his little flatt below wyhon flatt, his new hay now in the possession of John Wade and his Dawbyes hay and two hadlons at the west side of his mile hay.

G. P. G.

[810] LETTERS OF BISHOP VAUGHAN.

Richard Vaughan, successively Bishop of Bangor (1596), Chester (1597), and London (1604-7), matriculated from St. John's College, Cambridge, Nov. 16, 1589, and Mr. R. F. Scott, bursar of the College, has published in the "Eagle" (March, 1900), two of his letters which happen to be preserved in the Treasury. They are as follows:—

Salutem in Christo. Cosyn Gwyn I am encouraged by Mr. Dr. Cleyton your Master and perswaded by my good kynsman Mr. Holland to place my soone in the same Colledge where I layed

the foundations of that poore estate which I now enioye. And because myne acquayntance is worne out and knowe not any to whose custodie I would rather committe my sonne, then to your selfe, both in regards of consanguinitie and the good reporte which you beare. These are heartily to pray you (if you may conveniently) to take him for your pupill, or yf your studies, and occasions will not permitte, to vse your credite to commend him to such a one as may take some paynes with him beyng yet rawe, and not so forward as I could wishe. I have longe kept him at his bookes, but his conceyte, and apprehension is slowe, his memory frayle, and his mynde not so devoute to studye, nor so willynge to followe the same vnlesse by stricte discipline he be helde in, and spurred thereunto. I do not expecte he should prove any great Clerke (though slow wittes do often prove deepest) but my desyre is he should add somewhat to that he hath, that he may prove fitte for civill companie and for some purpose in the commonweale *ne aut frustra, aut infoluciter natus videatur*. And that he may the better attayne to that I most desyre, I have resolved that he shall begynne, where I ended namely in the Schollers commons, esteemyng it daungerous to giue him any head, whose head I would haue alwayes kept vnder the girdle of discipline, the marrow of all good learninge and pietye. And although I am farre from Cambridge, yet doo I leave the observing of my sonne to my brother, who is nearer hand so that he shall see all his wants supplied. If I presume to farre vpon you it is not my manner to offende in that kynde over often, and I deserve the lesser blame, because both my auncient friende your discreete governor, and also my Cosyn Holland have drawn me therevnto. If you shewe me any kyndnes herein you shall much bynde me vnto you and I will endeavour by all meanes to requite your kind affection. And so referring my suite to your fauorable respecte I cease and rest ever

May 19, 1604.

your very assured friende
and lovyng kinsman
RIC. CESTREN.

I hope my Cosyn Holland will be a mediator vnto you for me to whom I would have written, but that as I [?] understood] him he sayd he should be in Norfolk about this time.

R. O.

Addressed: To verie loving friende and kinsman Mr Gwynn fellow of St. John's Colledge in Cambridge and Batchelor in divinitie these d'd.

[Mr. Scott says that a John Vaughan was admitted a Foundress' Scholar 5 Nov., 1605.]

Salutem in Christo. Cosyn Gwyn though my leysure be very small at this tyme, yet I cannot but in faire wordes acknowledge how much I rest beholdinge vnto you for the kynde receyvinge of my sonne into your tuition, vnder which I hope though he attayne through his dull and slow apprehension but little learneing yet I hope he shall

learne the feare of God to season his ensuinge life withall. I know not how to countervayle this kyndnesse, but assure yourselfe of all the kyndnesse my poore self can affoorde you, or God may enable mee to performe hereafter. I commend him eftsoones to God's blessing, and your care and his direction to whom you haue committed him, whom also I do assure of any good turne I may yelde him. I am still of mynde to keepe him under the strictest discipline of your howse, and not to giue him any libertie till I see how he doth deserve it. Nevertheless I would not have him want anythings convenient either for his studye, or diet, but when his small stock is spent I shall be readie to supply his necessity. I would be glad to heare from you before my goynge downe, which for ought I yet knowe wilbe about the 1. or second weeke of Julie. In the meane tyme with my hearty commendations to my kynd freend your Master, my cosyn Holland, yourselfe and Mr Williams I cease and rest ever

your very assured
 xijth Junii lovyng freend and kinsman
 1604 RIC. CESTREN.

This bearer my allye entreated your fauor for one Fletcher a Bangor scholler now of Jesus Colledge, who by your good meanes may be this next election chosen scholler into your howse. You shall doe a very charitable act therein, and such as both my L. of Bangor, my selfe, and many others will be very thankfull vnto you for.

R. C.

Addressed: To my very loving freend and kinsman Mr. Gwyn fellow of St. John's Colledge in Cambridge, and Bachelor in Diuinitie geve these.

QUERY.

[811] A RELIC OF A WRECK.

I have been told that in one of the fields near the railway, on the low-lying reclaimed land between Blacon and Saughall stations, there is still to be seen the top of a mast of a vessel projecting a few feet above the ground, the vessel having apparently been driven ashore, and gradually buried by drifting sand, in the days when the Dee used to come up that far. My informant added that the late Captain J. P. Davies used to be able to point out the spot. Is it known to any reader of the "Sheaf"?

E. C. L

MARCH 25, 1903.

NOTES.

[812] THE SIEGE OF CHESTER.

The "Sheaf" has recently contained an account from the besiegers' point of view of the state of affairs at the siege of Chester in the autumn of

1645. The following document shews what precautions were taken by the resolute defenders of the city, and also supplies an interesting list of householders. The city was surrendered within three weeks, on 3rd February, 1645-6.

In Harl. MS. 2135 (fo. 98) there may be found the "Original Warrant of the Lord Byron to Divers Magistrates of Chester. Dated 14th January, 1645. For obliging the Inhabitants of the City to give an exact account of the Quantities of Corne and Meal remaining by them." The following is a copy of this warrant:—

To Lient Colonel Henry Leigh, Lient Col John Robinson, Lient Col Peter Griffith, Sarjeant Major Thomas Thripp, Hugh Wilbraham Esq, Peter Leicester, Esq, Capt Edmund Pearsall, Capt Edw Alcock, Capt Richd Malory, Mr. Alderman Holme Senr, Mr. Ald'n Cowper, Mr. Ald'n Harvie, Mr. Humfrie Phillippe, Mr. Ald'n Holme Junr, Mr. Richard Bird, and Mr. Edwd Hulton.

In pursuance of the comission to you graunted touching the searching for and enquiring after the Corne & Meal in the custodie of anie person and the quantities thereof I desire that you doe punctually and with all expedition perform the same so as I may have a perfect accompt of the same under y'r hands tomorrow by three of the clock precisely. Hereby requiring and authorising you and anie two of you to comitt to safe custodie the person or persons of anie who according to the power to you given shall refuse to take an oath for discoverie of the truth in the premises, whose are not to be discharged without especial order & of whom I desire lists to be sent unto me.

The Service beinge of speciall concerne to his Mjsty & the preservation of this Garrison I expect a faithfull proceeding & exact performance & obedience in and by all concerned. Chester 14th January, 1645.

(Signed) JOHN BYRON.

On the next folio the following occurs; it is without heading, but is evidently a series of instructions to the officers making the lists, in the form of the four questions:

1. What Corne have you in your owne house, barn or stable or in any other house, barn or stable or any other place whatsoever? Declare the truth.
2. What in meal or bread, pease, beans, bran or fitches likewise in your own or any other house?
3. How many have you in family and what souldiers doe you keep?
4. Doe you know of anyone within this garrison that hath any store of corne threshed or unthreshed?

Here followeth a List of Officers under the various Wards.

St. Oswald's: Lient: Col: Leigh, Major Thripp.
Northgate: Lient. Col. Robinson, Mr. H. Phillipps

Eastgate: Lieut. Col. Griffith, Mr. Alderm. Holmes Junr.

St. Nicholas: Mr. Leicester, Mr. Alderm. Cowper.

St. Bridget's: Capt. Pearsall, Mr. Robt. Harvie.

St. Olave's: Mr. H. Wilbraham, Mr. Alderm. Holmes Senr.

Trinity: Capt. Alcock, Mr. Edwd. Hulton.

St. Martin's: Capt. Malory, Mr. Alderm. Ince.

Later (fo. 100 and foll.) comes the report from TRINITY WARDE: January 1645.

Mr. Thomas Aldersey, Justice of Peace, Alderman of same warde.

Miles Bennitt, 18 in famelye, 4 mesures of corne, 2 mesures of meale.

Baron of Kinderton, 32 in fam.; 4 mesures of corne.

Widdowe Suger, 15 in fam.; 5 m's of corne, 5 m's of meale.

Thos: Linaker, 4 in famelye.

Widdowe Welsh, 12 in famelye.

Thomas Hutchons, 4 in famelye.

Danyell Woodes, 8 in fam.; a souldier, 2 m's of meal.

Danyell Boore, 3 in fam.; 1 pecke of meal.

Edward Fisher, 3 in fam:

Widdow Hatton, 3 in fam.; & a souldier.

John Lunte, 2 in famelye.

Ensigne Wm. Johnson, 5 in fam:

Widdowe Roberts, 7 in fam:

Mrs. Morrayne, 2 in fam.; halfe mesure of meale.

William Green, 5 in fam.; 1 pecke of meal.

Thomas Reeise, 1 in famelye.

Mrs. Warberton, 2 in fam:

Widdowe Welsh, 4 in fam:

David Rogers, 3 in fam:

Paul Sownes, 7 in fam.; halfe mesure of meal.

John Wakefield, 3 in fam:

Francis Wade, 2 in fam.; 1 souldier, halfe m's of meale.

Owen Morrice, 8 in fam.; 2 souldiers, 3 m's of rye, 1 m'e of meal.

Widdowe Hughes, 3 in fam.; halfe m'e of corne.

Hamnett Bennett, 4 in fam.; 1 pecke of corne.

Richard Samson, 4 in famelye.

George Caldwell, 2 in fam.; halfe m're of corne.

Widdowe Stones, 2 in famelye.

Randle Asbrooke, 8 in fam.; 1 me. of meal, halfe me. of corne.

Roger Jones, 2 in fam.; halfe mesure of corne.

Mr. Richard Sproson, 2 in fam.; 2 mesures of meale.

Henry Powell, 5 in fam.; a Captayne and ensigne, halfe a me. of meale.

Mr. Robt: Sproson, 4 in fam.; 4 souldiers, 4 ms. of meale.

Mr. John Wright, 9 in fam.; 2 m. of corne.

Mrs. Odars, 10 in famelye.

George Watte, 3 in fam.; halfe m. of corne.

Mr. Edward Hulton, 9 in fam.; a Captn. a leifetenante, 2 men, 4 ms. of wheate, 4 ms. of rye, 2 ms. of meale.

Rauffe Fletcher, 3 in fam.; 1 souldier.

Richard Mitchell, 7 in fam.; 1 me. of corne.

Widow Suthworth, 4 in fam.; 1 me. of wheate.

Richard Walton, 4 in fam.; 1 soldier, 2 ms. of wheate.

Robt: Proffett, 7 in fam.; halfe ms. of corne.

James Smithe, 6 in fam.; 1 me. of corne.

William Peeires, 4 in famelye.

James Anderton, 5 in fam.; 3 peckes of corne.

Thomas Tinsley, 4 in fam.; 5 ms. of malte, 3 peckes of corne.

Mr. Thomas Mottershed, 10 in fam.; 2 ms. of corne.

Captayne Gyles, 9 in famelye.

Robt: Payne, 4 in fam.; halfe m. of corne.

Thomas Warmisham, 6 in famelye.

Henry Richardson, 8 in fam.; 1 m. of corne.

Rauffe Mosse, 10 in fam.; 1 pecke of corne.

Widow Plinston, 6 in famelye.

Widow Ashten, 4 in fam.; halfe m. of corne.

Widow Jones, 4 in famelye.

Randle Bradley, 5 in fam.:

Thomas Jackson, 7 in fam.:

Ric: Case, 5 in fam.:

Henry Alison, 5 in fam.:

Gilliver Smith, 2 in famelye.

John Carran, 7 in fam:

Widow Harper, 5 in fam:

John Pudderoughe, 3 in fam;

William Smithe, 5 in fam:

William Roberts, 3 in fam:

John Miller, 3 in fam:

Thomas Beckett, 5 in fam:

Widow Beddowe, 8 in fam:

Widdowe Watte, 3 in fam:

Peter Knee, 3 in fam:

Thomas Tomason, 7 in fam.; halfe mesure meal.

John Fletcher.

Ric: Litherland, 4 in fam.; one mesure meal.

Thomas Foxe, 7 in fam:

Widow Smithe, 7 in fam.; 3 mesures corne.

Thomas Payne, 2 in fam:

Randell Hatton, 3 in fam.; 1 pecke corne.

William Yeales, 8 in fam:

John Harrison, 4 in fam.; 1 mesure corne.

Henry Litherland, 3 in fam.; 1 pecke meal.

Widow Moseley, 5 in fam.; 3 peckes corne.

Christopher Tilston, 5 in fam:

Thomas Whitleche, 8 in fam:

Samuell Edwardes, 6 in fam:

Ric: Jones, 2 in fam.; halfe pecke corne.

Eavan Jones, 3 in fam.; 1 pecke beanes.

Robert Rollinson, 6 in fam.; 1 pecke beanes.

Peeres Gregorye, 2 in fam.; $\frac{1}{2}$ mesure corne.

Roger Woodcooke, 2 in fam.; 2 mesures corne and meale.

Sheathe Houghton, 5 in fam:

Katherine Copline, 4 in fam:

Elizabeth Woodwarde, 6 in fam.; 3 peckes corne.

Isacke Hughes, 7 in fam.; 1 pecke beanes.
 Widow King, 3 in fam.; 1 pecke meale.
 Thomas Maddar, 4 in fam.; 1 pecke fitches.
 Widow Bell, 5 in fam:
 William Seale, 6 in fam.; 1 mesure corne.
 Widow Baggott, 4 in fam:
 Thomas Holmes, 5 in fam:
 William Costowe, 5 in fam.; 3 peckes corne.
 Henry Janyon, 5 in fam:
 Patericke Cowley, 2 in fam:
 Robt: Briscoe, 2 in fam:
 Mode Hande, 5 in fam.; 1 mesure meale.
 Gilbert Quele, 2 in fam:
 John Griffeth, 5 in fam.; 1 mesure corne.
 Richard Davies.
 Elizabeth Boulder, 1 in fam:
 Mr. Mounford.
 Widowe Broster, 3 in fam.; 1 pecke meale.
 Richard Dolbye, 7 in fam.; 3 mesures rye and wheate, 1 meale.
 Mr. Galloway, 1 in fam.; 1 mesure wheate.
 Elline Steene, 3 in fam.; 1 mesure meale.
 Widow Orrage, 2 in fam:
 Elizabeth Robinson, 2 in fam.; $\frac{1}{2}$ pecke beanes.
 Edwarde Oranage, 3 in fam.; 1 m. benes $\frac{1}{2}$ m. meale.
 Thomas Larker, 3 in fam:
 Anne Scott, 2 in fam:
 William Balmer, 4 in fam.; 8 ms. Rye, Wheate, Benes and Barelye.
 William Hande, 4 in fam.; 1 pecke corne.
 William Meare, 2 in fam:
 Gerrard Tyrer, 3 in fam.; 2 souldiers 6 ms. maulte 4 ms. wheate and 1 m. meale.
 Parson Wilson [rector of Trinity], 4 in fam.; 2 ms. wheate and beanes.
 George Hulton, 5 in fam.; 2 souldiers, 6 ms. wheat and rye and 2 meale.
 Edward Clougas.
 Parson Smith, 3 in fam:
 William Twisse, 3 in fam:
 William Midelton, 1 in fam:
 James Robinson and others that came out of Northgate St., 9 in famelye.
 Richard Coddington, 3 in fam:
 Joseph Tye, 3 in fam:
 Widdow Br(o)xsie, 5 in fam.; $\frac{1}{2}$ mesure corne.
 Constables in this Warde.
 George Starkye, 10 in fam.; 3 souldiers, 4 mesures meale.
 Edward Eaton, 4 in fam.; $\frac{1}{2}$ mesure meale.
 Thomas Williams, 5 in fam.; 2 souldiers, 1 mesure meal 1 mesure corne.

G. P. GAMON.

 QUERY.

[813]

DR. CURRIE.

In Vol. III. of the 1st Series (2387) Mr. Matthew Harrison, speaking of 1817, says: "An eminent Scotch physician and his family resided in this

district of the city (Barrel Well), Dr. Currie, of talents well-known, and greatly esteemed. There is an excellent portrait of this favourite practitioner extant, and a monument was erected to his memory in St. Mary's Church."

Was this Dr. Currie any relation to James Currie, M.D., F.R.S., of Liverpool, and afterwards of Bath, the Biographer and Editor of Burns, who died in 1805, at the age of 49?

E. C. L.

 APRIL 1, 1903.

NOTES.

[814]

RUNCORN PRIORY.

The following is a translation of a charter to Runcorn Priory, founded about 1115 by William Fitz Nigel, 2nd Baron of Halton and author of this grant, and transferred to Norton some twenty years later by his son and successor William. It is taken from Towneley's MSS. in the Chetham Library (C8. 8); and its date is fixed by the allusion to Richard Earl of Chester (d. 1119) and Robert de Limesey the bishop (d. 1117). It may be compared with that in Ormerod (i. 691), made on the transfer to Norton.

In the Name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Ghost. Amen.

Let the piety of the present and posterity for all time know that I William, Constable of Cheshire, to the Church of St. Mary and St. Bartholomew of Runcorn and the canons there serving God accord. ing to their rule do give the aforesaid Runcorn in alms with all things belonging to it in wood and in open country, in fields, in pastures and in waters; and I give to the church aforesaid for the necessary uses of the canons the mill of Halton and half of all the fisheries belonging to Halton, common rights also of woods pastures and waters belonging to Halton to the canons and their men. I grant also a half of all my fishery of Thelwall and a bovate of land there with the fisherman, and two bovates in Widnes (Withnesse) with common rights in woods and pastures belonging to Appleton to them and their men belonging to Widnes and there dwelling. I grant also common rights of woods and pastures of Cuerdley and two bovates in Halton with one dwelling and the mill of Barrow and two parts of the demesne tithes in the same township; two parts of the demesne tithes in Sutton; two parts of the demesne tithes in Staningas and half of the same township (i.e. three carucates), two parts of the demesne tithes in Stanney and likewise in Raby; and a dwelling in Chester and the church of [Great] Budworth; and the church of Donington and tithe of the mill of the same township, and one carucate of land from the demesne in the same township, and in the said parish Wavertot (which is reckoned

as half a carucate of land) in Leicestershire; and the church of Radcliffe and a fourth part of the mills and tithes of the remaining three parts in the same township; and the church of Kneesall (Chenessala) and tithes of the mills of the same township which are adjacent to Southwell; and tithe of the mill of Allerton and the church of Burton in Lindsey and the church of Periton (Pyrton) in Oxfordshire and a carucate and a half of land in Clifton (i.e., a half of the township). And all things given to my men from any one of them, viz., the mill of Walton which Hugh son of Edard and his brother Gilbert gave in alms and a cultura of land between Runcorn and Weston which the said Hugh gave, and two parts of the demesne tithes in Sutton beyond Mersey which Thurstin gave, or which may in future be given for the salvation of their souls I grant. These things have I done at the suggestion and with the confirmation of Robert de Limisi bishop of Chester and with the consent and grant of Richard earl [of Chester], for the salvation of the soul of Earl Hugh and of Earl Richard, and of myself and my wife, my father and mother, my sons and daughters, my brothers and sisters and all my ancestors and posterity. This alms moreover I grant so free and quit from all services and customs pleas and quarrels as this alms can and ought to be given best and most freely. And may every one who shall increase or maintain this alms by sharing the benefits of this church attain the kingdom of heaven. And on the other hand may they who shall violate or attempt to infringe it dwell in everlasting pains with Judas and Pilate and with the Devil and his angels unless they amend and render satisfaction.

Witnesses: William the Steward (Dapifer) son of Herne, Robert son of Ralph and Hugh son of Edard and Gilbert his brother and William the Chaplain and Robert son of Peter and Nigel son of Ansgot and Alfred son of Humphrey and Hugh Brotheston and Richard of Kneesall and Randle the Earl's Hunter, Godric dean of Donnington and Roger de Verniz and Hugh Pirun and Edmund the priest of Pirinton (Pyrton) and Geoffrey the Hunter of Thelwall and Roger de Baron.

The names of the witnesses may be compared with the list of Norman tenants in 1086 ("Sheaf" iv. 135); Hugh son of Edard (Odard or Hudard), and Alfred son of Humphrey, for example, give a later descent.

[815] BRIEFS COLLECTED IN ST. OSWALD'S,
CHESTER.

	£	s.	d.
May 8th, 1676. Breefe for a fier at the Towne of Northampton	12	14	1
Sept. 23rd, 1676. Brife for Ossistra Church, Salop	01	07	08
Sept. 25th, 1676. Easton Brfe in Buck-shire	1	13	0
April 25th, 1677. Southwarke Briefe in London.....	02	04	10

October 25th, 1677. Cottenham breeffe in Combridgeshire	02	00	00
April 14th, 1682. Stafford Briefe for fire	01	00	07½
" " Poland Briefe.....	01	11	05½
October, 1677. Breefe for a fier att the towne of Wem	7	13	0
January, 1678. Breife for rebuildinge St. Pauls in London	10	8	3
(No date) 1678. Briefe for rebuildinge St. Albans in our County of Hertford	2	11	5
April 23rd, 1689. Rec'd in Cash Collected for ye french distressed protestants.....	04	08	7
April 13th, 1690. Breefe of Easte Smith-field	3	0	0
May 4th, 1690. Breefe of new Alresford	2	2	0½
April 27th, 1690. Breefe of Bungay.....	2	4	2½
April 19th, 1691. Breefe of Blackburne	1	6	8
November 24th, 1690. Breife of St. Iues	2	1	5½
February 9th, 1690-1. Breefe of Morpeth	1	17	7½
March 29th, 1691. Breefe of Teingmouth	1	3	4
June 15th, 1691. Brief for ye reliefe of ye inhabitants of Bealt in the County of Breknor.....	1	9	6½
November 12th, 1691. Brief of Owestrey (No date). Brief for ye inhabitants of Thirsk in ye County of York	1	1	0
February 2nd, 1691. Briefe for reliefe of ye distressed sufferers at Montsorrell... ..	1	2	4½
October 13th, 1697. Breef for the fire at Fuston	1	12	0
October 13th, 1697. For the fire at Wolverhampton	1	15	6
May 3rd, 1697. Breef for Lichfield	10	16	9
April 25th, 1699. Breefe for the fire att Shewabery	5	5	1
April 25th, 1699. For the fire in Drury lane in Middlesex.....	0	15	1
April 25th, 1699. Collected for the Poore French Protestants	8	10	0
July 10th, 1700. Collection to releefe of slaves in Tourkey	05	09	00
October 26th, 1700. Breef for Sente Mary Magdolen Barmensey in London.....	01	11	11
March 2nd, 1700-1. For Becle in the County of Soffolk	01	01	07
April 27th, 1701. For the Towne of Cruckwall (?) Pontebewry in the County of Sollop	01	04	01
(No date.) Breif of great Messingham ..	01	17	4½
Nov. 9th, 1704. Breif for the Seamen's Widows and Orphans	04	07	7
May 22nd, 1705. Breif of South Moulton ..	00	18	02
June " " Breif of stoney stratt-ford	01	06	10
June 1st, 1705. Breif of Church Minshall ..	01	18	00
October 10th, 1705. Breef of Allsants ...	10	10	00
October " " Breef of Bauinton ..	01	09	07
November 4th, " Breief of Rolston ...	00	18	2
February 3rd, 1705-6. Breief of Bradmore ..	01	00	05
March 24th, " Breef of Bauerly Church	01	00	00

E. C. L.

[316] GENTRY OF CHESHIRE IN 1673. I.

The following is the list of "Nobility and Gentry which are or lately were related unto Cheshire, with their seats by which they are or have been known" as given in the "Britannia" of Richard Blome, printed in London in 1673 by Thomas Roycroft.

F. S.

Acton, Tho., of Alderley and Chester, Gent.
 Aldersey, Thomas, of Chester, Esq.
 Allen, John, of Greenhills, Gent.
 Alport, Jo., of Overton, Gent.
 Anderson, John, of Chester, Gent.
 Anderton, Matthew, of Chester, Gent.
 Angel, Robert, of Chester, Dr. of Physick.
 Arderne, Sir John, of Harden, Bart.
 Ashton, Thomas, of Ashley, Esq.
 Ashton, William, of Cogshall, Gent.
 Aston, Sir Willoughby, of Aston, Baronet.
 Barnston, Trafford, of Churton, Esq.
 Baskerville, Thomas, of Withington, Esq.
 Bavand, Edward, of Christleton, Gent.
 Bellett, Sir John, of Moreton, Baronet.
 Bennett, Peter of Barnston, Gent.
 Berkenhead, Singleton, of Backford, Esq.
 Berrington, Herbert, of Chester, Esq.
 Bickerton, Thomas, of Chester, Gent.
 Bird, George, of Broxton, Gent.
 The R. Hon. George Booth, Baron Delamer of Dunham Massey, &c.
 Booth, Sir John, of Chester, Kt.
 Booth, Nath., of Mottram Andrew, Esq.
 Booth, George, of Chester, Esq.
 Borlace, Dr. Edmund, of Chester.
 Bradley, Jonathan, of Bradley, Gent.
 Bradshaw, Sir James, of Chester, Kt.
 Brassey, Edward, of Buckley, Gent.
 The Right Honourable William Lord Brereton of Laghlin in the Kingdom of Ireland, at Brereton.
 Brereton, Sir Tho., of Honford, Baronet.
 Brerewood, John, of Chester, Esq.
 Brett, John, of Chester, Gent.
 Bridgeman, Orlando, of Ridley, Esq., Son and Heir to the R. Hon. Sir Orlando Bridgman, late Lord Keeper of the Great Seal of England.
 The R. Hon. John Earl of Bridgewater, Visc. Brackley, Baron Elmsmer, and one of the Lords of his Majesties Most Honourable Privy Council, &c.
 Brook, William, of Upton, Esq.
 Bromley, Edward, of Hampton, Esq.
 Brooke, Sir Richard, of Norton, Baronet.
 Brooke, Sir Peter, of Meire, Kt.
 Brooks, Henry, of Peel, Esq.
 Brooks, John, of Reddish, Gent.
 Broster, Charles, of Chester, Gent.
 Brown, Tho., of Upton, Gent.
 Bruen, Jonathan, of Bruen-Stapleford, Esq.
 Bruen, Tilston, of Huxley, Esq.
 Bruen, Joseph, of Chester, Gent.
 Buckley, Robert, of Chester, Esq.
 Buckley, George, of Chester, Gent.
 Bunbury, Henry, of Stanney, Esq.
 Byron, Christopher, of Buglawton, Esq.

Cheshire, Thomas of Halton, Gent.

The Right Reverend Dr. John Pearson, Lord Bishop of Chester, &c.

The R. Hon. Robert Visc. Cholmondeley of the Kingdom of Ireland, at Cholmondeley.

Cholmondeley, Tho., of Vale Royal, Esq.

Cholmondeley, Francis, of , Esq.

Cotton, Sir Robert, of Combermere, Kt.

Corton, Thomas, of Cotton, Esq.

Cowley, William of Doddleston, Gent.

Crew, John, of Crew, Esq.

Crew, Sir John, of Utkinton, Kt.

Crompton, Will., of Chester, Esq.

Croxtan, Thomas, of Croxtan, Esq.

Daniel, John, of Daresbury, Esq.

Daniel, Thomas, of Tabley, Esq.

Davenport, John, of Davenport, Esq.

Davonport, Peter, of Bromhall, Esq.

Davenport, George, of Caverley, Esq.

Davenport, John, of Woodford, Esq.

Davenport, — of Bridge Trafford, Gent.

Davies, Henry, of Ashton, Gent.

Davies, John, of Manley, Gent.

Delves, Sir Thomas, of Duddington, Bar.

The Right Honorable William Earl of Derby

L. Stanley and Strange of Knocking, Visc. Kinton, Baron of Weeton, Ld. Mohun, Barnet, Bassett, and Lacy, Lord Lieutenant of the Counties Palatine of Lancaster and Chester, and Admiral of the Seas thereto belonging, Chamberlain of Chester, and Lord of Man, and the Isles, &c.

Dodd, Randolph, of Edge, Esq.

Domville, Sir Will., Kt., his Majesty's Attorney General for the Kingdom of Ireland, descended from the ancient family of the Domvilles of Lymme in this County.

Domville, Edward, of Lymme, Esq.

Done, Edward, of Duddon, Esq.

Downes, Edward, of Worth, Esq.

Duckenfield, Sir Rob., of Duckenfield, Bar.

Dutton, Peter of Hatton, Esq.

Egerton, Sir Jo., of Wrinehill, Kt.

Egerton, Sir Philip, of Egerton, Kt.

Egerton, Peter, of Boughton, Esq.

Eyton, Kenrick, of Chester, Esq.

Eyton, Thomas, of Eccleston, Gent.

Frodsham, — of Elton, Gent.

Gamull, William, of Grabball, Esq.

The R. Hon. Charles Gerard, Baron Gerard of Brandon, one of the Gentlemen of His Maj. Chamber, &c., at Gawsworth.

The R. Hon. Digby L. Gerard, Baron of Gerards Bromley and L. of Dutton, &c.

Gerrard, Charles, of Crewwood, Esq.

Glaseour, Thomas, of Lea, Esq.

Gleave, John, of Pulford, Gent.

Gleave, John, of High Leigh, Gent.

Glegge, Edward, of Gayton, Esq.

Glegge, Edward, of Grange, Esq.

Green, Richard, of Poulton, Esq.

Gregg, Robert, of Chester, Esq.

Grimesdich, Thomas, of Grimesdich, Esq.
Grosvenor, Sir Thomas, of Eaton, Baronet.
Grosvenor, Thomas, of Eaton, Esq.
(To be continued.)

APRIL 8, 1903.

NOTES.

[817] IS A GALLERY AN ORNAMENT?

In the "Sheaf" for July, 1879 (747) there appeared, over the well-known initials J. S. H., a copy of an application, dated 23rd December, 1708, from the Parishioners of St. Oswald's to the Dean and Chapter for leave to erect a Gallery in the South Transept, and the formal sanction given by the Dean and Chapter on 26th September, 1709, for this purpose.

The Parish Vestry Book supplies a good deal of further information on the subject, which is interesting.

It was agreed at a meeting of the Parishioners held on November 18th, 1708, "that a Gallery be erected forthwith in the s'd Parish Church at the Charge of the Parish by way of Assessment for Church Ornaments."

The application to the Dean and Chapter followed on December 23rd. But the Parishioners were far from being unanimous in the matter, as is shewn by the following case stated for the opinion of Counsel; the Dean and Chapter meanwhile withholding their consent:—

A Copy of the Case, Relating to the Erecting of a Gallery in the Parish Church of St. Oswald, stated, together with S'r Tho: Parker's opinion upon the same.

The Parish Church of St. Oswald within the City of Chester is an Antient Parish Church: And the said Parish Extends itself into the County of Chester, as well as in the County of the City of Chester. Divers family's in the County of Chester have Seats in the said Church, w'ch they have from time to time Enjoy'd, & Repair'd, & claim them as belonging to their several Mess'es in the County of Chester: The Other Seats are Generally Disposed of by the Church-Wardens, according to the Quality & Conveniency of such Persons & Tradesmen as shall come into the City of Chester, & Inhabit in the said Parish. The Inhabitants within the said Parish are very Numerous: The Major Part of the Parishioners, on Notice from the Church-Wardens, have at a General Meeting Agreed to Build a Gallery, at the General Charge of the Parish, as in like Cases Seats in Churches are Built. Some Parishioners living in the County, as well as in the City, Oppose the Same; &

1. Object, That This can't be done by way of Repairs, for if so, Then the Dean & Chapter as in truth so they have always, & so they Ought to Repair.

2. Object, It can't be done by way of Ornaments, for it doth not appear that a Gallery will be an Ornament.

Quaere, If the Major Part of the Parishioners can't make an Assessment for Erecting a Gallery at the Charge of the Whole Parish (the Ordinary's Consent being first had) & Compell the Parishioners by Ecclesiastical Censures to Contribute towards the same, as in Like Cases of Building of Seats in Churches.

I am of Opinion, that the Majority of the Parishioners at a Parish Meeting properly summoned, if there be just Occasion for such a Gallery, may lay an Assessment on the Whole Parish for building thereof; & I think the most Proper title of the assessment will be according to the naked truth of the Case, an Assessment for erecting a Gallery &c.

signed T: Parker
19 Apr. 1709.

Another Meeting of the Parishioners was held on June 28th, 1709, and "it was then agreed, that in pursuance of a Former Order of the Parish, dated Nov. 18th, 1708, for the erecting a Gallery in the said Church, Nine Persons or any Five of them whose names are Underwritten, whereof the Churchwardens for the time being shall be Two of the Nine, shall be & are hereby Appointed by the Parishioners, to be Commissioners for to Bargain with Workmen for the Erecting the said Gallery, to the best Advantage & Honour of the s'd Parish, & that any Five of Them are empowered to Act, & their Act to be allowed.

John Hurleston Esq.
William Gamull Esq.
Capt. Hulton
Alderman Ince
Alderman William Bennett
Mr. Walton
Mr. Bently
Mr. Dunbabin } Churchwardens.
Mr. Hatton }

Ordered likewise at the said Meeting that the Stated Case about erecting the Gallery, together with Sr. Thomas Parker's Opinion upon the same be Transcribed in This Book."

On July 14th a further Meeting was held, at which it was "unanimously Agreed that an Assessment of Sixpence $\frac{1}{2}$ pound be forthwith Collected throughout the whole Parish for the erecting of a Gallery in the s'd Parish Church."

On August 16th, it was "unanimously agreed, that Mr. Hulton be applied unto to appear as Proctor for the s'd Parishioners in order to obtain a Grant from his Lordship the B'p of Chester to erect a Gallery in the s'd Church, the Benefit arising from the Gallery to be appropriated to the use of the Poor of the s'd Parish."

The Consent of the Dean & Chapter followed on September 26th. But the dispute did not end there, for May 25th, 1710, it was agreed "that the

present Church-Wardens, endemnified by the Parish, do forthwith prosecute, at the Charge of the s'd Parish, all & every Parishioner, who hath not paid, & Refuseth to pay to the Assessment duly and Regularly laid for the Erecting of the Gallery of the said Parish Church."

It looks as though legal proceedings had to be resorted to, as these items appear in the Church-wardens' Accounts for the year :—

	£	s.	d.
Spent upon ye Witnesses About ye			
Gallery at severall times	00	05	06
Given to an evidence y't came out of ye			
Country	00	01	00
These are the Disbursements for the Gallery itself :—			
Pd. to Jonathan Pickering	33	10	0
Pd. to ye Joyners	29	14	2
Pd. to Capt. Hulton	2	11	4
Pd. to Mr. Foulks	1	6	6
Pd. ye Joyner for ye Reading desk & Pulpitt	3	6	6
Pd. for severall Incident Charges	4	6	7
Pd. to Tho : Jones	0	11	3
Pd. for Nails	0	9	3
Pd. for Ale for ye workmen	0	2	6
Pd. att Mr. Willoughbeys wh'n ye Commissioners mett Last	0	5	0
Pd. Mr. Walton for Measuring ye work	0	5	0
Pd. the Clerk for his Labour & Attendance	0	5	0
Pd. to ye Mason for stuff & workmanship	1	15	0
	78	07	01

This Gallery was on the western side of the South Transept, and was removed early in the last century, when another Gallery was erected on the south side.

E. C. L.

[1818] THE RAIKE HOUSE IN HELSBY.

The following ancient lease of the Raik or Rake House in Helsby may be of interest :—

THIS INDENTURE made the vth daye of December in the fryste yere of the Reyne of ou' Sov'aigne Lady Mary by the g'ce of god Quene of england fraunc' and ireland Defender of the faith and in earth sup'me hedd of the churohe of england and allsoe of ireland WITTENETH by these p'sents thatt were Sir John Savage of Clyffeton knyght am seized yn fee symple of divers lands & tenements in Helsby heretofore of the grant & ffeoffment of Wyll'm Helleby of Helleby esquier grandfather to Randle Helsby of Helsby gentelmanne, unto my grandfather Sir John Savage of Cliffeton afores'd knyght, and his heyres for ever Doe bye these p'sents for the Sum'e of xxx pounds to be payd att the ensalyng hereof demyse and Lette and untoo ferme Lette unto the sayde Randle Helsby h's executors and assignes the Tenemente called the Rayke and divers p'cells of lande or grounde appurtenaunte thereunto and lying around and adjoyn-

inge the same as apperethe in the s'd graunt for the terme of lxxxvij yeres fully to be completed and ended Yeldynge and payeing therefore duryng all the sayd terme of lxxxvij yeres one peper corne at the feaste of the purification of our lady the Blessed Virgin Mary yf yt be lawfully asked for all Rents sum'es and demands during the said terme, and allsoe the sayd John Savage Cov'nts and gr'nts for hym his heires executours and assignes to and with the said Randle Helsby h's executors or assignes That yt shall be lawfull for hym to make all kynde of husbandry in and upon the said grounde and to make all man'er of diches as hath ben accoustomed there to be donne, and thatt he shall have and occupye all roades and wayes whyche hath bene accoustomed heretofore to leyde dryve and carye awaye duryng the said terme, and allsoe thatt att ye end of ye s'd terme the sayd John Savage his heires or assignes yf asked thereto shal graunt to the said Randle Helsby his executours or assignes a further terme of lxxxvij yeres in the sayd premises for the lyke Sum'e of xxx poundes or att yerely rente and alsoe to bounden ether in obligac'ons obligatorie in the Sum'es of c. poundes sterlyng or make other Sureties for the sure p'formance of all Closs' [closes, clauses] and Articles Co'prised and Specified in thes p'sents and allsoe to warrand and defende ye s'd Randle againeste all folks IN WITNES whereof the p'ties above named int'changeably have Sette there Seles the daye and yere above wrytten.

Indorsed :—Sealed and Deliv'd the daye and yere within wrytten in ye p'sence of Laurence Hatton of Hatton, esquier, Thomas Aston of Aston esquier Thomas Daniell of Daresburie esquier Ryo' Gerrard of Kyngaley gent' and Geoffreys Helsby of Helsby gent' & dyvers others.—Helsby lmo. Marie Regine Ao. 1553.

[819]

CHESHIRE SUITS.

In the "List of Early Chancery Proceedings" issued by the Public Record Office the following local cases occur in the 15th century :—

Bundle 4, No. 147. Jo. s. of Phil. de Eggerton v. Rd. and Hugh de Cholmondeley. Carrying off petitioner's wife Margaret Wareyn.

6, 173. John Donne of Utkinton, master forester of Delamere v. John de Bradbourn del Hogh (co. Derby) and Cicely his wife. Death of T. del Mere (s. of Cicely) on wh. account she sent her servants daily to murder petitioner &c.

6, 174. Wm. Babthorp (for the kg. as Earl of Ch.) v. Abbot of Dulcece. Preventing the foresters of Macclesfield rechasing escaped deer.

18, 164. Ralph Holynshed of Sutton in Macclesfield v. Hugh, John, and Roger Browdehurst. Messuage and land called Bromefyld in Sutton.

19, 133. Wm. Denny and Agnes his wife v. John Troutbek, chamberlain of Chester, "cousin" of the said Agnes. Profits of lands &c. of the said Agnes in Chester of which defendant was "overseer."

26, 278. Rd. s. of John Berd v. Rd. Shore, feoffee of James of Legh and Emma his wife. Manor of Berd &c. (Derbysh.) and rent from lands of Rt. of the Downes of Bottom (co. Chester).

The following may be added :—

26, 262. Alice late wife of John Truttebek esq. (aka. Troutbeck) v. Wm. Truttebek kt. son of said John. Manor of Oxhey, Herts.

26, 263. The same v. Gilb't Parre esq. feoffee—Same.

J. B.

QUERY.

[820] ST. JOHN'S HOSPITAL.

Can any of the readers of the "Sheaf" give the history of this charity during the time of Henry VIII. and Edward VI.? Ought it not to have been dissolved and its property confiscated? Yet it seems to have escaped, and to be in existence still though not in its medieval form. Did the Chester Corporation step in and practically re-found it?

STAR.

REPLY.

[821] RECTORS OF ST. PETER'S.

(See No. 788.)

The Revd. Fredk. Ford previously held the living of Lawton (1831 to 1839), but resigned from conscientious motives, connected with Mr. Chas. Bourne Lawton, whose peculiarities (like those of a good many others), Mr. Ford felt rendered his services nugatory. Nor was Squire Lawton "the last of the Mohicans!"

T.

APRIL 15, 1903.

NOTES.

[822] WIRRAL FOREST.

The following are examples of the working of the forest laws in Wirral taken from the Chester Forest Rolls (14 Ed. III., No. 2) preserved among the "Welsh Records." It may be pointed out that although the reference is to a roll of Edward III., the cases belong to the reign of Edward I., for the mention of Roger de Montalt implies a date between 1275 and 1297.

Pleas of the Forest of Wirral before—de Grey and the Abbot of Vale Royal, justices appointed for the purpose, on the Thursday after SS. Peter and Paul's Day 13 Edward.

A presentation was made by the forester that William Launcelyn killed a certain deer in the wood of Bebinton on the Friday before the Purification

this year. And the said William appeared and owned the trespass aforesaid; whereupon William Gerard seneschal of Roger de Montalt sought for it the liberty of his lord, for William [Launcelyn] is a man of the said Roger's. This was granted, and he may have him till the next court.

A presentation was made by the forester that the Abbot of Stanlowe took a stag and by his men wounded another stag without warranty. And the said Abbot came and quite admitted the capture of the stag, for this was perfectly lawful for him within the bounds of his lands at Staney, these having been disafforested by charter of Randle formerly Earl of Chester: which charter he produced and which testified that the site of Stanlowe Abbey and its granges of Staney within the bounds had been disafforested. So that the said Abbot and his predecessors have been quit of all causes, complaints, pleas and services touching the forest; and they have by that charter lived quit of all matters touching the forest.

[823] THE LEGAL SETTLEMENT OF PAUPERS.

The following documents illustrate the condition of things under the old Poor Law. They are taken from the documents of the Parish of St. Oswald, Chester.

J. H. E. BENNETT.

I.

To the Churchwardens and Overseers of the poor of the Parish of St. Oswald in the said City and also to the Overseers of the poor of the Township of Lea Newball in the County of Chester.

Whereas you the said Churchwardens and Overseers of the poor of the Parish of St. Oswald in the said City have made complaint unto us whose names are subscribed two of his Matys Justices of the peace forCounty of the said City (Quorum unus) That Martha Edwards (single woman is lately come into your said parish endeavouring to settle herself as an Inhabitant thereof tho' she does not rent to the value of Ten pounds per Annu there neither hath she given notice to the Churchwardens or Overseers of the poor of the said Parish of St. Oswald of her house of abode or the number of her Family but is and we adjudge her likely to become chargeable to the said Parish of St. Oswald contrary to the Form of the Statute in that case made and provided And whereas it appears to us by Examinations taken upon oath and otherwise that the said Martha Edwards was last legally settled in the Township of Lea Newball afores'd These are therefore in his Matys name to require and comand you and every or any of you the Churchwardens or Overseers of the poor of the said Parish of St. Oswald that you some or one of you do forthwith remove and Convey the said Martha Edwards from the said Parish of St. Oswald to the Township of Lea Newball afores'd being and which we adjudge to be the place of her last legall Settlement and to deliver her to the Overseers of the poor of the said Township of Lea

Newball or one of them together with this precept or a true Copy thereof who are hereby required to receive and provide for he(r) according to Law Given under our hands and Seals the twenty second day of December in the Third year of the Reign of our Sovereign Lord Lord George the second King of Great Britain &c. Annoq: Dni 1729.

Tho Brooke Mayor
Tho Edwards.

Endorsed "Martha Edwards order to move her."

II.

County of Chester to wit—I whose name is hereunto subscribed Sole Overseer of the Poor of the Township of Upton nigh Chester in the said County of Chester do hereby own and acknowledge James Hallmark Mary Hallmark his Wife and Hannah aged about four years Margaret aged Two Years and a quarter and Mary about a quarter of a year old their children to be Inhabitants legally settled within the said Township of Upton nigh Chester As Witness my Hand and Seal this eleventh Day of March in the Year of our Lord 1767.

The mark X of
Alexander Crab

(Seal.)

Signed and Sealed } Rich Wicksted
in the Presence of us } J Garner

[The seal represents a garb surmounted by a bird, wings elevated, and supported on the right by a serpent wavy, on the left by a lion rampant. The whole enclosed by a motto "Strength....."]

We whose Names are hereunto subscribed two of His Majesty's Justices of the Peace and Quorum for the said County of Chester do allow of the Certificate above written And we do also certify that Richard Wicksted one of the Witnesses who attested the Execution of the above written Certificate, hath made Oath before Us, that he saw Alexander Crab Sole Overseer of the Poor of the said Township of Upton nigh Chester sign and seal the above written Certificate, and further made Oath that his Name Richd Wicksted and the Name J. Garner subscribed as Witnesses to the signing and sealing of the said Certificate, are severally of his and the said John Garners own proper Hand-Writing. As Witness our Hands this Eleventh Day of March in the Year of our Lord 1767

R Wilbraham.
Roger Mostyn.

[824] GENTRY OF CHESHIRE IN 1673. II.

(Continued from No. 816).

The following is the remainder of the list of Gentry as given in Blome's "Britannia":—

Hardware, S., of Dunham-sup-Montem, Gent.
Haughton, Robert, of Haughton, Gent.
Hewitt, Will, of Chester and Bradley, Gent.
Hyde, Edward, of Norbury, Esq.

Hockenhull, Richard, of Penton, Esq.
Hockenhull, Henry, of Tranmere, Gent.
Hockenhull, — of Shotwick, Gent.
Hockenhull, John, of Hockenhull, Gent.
Holford, — of Holford, Esq.
Holme, Randolph, of Chester, Gent.
Hulton, Jo., Alderman, of Chester, Gent.
Hunt, Capt. Thomas, Constable of Chester Castle, Esq.

Hurleston, John, of Picton, Esq.
Jodrell, Edmond, of Earsley, Esq.
Johnson, Jo., of the Common Council of Chester, Esq.

Keene, Samuel, of Nantwich, Deputy Herald to Norroy King at Arms.

Kent, John, of Congleton, Gent.
King, William, of Hulton, Esq.
Langford, George, of Tranmere, Gent.
Lawton, William, of Lawton, Esq.
Lea, Laurence, of Lea, Esq.
Lea, Thomas, of Darnall, Esq.
Leech, John, of Carden, Esq.
Leycester, Sir Pet., of Tabley, Baronet, author of that worthy work entitled "The Historical Antiquities of this County."

Leycester, Ralph, of Toft, Esq.
Leycester, William, of Heylow, Gent.
Leigh, Thomas, of East-High-Leigh, Esq.
Legh, Thomas, of West-High-Leigh, Esq.
Legh, Richard, of Lyme, Esq.
Legh, Thomas, of Adlington, Esq.
Legh, Edward, of Baguley, Esq.
Legh, Peter, of Booths, Esq.
Legh, Thomas, of Ridge, Esq.
Leonard, Robert, of Tarvin, Gent.
Litherland, Edward, of Poulton, Gent.
Lounds, Ralph, of Middlewich, Gent.
Lucy, Sir Fulk, of Henbury, Kt.

Mainwaring, Sir Thomas, of Peover, Bar.
Mainwaring, — of Kerthingham, Esq.
Mainwaring, Thomas, of Calveley, Esq.
Manley, George, of the Lach, Esq.
Marbury, William, of Marbury, Esq.
Massey, Edward, of Coddington, Esq.
Massey, John, of Coddington, Esq.
Massey, William, of Mosse, Esq.
Massey, Richard, of Sale, Esq.
Massey, George, of Shotwick, Gent.
Massey, Thomas, of Chester, Gent.
Millington, — of Millington, Esq.
Minshall, Sir Edward, of Stoke, Kt.
Minshall, Thomas, of Eardswick, Esq.
Minshall, — of Minshall, Esq.
Moreton, — of Moreton, Esq.
Morgell, Ralph, of Mostyn, Esq.

Needham, Thomas, of Dutton, Esq.
Oldfield, Somerford, of Somerford, Esq.
Oldfield, Lestwich, of Lestwich, Esq.
Partington, Thomas, of Cotton, Gent.
The Rt. Rev. John Pearson, Lord Bishop of C.

Pennington, Allan, of Chester, Esq., Dr. of Physick.

Pickering, Robert, of Thelwall, Esq.

Pindar, Sir Rob., of Chester, Baronet.

Poole, James, of Poole, Esq.

Powel, Sir Thomas, of Berkenhead, Bar.

Ratcliffe, Jo., of Chester, Esq.

Ravencroft, Randolph, of Chester, Gent.

The Rt. Hon. Thomas Savage, Earl of Rivers,
Viscount Colchester, and Rock Savage and Baron
Darcy of Chich, &c.

Rode, Randolph, of Rode, Esq.

Rode, William, of Eaton, Gent.

Rutter, Ralph, of Kingsley, Gent.

Savage, Richard, of Bridge Trafford, Esq.

Shakerley, Sir Jeffrey, of Holme, Kt.

Shalcross, John, of Shawcross, Esq.

Shelley, John, of Chester, Gent.

Shipley, Andrew, of , Gent

Short, Valentine, of Chester, Gent

Slater, William, of Chester, Gent.

Smallwood, Samuel, of Chelford, Gent.

Smethwick, Thomas, of Smethwick, Esq.

Smith, Sir Thomas, of Hatherton, Baronet.

Sparke, John, of Chester, Gent.

Spencer, Edward, of Huntington, Esq.

Spurstow, Charles, of Spurstow, Esq.

Stanley, Sir Thomas, of Alderley, Baronet.

Stanley, Sir William, of Hooton, Baronet.

Starkey, John, of Wrenbury, Esq.

Starkey, Thomas, of Stretton, Esq.

Starkey, Ralph, of Morsanny, Esq.

Starkey, Jo., of Darley, Esq.

Starkey, George, of Stretton, Gent.

Stevenson, — Ovesterton, Esq.

Street, William, of Chester, Alderman.

Stringer, John, of Crew, Gent.

Stringer, Peter, of Chester, Gent.

Swettenham, Edward, of Somerford Radnor, Esq.

Swinton, Thomas, of Chester, Esq.

Tanat, Edward, of Broxton, Gent.

Tatton, William, of Withinshaw, Esq.

Taylor, John, of Brinston, Esq.

Mr. William Thorp, of Chester.

Touchet, William, of Whitley, Esq.

Townesend, Robert, of Christleton, Gent.

Trevis, Matthew, of Horton, Gent.

Vanbrough, Giles, of Chester, Gent.

Venables, Peter, Baron of Kinderton.

Venables, Robert, of Darvall, Esq.

Venables, Richard, of Agdon, Esq.

Venables, William, of Cotton, Esq.

Vernon, Jo., of Hastington, Esq.

Wainwright, Jo., Dr. of Laws and Chancellor of
Chester.

Walley, Charles, of Saughall, Gent.

Waltham, Richard, of Wisterton, Esq.

Warburton, Sir George, of Areley, Baronet.

Warburton, George, of Grange, Esq.

Warren, Edward, of Pointon, Esq.

Whitley, Ralph, of Chester, Esq.

Whitmore, William, of Thurstington, Esq.

Wilbraham, Sir Thomas, of Woodhey, Bar.

Wilbraham, Roger, of Derefould, Esq.

Wilbraham, Roger, of Nantwich, Esq.

Williams, Will, Esq., Recorder of Chester.

Willinson, Robert, of Cholley, Gent.

Willinson, Richard, of Churton, Gent.

Worden, Robert, of Chester, Esq.

Worden, Sir John, Kt., Secretary to His Royal
Highness James Duke of York.

Wright, William, of Brewers-Hall, Esq.

Wright, Francis, of Stretton, Esq.

APRIL 22, 1903.

NOTES.

[825] THE MANOR OF LITTLE CALDY IN WIRRAL IN 1453-4.

The following extracts are from the Rental of Thomas Norris of Speke, co. Lancaster, dated 1453-4. The original, which includes an account of his Lancashire property, is on a roll of vellum 13 feet 4 inches long and 7 inches wide, and is now among the Aston Hall muniments. It is written closely on both sides in black ink with capitals and paragraphs picked out in red. There are notes and additions made about the year 1545, in a later hand, apparently by Sir William Norris, Kt., great-grandson of Thomas Norris, to whom the property had descended.

One of the most interesting features of this Rental is the way in which the different holdings are described shewing the common field system of cultivation in active working. In each farm (as we should now call it) the arable is split up into many small strips or "hallands" lying in different open fields, while in the case of some of the Lancashire manors the "boon" work, or work done as a form of rent, is mentioned and specified.

The portion relating to Little Caldý in Wirral, shews that there were only three landowners in the manor, Thomas Norris himself, William Whitmore, and Hugh Egerton.

The Norrises of Speke appear to have obtained their interest in Little Caldý through a marriage contracted towards the end of the 13th century between John, son of Alan le Norris of Speke, and Nicola, younger daughter of Sir Patrio de Haselwall of Heeswall, Thurstaston and Caldý (Sheriff of Cheshire, 1277), by his wife Agnes, daughter and heiress of William de Thurstaston (*Ormerod*, Vol. II., p. 439, and *Hist. Soc. of Lanc. and Chesh. Trans.*, Vol. II., p. 143). It is not clear whether the Norrises held half or only a quarter of the manor, probably the latter. The other part passed

by marriage to the Egertons of Caldecote and the Whitmores of Thurstaston. As will be seen from the following Rental Sir William Norris sold his interest in Caldý for £100 in 1543-4 to John Whitmore, whose family also acquired the Egerton share at some time previous to the 18th century.

Perhaps some one skilled in the old forms of land measurement will be able to throw light on the meaning of many of the terms used. In the meantime I would suggest that the words "one land" mean a quarter of an acre, "one halland" one half-land or one-eighth of an acre, and "one ferthing" one-sixteenth. It must be borne in mind that an acre in the open field system was not a square figure, but an oblong, the normal length of which was a "furrowlong," or furlong, i.e., 220 yards, and the normal width 22 yards, the length, as Mr. Seebohm observes, of a cricket pitch. "A butt" was probably the same as a "ferthing."

It is not certain how far these measurements have to be modified by the local use of the Cheshire acre, which contains nearly $2\frac{1}{2}$ statute acres. It is probable that it is intended, in which case the rod or perch is reckoned at 24 feet instead of 16 $\frac{1}{2}$ feet as in the statute, which makes the width of the acre 32 yards and the length 320, in all 10,240 square yards. In any case, however, great latitude seems to have been allowed in the measurements of the acre strips, some being half as big again as others. The width appears to have been more or less fixed, but the length varied with the differing configuration and condition of the land.

The field names mentioned in this account of Caldý are extremely interesting, and many of them can be traced at the present day.

The *Camben* or *Cambenlands* is now known as *Camloons* and is the field to the west of the footpath leading from Caldý-road to Thurstaston.

Knekyn is not easily identified, but is evidently some rising land, possibly Caldý Hill itself, as the different fields are spoken of as being "under" *Knekyn*. It is doubtless an interesting survival of a Celtic place name, being a form of the common Irish word *knock*, meaning a hill.

Haywoode Grene by the Hegheway syde is no doubt the field beside the Caldý-road in which the field path to Thurstaston begins, still called *Heywood Hey*.

The *Grede Bottes*, now the *Greedy Butts*, are near the Thurstaston boundary, lying one field to the west of the already-mentioned field path.

The *Werne Londes* are now known as *Wirlooms*.

The *Mylne way* is the lane leading due south from the village, a continuation of the main-road coming from Frankby, instead of turning up to the right round the monument.

The *Cale Yortes* seems to be the field now known as *Callots*; rather a curious corruption.

The *Rake* would be a lane leading out on to the common or waste, and may be represented now by the road running west towards the shore.

The *Croft Melayne* is now corrupted into *Croft Mellon* and lies on the north side of the lane which leads down to the shore.

The mention of a *Kyrke Crosse* is very interesting and must refer to some wayside cross, probably on the Caldý-road, leading to the Parish Church.

WM. FERGUSSON IRVINE.

RENTALE DE CALDAY IN WERALL.

INFERMIS. WILKYN BRAUSTER holds one messuage and three londes in the *Camben*, the oon ende northe and the other ende sowthe leyng betwene the londe of William Whitmore on the oon syde & the londe of Thomas Norres on the other syde.

ITEM. Oon halland leyng under *Knekyn* the oon ende este, the other waste lying betwene the londe of William Whitmore on both sydes.

ITEM. Oon halland leyng yn the *Knekyn* schotyng este and waste betwene the londes of William Whitmore on ayther syde.

ITEM. Oon londe leyng in the *Souterys Londe* schotande este and waste betwene the londe of Thomas Norres on ye sowthe syde & *Egyrton* on ye northe syde.

ITEM. Oon halland leyng yn the *Bryche Hallandes* schotyng este & waste betwene the londe of William Whitmore on bothe the sydes.

ITEM. Oon halland schotyng upon *Haywoode Grene* [or *Greve*] by the *Hegheway* syde, the oon ende este & the other waste betwene the londe off William Whitmore on ayther syde.

ITEM. Oon londe callt the *Bakebrede Hadelonde* schotyng este and sowthe waste.

ITEM. Oon halland callt the *Bake Grene* [or *Greve*] *Hallandes* schotyng northe & sowthe betwene the londe of Thomas Norres on bethe the sydes.

ITEM. The one londe called *The Longe Londe* leyng in the *Longe Londes* betwene the londe of William Whitmore on the northe syde & the londe of Hugh *Egyrton* on the sowthe syde.

ITEM. Two londes leyng in the *Grede Bottes* schotyng este and waste on William Whitmore londe on the northe syde.

ITEM. Oon halland leyng in the *Fyrre Wyttefylde* the oon ende este & the other waste betwene the lond off Hugh *Egyrton* on the sowthe syde & the londe of Thomas Norres on the northe syde.

ITEM. A nother halland in the same *Fyrre Wyttefylde* leyng betwene the londes off William Whitmore on the sowthe syde & the londe of Hugh *Egyrton* on the northe syde schotyng este and waste.

[*ITEM. One fysche yorte, W. Whitmore on bothe the sydes.]

ITEM. Alle the groundes callt Ascow [or Astow] lyyng betwix Calday Hay and Thomas Lytyle.]

ITEM. Oon londe in the Nerre Whyttefyld schotyng north & south betweene the londe of William Whitmore on bothe the sydes.

ITEM. Oon halland leyng in the Dyche Hallandes schotyng este & west on the londe of William Whitmore on the sowthe syde & the londe of Thomas Norres on the north syde.

ITEM. Oon londe leyng in the Werne Londes betwene the londes off Hugh Egyrton on the sowthe syde & William Whitmore on the northe syde schotyng est and west.

ITEM. Oon londe on the Sowthe syde the Mylne Way in the Hennys betwene the londe of William Whitmore on ayther syde schotyng est & west.

ITEM. Three londes in the Medow Seche, schotyng est & west betweene the londe of William Whitmore on ayther syde.

ITEM. Two hallandes lyeing in the Medow Syche schotyng est & west William Whitmore on the sowthe syde & Thomas Norres on ye northe syde.

ITEM. Oon londe and a pyke leyng in Tarlarane schotyng northe and sowthe be hynde the Mylne.

ITEM. Oon londe schotyng a pon the Mylne betwene the londe of William Whitmore on ayther syde.

ITEM. Oon londe callt The Blake Hadelonde schotyng upon the Mylne Way.

ITEM. Two londes leyng besyde The Green Way schotyng northe & sowthe.

ITEM. Oon londe leyng in the Dale Londes schotyng northe & sowthe. W. Whitmore leyng on the est syde & Thomas Norres on the west syde.

ITEM. Oon halland leyng in the Boke Grene Hallandes schotyng northe & sowthe, Thomas Norres on bothe the sydes.

ITEM. Two hallandes leyng beside the Cale Yortes schotyng northe & sowthe. W. Whitmore leyng on ayther syde.

ITEM. On londe called the Way (?) Londe schotyng apon the Bonke, este & weste.

ITEM. Two hallandes besyde the rake, W. Whitmore on the sowthe syde & the Rake on the northe syde.

ITEM. Oon londe leyng in Crofte Melayne betwene the londe of William Whitmore on ayther syde schotyng este & west.

ITEM. Oon botte leyng yn the Wett Reynys betwene the londe of William Whitmore a pon the sowthe syde & Thomas Norres apon the northe syde.

* Inserted in a blank space in the roll at this point, evidently a later addition.

ITEM. Oon halland in Crofte Melayne schotyng este & weste, leyng the londe of William Whitmore apon the northe syde & Thomas Norres apon the sowthe syde.

ITEM. Oon halland in the Medylfyld schotyng este & weste.

ITEM. Oon halland undyr the Kyrke Crosse schotyng est & west, Egyrton on the northe syde & Whitmore on the sowthe syde.

ITEM. Oon odyr hallande under the Kyrke Crosse schotyng est and west betwene the londe of W. Whitmore on ayther side.

This longes to the holdyng of Wylkyn Brauster and yeldes by yere xvjs.

(To be continued.)

[826] ARREST OF MR. LEGH OF LYME.

One of those accused of complicity in the "Lancashire Plot" of 1694 was Peter Legh of Lyme, and the following account of his arrest is from the 14th report of the Historical Manuscripts Commission (appx. 4, p. 361), in which a full account of the proceedings in the case may be seen:—

The 17th of July, 1694, "Mr. Clark, the messenger, and Mr. Lunt, together with fourteen Dutch troopers came between 6 and 7 of the clock in the morning. The messenger, with one Oldham who was their guide, with two or three Dutch troopers, came up the great stairs in Lyme House and apprehended Mr. Legh in his nightgown; and the messenger charged him with a warrant for high treason and carried him the said Mr. Legh out of his dressing room to his closet, where stood Mr. Lunt [the informer] with two or three Dutchmen, and then all went into the closet. The messenger and Lunt searched through Mr. Legh's papers from 7 till 12, and Lunt, when he met with any paper that pleased him, put it in his pocket. From thence they carried Mr. Legh downstairs to the parlour, and there set two Dutchmen to guard him while they searched every room and place for arms, finding only a case of pistols and carboin in Mr. Legh's closet, which they carried away. At that night they took Mr. Legh from his house and carried him to Knutsford, guarded by the messenger and twelve Dutchmen. Lunt seized one of the best horses Mr. Legh had, set his own saddle upon him and carried him quite away. They carried Mr. Legh to Chester Castle the next day, where he remained to the last day of August or the first day of September. Thus he lodged there with . . . were carried from Chester to London guarded by four messengers and twenty one Dutch troopers, commanded by Captain Baker in person and at St. Giles' Barrs house committed to the hands of the messengers and there kept three days, and then brought down to the Secretary's office (Duke of Shrewsbury, principal secretary), who examined Mr. Legh and remanded him back to the messengers for three days more and then

committed to the Tower. Whilst Mr. Legh was in the Tower, and in the worst room in all the Tower, he had very hard usage. His lady, at the first, was denied either to see him or hear him speak. Old Madam Legh came under the window where Mr. Legh lodged and asked her son Mr. Legh how he did; and the sentinel, with his gun cocked, said if she spoke another word he would shoot her. He had notice to prepare for his trial at Chester Castle in fourteen days, and within six days after was removed out of the Tower and carried down to Chester guarded by a party of horse, the gentleman porter, and the gentleman gaoler of the Tower and each two warders, and committed to the Constable of Chester Castle, after which he was only called to the bar and discharged without trial."

The jury at Manchester having acquitted the accused there without leaving the box, Lunt and the other informers "vanished" and so when Sir Thomas Stanley of Alderley and Mr. Legh were brought into court there were no witnesses against them, and "there was nothing to try nor to do but dismiss them, the crier's proclamation being far from so loud as the acclamation of the people" (p. 366).

The following account of him is given: "He hath always lived in the communion of the Church of England free from any factious hankering either towards Rome or Geneva. A gentleman of a plentiful estate, under no necessitous exigencies to induce him to a change for the bettering of his conditions. A man of great moderation and temper, both in his words and in his actions; so far from being a busybody that he never had nor sought for any office. He was in the reign of King Charles II. a member of Parliament, and on that occasion only took the oath of allegiance and supremacy and never else till of late (being suborned as a witness on his now Majesty's behalf) did he in all his life take any oath" (p. 363).

APRIL 29, 1903.

NOTES.

[827] A DISCREDITABLE RECTOR OF WISTASTON
IN 1650.

Among the Royalist Composition Papers for Cheshire at the Public Record Office in London is a curious document relating to Wistaston in Nantwich Hundred, dated 8 August, 1650. In this Mr. Randle Minahull, Alexander Scott and Mrs. Mabel Boote widow, all of Wistaston, under oath depose that Mr. Humphrey Whittingham, Parson of Wistaston, was in the habit of preaching sermons that were derogatory to the government and "a scandall and reproach of the Parliament and Army."

More serious than this however is the personal character which they attribute to him. They further say "that his lyfe and conversation is most vyle and scandalous and that hee doth use to haunt disordered Alehouses day and night, sometyme drinkinge too much, so that he can neither goe nor stande; sometymes fighting with his Company in ye Alehouse, sometymes gaminge and sometymes runninge from the Alehouse home lyke a man bereaved of his senses and doth abuse his neighbour with most vyle reproachfull and threateninge speeches."

After such a terrible indictment it is perhaps not surprising to find that he was shortly superseded by a "painful godly and orthodox divine" named Andrew Downes, who continued to minister to the parish for nearly twenty years.

HISTORICAL.

[828] AN OLD CHESTER WILL.

The following is a translation of a will made in Handbridge in 1407:—In the Name of God, Amen. On Thursday next after the feast of St. Lucy the Virgin A.D. M. CCCC. vij I William Mauwer seeing the danger of death overhanging me make my will in this manner: In the first place I bequeath my soul to God Almighty, to B. Mary the Virgin and to all the Saints of heaven; my body to be buried in the cemetery of St. Mary on the Hill, Chester. Also I bequeath five pounds of wax for candles to be burned around my body. Also I bequeath to William son of Robert le Wallf my sword, bow and arrows. Also I ordain bequeath and give to Joan my wife and Margaret my daughter all the lands which I have had in the demesne (dominio) of Hale, to their heirs and assigns as aforesaid and before the witnesses [referring to a short will to the same effect, witnessed by John Taylour of Hale, John Zonge "serviens" of Richard de Hale of Chester]. Also I bequeath the rest of all my goods, after payment of my debts, to Joan and Margaret, my wife and daughter aforesaid, to be divided equally between them. Also I constitute and ordain as executors for carrying out my foregoing will these persons, viz. John Thornton chaplain and Joan my wife aforesaid. In testimony whereof I have affixed my seal at Honbryge the day and year abovesaid.

The will was proved before the Dean in the chapel of St. Nicholas at Chester on the 12 January next following.

[829] PUBLIC FAST AND THANKSGIVING DAYS.

The number of fasts and thankagivings ordered, and special prayers issued by authority, during the reigns of James II., William and Mary, and Anne, is remarkable even for such an eventful time as that of the Revolution and Marlborough's victories. The following list, extracted from St. Oswald's Churchwardens' Accounts, includes a few earlier and later items. It would be interesting to connect them with contemporary events; some

suggestions will be found in the notes. It must be remembered that the years are reckoned in the Old Style. E. C. L.

1679.—Pd. for a Church Prayer Booke ...	0 12 0
1681.—October 4. Payd to Mr. Allen in parte for the booke of Martirs ...	01 00 00
1685.—Pd. Mr. Allen ye Remainsinge pt. of whatt was due for ye Booke of Martyrs	01 08 06
Pd. Mr. Minshull stationer for Bindings ye 3 volumes	00 15 00
Pd. Isaack Cross for Timber & worke done In ye church for ye Booke of Martyrs	01 12 6
For cloth to Cover ye Booke of Martyrs for 2 Curtains.....	00 03 08
1686.—Pead unto Mr. Minshull for a new Common prayer Booke	0 11 6
1687.—Jan. 1st. Pd. for ye forme of prayer to be read for ye Queens being with child	00 00 08
(The child, born on 10 June, 1688, was James, the "Old Pretender.")	
1688.—May 26. Pd. the Parritor for the King's Declaration	00 00 08
(The Declaration of Indulgence, ordered to be read on Sundays 20 and 27 May).	
Feb. 14. Pd. to Mr. Hallmarke for the Princes prayers	00 00 08
Feb. 22. Pd. to Mr. Hallmark for King Wm. & Queene Maries Prayeres	00 00 08
(They were proclaimed King and Queen on Feb. 13).	
1689.—Feb. 2. For breifes & prayer books for the fast	00 00 08
For Kings letter & proclamation	00 00 08
1690.—Sep. 1. Payd for A Booke which had A prayer for the King.....	00 00 08
1691.—April 25. Payd for a Booke for ye fast	00 00 08
Aug. 24. Payd for a Prayer Booke & proclamation	00 00 08
1692.—March 30. Payd for a prayer Booke for ye fast	00 00 08
June 1. Paid for a forme of prayer for ye Victory at Sea	00 00 08
(La Hogue, May 19).	
November 3. Payd for A Booke for the Thanksgiving Day	00 00 08
1693.—April 28. Laid out for a Book which gives notis of A fast May the 10th	00 00 08
Nov. 15. Paid for a Book of thanks-giving and A Proclamation	00 00 08
1694.—Decemb. 3rd. Pd. for the Thanks-giving Booke & forme of prayer	8
29. Pd. for the Booke for Altering the responses in the prayers	8
(Queen Mary II. died on Sept. 28).	

March 20. Paid for Injunctions to the Clergie	8
1695.—September 12. To the Thanks-giving Booke	8
Decemb. 18. To the Fast Prayers	8
Febr. 21. To the directions from the Arch Bps. to the Clergie.....	8
1696.—April 16. To the Thankgiveing Booke	8
(Discovery of the plot to assassinate King William).	
1697.—May 18. To Money Pd. the Parator for the Praya.	00 00 08
Novr. 16. To Money Pd. for the Prayers For the Thanks Giveing Day	00 00 08
(Peace of Ryswyk, Sept. 1697).	
1698.—April 11th. Payd the Parretor for a prayer book for the fast.....	8
1699.—Octbr. 30. To Mr. Chapman for booke against Prophaness and imorality was read in Church	6
1701.—March ye 26. Paid for a prayer book and proklemacion	8
1702.—March 25. Pd. the parritor for an order for Altering the prayers of the Church	00 00 08
(King William III. died on March 8).	
June 4. Pd. for Books to the parrator concerning the fast	00 00 08
Novr. 25. Paid to the parrator for Books for a Thanks giueing	
1704.—Augst. 29. Pd. for a thanks-giving book	00 00 08
(Battle of Blenheim, Aug. 13).	
March 20. Pd. for a book and proclamation for the fast	00 00 08
1705.—Augt. 11. Paid for a Thanks-giveing Booke and proclamation	00 00 08
Mar. 10. For a Booke and proclama' on for the fast	00 00 08
1706.—Decembr. 9th. Payd for a Book & Proclamation	00 00 08
March 19th. Pd. for a Book & Proclamation for ye 9th of Aprill	0 0 8
1707.—Aprill 10th. Paid for a Book & Proclamation for ye 1st of May	0 0 8
(The Union with Scotland took effect from May 1).	
May ye 6th. Pd. to ye Apparritor for an order of ye Queens Council for Altering ye Prayers	00 00 08
Decembr. 27. Pd. for a Book and Proclamation for A General Fast	00 00 08
1708.—Aprill ye 28th. Pd. for a thanks-giving Prayer for ye 9th of May	00 00 08
Aug. 5th. Pd. for a Thanksgiving Book	00 00 08
(Victory of Oudenarde, 11 July, 1708).	
Jan. 19th. Pd. for a Book & Proclamation for a Thanksgiving Day.....	00 00 08

1709.—July 3rd. Pd. ye Apparitor for a Prayer	0	0	8
Feb. 26th. Pd. for a Book & Proclamation for ye fast	0	0	8
1711.—Jany. 8th. Pd. for a book & proclamation for the fast.....	8		
1714.—June 24. Pd. for an ord'r for Preyars	0	0	8
Dec. 6. Pd. for an ord'r of Preyars for ye Prince of Wales	8		
(Prince George, afterwards King George II., had been created Prince of Wales on Sept. 27.)			
Jan. 8. Pd. for a Proclamation for ye Thanksgiving	8		
Jan. 29. Pd. for a Proclamation.....	8		
1715.—June 30. Pd. for a form of prayer for ye 1st of August	0	0	8
October 17th. Paid for a form of prayer	0	0	8
(Perhaps in connection with the Jacobite rising.)			

[830] STAR CHAMBER CASES FROM CHESHIRE. I.

In the Public Record Office List (XIII.) of Star Chamber Proceedings for the period Henry VII.—Philip and Mary a very large number of Cheshire suits appear, even allowing for many repetitions. Several of them seem to be of importance as shewing the lawless state of the country; in particular may be pointed out the Swetenham murder case, the alleged concealment of a murder in Combermere Abbey, and the charge against coroner Heckenhull of tampering with the findings at an inquest. In the references I.—XVI. are to volumes and folios; XVII. onwards to bundles and files.

[Henry VIII.]

I. 35. Thomas Adene v Ralph Ryder, Richard Ryder, Ralph Congresse, John Ryder, John Walton, and William Morgan. Riot and assault at "Kynsulta," Chesh.

111.—Nicholas bp. of Worcester, chief almoner v Robert Makham, Elizabeth Makam, and Richard Delahay. Goods of Katherine Makam, of Offerton, suicide.

II. 1-8 and 12-17. William Ardren v Anne Ardren, Elizabeth Boothe, Richard Leghe, &c. Manor of Timperley. See also XXII., 275.

230. John Lord Audley v Richard Charnley. Forcible ouster from a mill in Newhall manor.

275-6. Richard Ayer v Richard Marbury. Contempt of decrees of Palatine Court as to tenements at Over and Nether Walton.

III. 55. John Bp. of Bangor v William Bulkeley. Passage over the Mersey.

131. Alexander Barlowe v Robert Tatton, James Hoggekynson, &c. Destroying a Weir on the Mersey and forcibly preventing plaintiff's servants from rebuilding it.

311. Examinations as to the murder of—Sweteman near Congleton. See XVII., No. 227, &c.

IV. 49-50. John Bellot v Alice Moreton. Destruction of turf at Moreton.

V. 103. Hugh Holynashed, Thomas Brewster, James Wyttaurrs, &c. (tenants of Bosley) v John Oldfield, Ralph Brodhurst, Ralph Gardynner, &c. (tenants of Sutton and Winole). Common and turbary rights in Bosley, &c. See XII., 205.

104. James Bostok v Hugh Calveley, William Thomson, &c. Assault and seizure of ptff's horse at Milton Green.

135 and 164-5. Alice Bothe v Robert Ponall, William Davenport, &c. Murder of ptff's husband nr. Stockport, &c. (depositions).

162. William Bostok v Piers Dutton, John Rigmayden, &c. Forcible entry and seizure of crops at Huxley.

VI. 19. Hugh Brawstaff v John Hemshaw, Philip Marbury, &c. Forcible entry, felling of trees, &c., at Knutsford.

66-7. Thomas Brereton v Thomas Johnson. Refusing armed service as ptff's tenant at Wetenhall(?), seizure of fish, &c.

98-100. Henry Brodbent v John Dokynfeld, Thomas Hurst, Edward Hyne, &c. Forcible entry and violence at Dukynfield.

204-8. Nicholas Browne v. Humphrey Neuton, Roger Tylear, &c. Forcible entry and felling timber at Mottram Andrew (2 bills, one a draft).

217. Same v Same. Making a weir and stopping a watercourse at Mottram Andrew.

251-4. William Brundley v Thomas Foulcohurst, Hamnet Cheynu, &c. Forcible ouster from tenement at Wistaston.

252 Same v Francis Foulcohurst, &c. Assault on ptff's daughter and servant and seizure of cattle at Coppenhall.

282-292. Alexander Breynne and Magdalen his wife v Roger Massey and Thomas Salisbury. Opposing execution of Prince's Council of the Marches as to the manors of Coddington and Bechin.

295. Sir Richard Brereton v Ralph Lecitor, Thomas Rygeway, &c. Killing and taking away a buck hunted by ptff's servant and hounds from Tatton Park to Mobberley. Remainder in XXV., No. 88.

(To be continued.)

MAY 6, 1903.

NOTES.

[831] THE OLD CHESHIRE HIGHWAYS. I.

In an old Road-book called the "Travellers' Pocket-Book," of which the 17th edition appeared in 1775, are given particulars which shew the main routes of travel through the county at that time. The editor (John Potter) in an amusing preface vents his indignation stirred up by the general

stupidity of highway surveyors and others: "The mile-stones are here printed as they are, or ought to be, placed on the road. It were to be wished that the Commissioners of all the turnpikes were obliged to continue their measurement agreeable thereto in a regular manner from London. Instead of which the measurement from Chester to Castle Bromwich begins at Chester This regulation, it is hoped, will by and by take place, as well as the amendment of the roads by the total prohibition of narrow wheels on waggons and carts drawn with more than two horses, till which time good roads cannot be expected at such a distance from London, where the narrow wheels overpower the broad ones and spoil what they cannot mend.

"'Tis surprising the farmers should continue so obstinate and not open their eyes to conviction; but so it has been in other nations besides England. It is well known that the farmers in Ireland used to draw their ploughs tied to their horses' tails, and would have continued the same foolish custom to this day had they not been obliged by Act of Parliament to make use of harness. Mr. Salmon in the 'Universal Traveller' (i., 573) says that in Poland their ploughs are in shape like ours but in many places are made all of wood, having no iron about them; and in the province of Samagotia, when their lords would have obliged them to fortify their ploughs with iron, they chose to lie still and not plough at all rather than depart from an old custom.

"It may not be at all amiss in a book of this kind to take notice of the vast disproportion between loading heavy luggage on the fore or hind wheels of a carriage, it being plain from mathematical experiments that it will require five times the force to draw a carriage out of a slough, the weight being on the fore wheels, as it would to draw the same were the same weight on the hind wheels. This the carriers, coachmen, &c., won't believe, and still continue laying as much of their heavy luggage as possibly they can in the boot of their coach and on the fore part of the wagon; but as this does not affect the roads, let them persist in their folly."

The body of the work consists of tabular accounts of the roads, towns and villages with distances being enumerated in succession. One of the principal roads through Cheshire was that between London and Holyhead; and the local portion is thus given, the miles being measured from London:—

	Miles. Fur.
Ower or Wore	153 0
Bridgmore, Cheshire	155 0
Winburn Bury	157 4
Stapley	158 6
Namptwich (post town)	161 4
Acton	163 0
Hurlstone	165 0
Bar Bridge and Mill	165 4
Highway Side	168 4

	Miles. Fur.
Torperley	172 0
Cotton	173 4
R. Clotton	174 6
Hocknell	176 2
Boughton	181 0
Chester (city; 2 M.P's.)	181 6
A Stone Bridge, Flints	185 0
Bretton	186 2
Harding (post town)	189 0

And so on, to Holyhead. The only note on this section states that "On the left of 163, a mile beyond Namptwich, is Woodhay, a seat of the family of Wilbraham."

This book is founded on the "Survey of all the Principal Roads" made by John Ogilby and William Morgan about 1670 under orders from Charles II., and published in the form of road maps on a scale of about an inch to the mile. The roads are in sectional strips, about six or seven to a sheet, with the mile stones marked and compass marks on each strip. Editions on a reduced scale were afterwards published, and the following account of the road already given from the "Traveller's Pocket-Book" will shew the kind and amount of information to be obtained from the original Ogilby. Some of the spellings of the names of towns and villages are curious; in many cases they seem to be derived from the spoken rather than the written names. It is taken from the edition of 1719:—

Soon after passing Woore, Cheshire is entered (just before 155) at an ash tree, on the left; at 186 is hamlet of Bridgmore; and roads just after this lead on the left to Hunsterson and to Whitechurch and on the right to Betley. On the left side of the road "a Poole" is marked just before 157, at which point Dodington Hall is shewn on the left. At 158 on the right is Lea Hall and before the next milestone (159) Waukerton Hall is shewn on the left and Wibunbury Church on the right. Shortly after this a little brook crosses the road and then Stapeley is shewn with Holebeck Hall on the right side. At the 160th mile a road goes off on the left to Aulme; just before 162 another branches off the right to Betley and Sandbach. Then Nantwich is reached (at 162½) where the Wever is shewn crossing the town. Beyond it, opposite 163, a road on the left goes off to Whitechurch, and half-a-mile further is Sir T. Wilbraham's. At 164 Acton Church is shewn on the left, and a little further on is Burford green, where cross roads lead to Tranmore green (to the left) and to Beam heath (to the right). At 165 is Hurlstone, and at 166 Stoke with the hall on the right. Then a road to Bulls green is shewn on the left, with a mill, and just afterwards a stream crossed by Bar Bridge. From this point for about two miles the road is called Watfield Pavement.

Just before 169 the Cleys appears on the left and on the right a road branches off to Orpam, and Calveley halls (two) are placed on the further side.

Highway side on the right and Sautry on the left are marked between 169 and 170; just after the latter stone a cross-road leads on the left to Tilston, and on the right to Eaton and Dellamore Forest, and Tilston hall is placed on this side. Then a road on the left branches off to Beeston Castle, while just after 171 Four Lane ends is reached and a road on the right branches off to Warrington, another road on the same side further on goes to Riddow Heath. Between 172 and 173 is Torperley with the Church on the left side. At the latter stone a road leads to Utkinton (on the right), after which is Ash Tree on the same side, and Idenshaw heath on the other side. At 174 Cotton is reached; and at 175 Dutton Hall is marked on the right, while on the left a side road leads to Chester. Between 176 and 177 is Hocknill with cross-roads leading (left) to Stableford and (right) to Tervyn. Then some brooks are crossed by "three stone bridges," and Cotton Heath appears on the left side, while on the right is Cotton (178). Brown Heath is crossed, and at the other side, just after the 179th stone the "Gibbit" appears on the right hand; on the opposite side the branch road just mentioned ("Nampwich cart road and Stapleford") rejoins the highway.

At 180 Chisterton Church is shewn on the right, and the road from Whitechurch joins on the left, on which side Rowton is also marked. A little further on, on the left side of the road, is the Glass House; at 181 the road to the Holt goes off on the left and that to Odford on the right. Then Boughton is marked on the same side and the Dee on the other, and soon after Chester is entered by the Barrs gate. The city is left again by the bridge, where branch roads lead to Eaton and (at 183) to Wrexham; soon after Brick Kilns appear to the right on the bank of the Dee. At 184 a small brook is crossed, Sautry heath or Dower leas being on the right and Sautry side on the left. Then the Flintshire boundary is drawn, and the road leads westerly through Bretton, Broughton, Hawarden, and Northop to Denbigh, Conway, Beaumaris and Holyhead.

(To be continued.)

[832] STAB CHAMBER CASES FROM CHESHIRE. II.

(See No. 830).

VII. 23. Rowland Bulkeley v Edward Holte, Hugh Honford, &c. Forcible entry and seizure of stock on manor of Cheadle.

182-6. Piers Dutton v Sir Randolph Brereton. Various acts of oppression.

210. Thomas Browne, senr. and Thomas Browne, junr. v Thomas Massy steward of Burton, John Massy, &c. Various acts of violence and oppression. Bill addressed to Wolsey.

223. Richard Byrkinhed v George Ireland, Edward Walker, &c. Affray and seizure of crops nr. Mouldsworth (Replication only).

224. Sir John Byron v George Ireland, Edward Asaheton, &c. Seizure of turf out by ptff. and his tenants on Warneth Moor.

VIII. 185. John Caryngton v Thomas Davenport, William Davenport, &c. Cutting and carrying away turf at Hattersley.

258-62. Robert Cheshire v Hugh Typpyng. Robert Coppok, &c. Right of way at Ashton.

263. Decree ordering immediate election of a Mayor of Chester.

273-4. Richard Cholmley v Randle Maynwaryng, Humphrey Maynwaryng, &c. Depasturing of cattle, felling of trees, &c., at Acton.

X. 11-13a. James and Reynold Clerk v Oliver Fallowes and Peter Dale. Infringement of a decree of the Princess's Council as to land at Prestbury.

28. Margery Clerk v John late Abbot of St. Werburgh's. Forcible ejectment and seizure of goods in St. Werburgh's parish.

XI. 35. Percival Creswell v Margaret Wetnall, William Jenkynson and Robert Nedam. Tenement at Lightwood in the lordship of Wilkesley.

XII. 150-3 and 158-9. Anthony Dawbney and Elizabeth Holdforde his wife v Sir John Holdforde. Inducing tenants of E. H. not to pay rent and maintaining suits by them.

160-1. Same v Same. Commission and certif. (in two actions) concerning Lostock Park.

154. Anthony Daulbeny v Sir John Holdforde and George Holdforde. Contempt of prev's decrees concerning the same estates [? Middlesex].

165-6. Richard Dawne v Piers Dutton. Complicity with murder of ptff's servant (draft answer only).

204. Edward Earl of Derby v Edmund Brough, Henry Brereton, &c. Killing deer in Macclesfield forest.

205-7. John Oldfield and other tenants in Sutton and Wincle v William Radcliffe and tenants of E. of Derby in Bosley. Impounding cattle and cutting turf in Sutton and Wincle (addressed to Sir Thomas Audley; remainder in XIX., 152; XX., 224; XXII., 342; and XXV., 253).

208-9. Edward E. of Derby v John Whytney, John Frost, &c. Killing deer in Macclesfield forest.

XIII. 173-7. Juliana wid. of Sir Piers Dutton v Ralph Dutton, Ralph Monnyng, &c. Forcible entry, opening of chest, seizure of goods, &c., at Dutton Hall.

183-6 and 178-181. Sir Piers Dutton v Sir John Savage, Richard Aston, John Bostok, &c. Riot, &c., on the manor of Dutton.

200. William Dycon, Henry Bowre, and James Hanson v Hugh Brodhurst, George Clerke, James Scragke, &c. Assault and riot at Macclesfield fair.

278-86. Roger Joyderell and other Crown tenants in Disley and Whaley v Peter Legh, John Kyghly, Edward Banecroft, &c. Riotous interruption of rights of common.

(To be continued.)

REPLY. ●

[833] KNIGHTS' FEES IN CHESHIRE.

(See No. 777.)

Halton was always the premier barony of the Palatinate, at all events of the head of it, viz., Cheshire. In 1252, the Lacies were, as stated, rated at "8" knts. fees, while the highest rated was Venables, for his barony of Kinderton—the Ardens coming next with 7. Perhaps the most favoured of all in the list—favoured with services not at all equivalent in value to its great Fee or Honour was Kingsley with its wealthy appurtenances—unless indeed we take the "Heirs of Adam de Hellesby, for Acton" (immediately (?) before its division into thirds) rated at one eighth of a knight's fee—as was Hellesby, or a moiety of it—though these lordships were considerable. But, a little earlier than this (37 Hen. III.), began the commutation of knights' fees to the common socage tenure—to avoid the onerous services still payable by the Lord barons and the Lord Manorials of England and Cheshire, Lancashire, Cornwall and Durham; who were taken across to France and Normandy too often to their disgust and that of their tenantry, by reason of the practical uncertainty of the call, and its costliness, especially at harvest time. And, probably to relieve all this in some measure, were also the many subinfeudations which began about this period. But, the commutations and compoundings, to the old civil socage tenure were very often of only moieties, or even small parts, of Lordships; and most probably this alone would account for the apparently little value of some of these manorial and baronial estates; while it is, at the same time, certain that the almost invidious value of the services of many of them arose from the favourable character of the first donations and grants—whether coming from the First Paramount Lord, or from a secondary one: the most of whom (as was the custom of the Normans up to about 1300) gave to their younger sons, and even to their daughters, whole manors and parts of manors, from the names of which nearly all the donees and grantees acquired, by perpetual user, their own surnames—as is still largely the custom in the Lowlands of Scotland. Acton in Delamere, mentioned in "The Sheaf," was held (with other manors and lands) in the 13th and 14th centuries of the Chief lord of the fee, who was the Lord of Hellesby: Acton being an early appanage and subsequently subinfeudation in favour of younger sons. But, the commutation of the services—from knight's service to socage—of the chief fief, viz. Hellesby (held in capite of the Fitz-Alans, earls of Arundel, when they, by gift of the Palatine Earl, became Lords of Stoney Dunham alias Dunham o' th' Hill and when the first Josceram of Hellesby also appeared), was only at first, partial—one moiety of Hellesby being held by knight's service. The Beeston moiety was

long afterwards held by knight's service, of the King (as Earl of Chester). There was another thing, too, that was connected with these commutations. In the reign of Edw. II., knighthood was hastening into decay. The wars of the Premier Paramount Lords, viz. the Kings, began to grow burdensome; and to relieve his Exchequer, I suspect Edw. I. towards the year 1300, perverted the honour of knighthood, then still given for great services, into a mercenary 'honour.' Every squire or gentleman with a certain estate was called on to take on himself knighthood—for a price (like the old original Ulster baronetage). Men who were liable, however, would not submit to this imperious thrusting upon them of titular honours; and therefore, of course, after making every effort, by charters and acts of deeds of all sorts, to show that they were not worth powder and shot—that their estates were not of the value set upon them—they only submitted, at last when their efforts failed, to pay a fine that was levied for their contempt, or default. This fine would be larger than the one payable, in the first instance, for the "honour."

X.

MAY 13, 1903.

NOTES.

[834] BADDILEY CHURCH BRIEFS.

Parish registers and church books during the latter half of the seventeenth century generally contain some references to certain Sunday collections authorised by "briefs," which were issued by the Privy Council under the Great Seal, and by the direction of both houses of Parliament, to a number rarely exceeding twelve in a twelvemonth. In most places, however, the records are few and limited to the early years of the reign of Charles II. when that method of raising funds for casualties by fire or storm was new. But in the church-book of the little country parish of Baddiley the list of collections under briefs is unusually long, and seemingly complete for the twenty years from 1664 to 1684, the entries numbering 86; more numerous, indeed, than those at Stretford (65 during 18 consecutive years) that have been printed in Earwaker's *Local Gleanings*, 1875, vol. I. p. 18 *et seq.*, with which list the following may be profitably compared.

It will be noticed that at Baddiley there were 59 collections for fires, 12 for repairs of churches, and the remainder for purposes otherwise described. When insurance offices began to be, it was a natural consequence that the issue of briefs for fires would gradually decrease; but briefs on behalf of other disasters, and particularly for church repairs, continued to be granted until the year 1828, although they had become unpopular for a long time prior to

that date. The latest instance of the issue of a brief in this locality, enforcing collections in churches all over the kingdom, was that obtained for the repair of Nantwich church on 30 July, 1789.

COLLECTIONS, UNDER BRIEFS, AT BADDILEY,
CHESHIRE.

		s.	d.
7 July 1661	Repaire of St. Maries Church, Scarborough	2	4
19 June 1664	For releefe of Grantham consumed by fire	6	8
10 July "	Repaire of St. Peters Steeple in Sandwich (Kent)	4	5
7 Aug. "	Repaire Witherum [Withyham] Church, Sussex, destroyed by lightning & tempest [16 June 1663] ..	4	1
23 Oct. "	For Nicholas Marriott & some others in the parish of Weedon Northants, loss by tempestuous rain	4	1
20 Novr. "	For Cromer, alias Shipden in Norfolk	3	9
30 April 1665	For Willm. Shuter of Tamworth, Warwicksh	3	7
14 May "	Repaire of Tynmouth Church ...	5	4
6 Aug. "	For fire in Cockshut, Salop	7	2
6 Sept. "	For the poor infected persons in London [Plague 1665]	7	4
4 Octr. "	Do. Do.	4	6
8 Novr. "	Do. Do.	11	1
3 Decr. "	Do. Do.	7	4
14 Jan. 1665-6	For fire in Sherifhales, Staffs .	4	2
21 Jan. "	Repaire in Hartlepoole	2	10
28 Jan. "	Repaire in Clun Church, Salop ...	2	10
3 March "	For the poor infected persons in London [Plague]	5	8
[The total sum collected at Baddiley for the great plague in London, amounted to £1 15s. 11d.]			
25 May 1666	Repaire of Halton Chapell	6	6
3 June "	For fire in Chalburie, Oxford	5	6
11 Novr. "	For fire in Melcombe Regis, Dorsett	4	6
2 Decr. "	For John Osburn [a merchant trading to Russia, for loss of two ships]	6	6
17 March 1666-7	For fire in Poole, Montgomery ..	6	0
2 June 1667	For fire in Hinxton, Cambridge..	4	6
7 July "	For harm [by fire] done in Loughborough, Leicester	5	4
1 March 1667-8	For fire in Newport	24	8
27 Decr. 1668	For releefe of the poore in London done by fire [1666]	1	11
14 Feb. 1668-9	For fire in Haverill, Suffolk	5	0
28 March 1669	For poor captives taken by the Turks [pirates]	9	4

[Thomas Fuller, in 1661, had suggested the formation of a corporate body in London for the purpose of receiving subscribed monies towards ransoming English captives in Tunis, Tripoli, Algier, Salli, &c.]

		s.	d.
15 Aug. 1669	For fire in Tiverton, Salop	6	4
29 " "	For fire in Brockton, Stafford ...	7	0
24 April 1670	For loss by fire Meole Brace, Salop ..	3	2
19 June "	Loss by fire in Ileham, Cambridge ..	6	0
16 Octr. "	Loss by fire in Cottonend, in parish of Hardington, Northants ..	5	0
[This fire happened in 1668. All the houses, except six, were destroyed in two hours.]			
20 Novr. 1670	Loss by fire in Wolsingham, Durham	6	2
8 Jan. 1670-1	Loss by fire in Beckles, Suffolk ..	7	10
12 Feb. "	Loss by fire to John Turner of Bentley, Stafford	5	8
23 July 1671	Loss by fire in Yarm, York	4	6
5 Novr. "	Loss by fire in Higrimes [Lee-grave or Lightgrave] in Luton, Bedford	6	0
12 Nov. "	For the redemption of English Captives taken by the Turks ...	33	4
[Of this sum £1 13s. 4d. Sir Thomas Manwaring, Bart., of Baddiley contributed a sovereign, and parson John Swan, sixpence.]			
31 Decr. 1671	For loss by fire in St. Aldgates, alias St. Toles, in Oxford	5	0
25 Feb. 1671-2	For loss by fire to Stephen Harrison of Durham	4	0
23 June 1672	For loss by fire in Rellington, Yorkshire	1	8
28 July "	For loss by fire in Balkington [? Bilkington] Warwick	5	2
11 Aug. "	For loss by fire to Randle Smith of Moreley	6	2
20 Octr. "	For loss by fire for the refiners of sugar in London	11	7
9 March 1672-3	For loss by fire to James Perrin of Hinstock, Salop	6	5
23 " "	For loss by fire in Fordingbridge, Southampton county	9	2
30 " 1673	For loss of fire in Knaresborough, Yorks	7	0
13 April "	For loss of fire to Randle Shenton of Wildcats heath [in the parish of Wisterson (Wistaston) co. Chester, who by a violent fire which happened 15 July 1672 suffered loss to the value of £3000 and upwards. (Registers of Mere, Wilts, and Stratford.)] ...	11	4
18 May "	For loss by fire [of the Theatre Royal] in St. Martin's in the fields, Middlesex	8	7
15 March 1673-4	For loss of fire in Nether Wallop, Southampton county	6	8

29 March 1674	For loss by fire in Hospital near [the Tower, in] St. Katherine's, London	10 6
26 April „	For Randle Drake of Church Copnall [Cheshire]	7 10
17 May „	For Thomas Grafton of Wistaston [Cheshire]	7 7
7 June „	For Thos. Wakering of Blakhulse, in p'ish of Wolverhampton	6 2
21 „ „	Loss by fire to Thos. Gibbon, of St. Margarets[at Cliffe], co. Kent	7 5
7 March 1674-5	Loss by fire in Bonenden Church, Kent	9 4
16 May 1675	Loss by fire at Redbourn, Herts	5 4
30 „ „	Loss by fire at Watton, Norfolk	7 4
3 Octr. „	For repaire of Newent Church, Gloucestersh	8 10
2 April 1676	For repaire of Oswestrie Church.	6 8
(?) May „	For loss by fire in Northampton. ..	42 0
[The fire occurred on 20 Sept. 1675, the church and three parts of the town being destroyed. Squire Manwaring, no doubt, contributed liberally to this large collection; and the rector, John Swan, preached.]		
18 June 1676	For William Poole of Aston, [in Wrenbury, or Acton] for loss by fire	16 0
6 Aug „	For Thomas Manning of Newhall, Wrenburie	8 8
14 Jan. 1676-7	For loss by fire in Eulow, Bucks	5 7
24 June 1677	For loss by fire in Southwark, Surrey	9 0
5 July „	For loss by fire in Cottenham, Cambridge	6 7
30 Sept. „	For loss by fire in Towcester, Northants	6 5
15 Decr. 1678	For loss by fire in Wem, Salop	1 4
16 Feb. 1678-9	For loss by fire in Uttington, Lincolnsh.	1 10
23 March „	For loss by fire in Pattingham, Staffs.	1 6
[No date]	For loss by fire in Weedon [in Northants]	2 2
29 June 1679	For loss by fire in Lurgishall (?), Wilts	1 0
22 Aug. 1680	For loss by fire in East Dereham, Norfolk	3 6
21 Aug. 1680	Collected for distressed Protestants in Lesser Poland	4 3

[This collection for the "Lithuanians," as those persecuted Christians were sometimes called, was evidently obtained by a house to house visitation in the parish on the Saturday. Similarly "in the Churchwardens' accounts for Baddiley is a payment to "William Stockes of one shilling for goeing over the p'ishe & writeing down what every man did give to ye poore distressed]protestants in Savoy, in 1655."]

26 Octr. 1680	For repaire of St. Albans Church, Herts	4 8
27 —(?) „	For loss by fire in Doreforde, Cambridge.....	10 5
12 Feb. 1680-1	For loss by fire in Stafford	3 0
25 „ „	For loss by fire in co. Radnor, in parish of Preston [Presteign] ...	1 7
[No date]	For loss by fire in Bishton in par. of Colwich, Staffs.	2 1
— 1682	Collected for distressed protestants that came out of France ..	5 6
25 June „	Collected for Cumley Church, Northumberland	10 9
10 Octr. „	Loss by fire in parts of Lindsey, Lincolnshire	2 0
10 Decr. 1682	Loss by fire for Thos. Nicholls under dyers hall in Tames St. [London]	2 10
16 Sept., 1683 [?]	Loss by fire in Newmarket, Suffolk	5 0
7 Octr. „	Loss by fire in Preston Candoure, Southampton	3 0
25 Novr. „	Loss by fire in Collumpton, Devon	3 3
11 March 1683-4	For repaire of Llanumddwhery Church, Carmarthen	3 4
3 June 1684	For loss by fire Paleshadden in White Chapel	5 0
15 „ „	For loss by fire Runswick, York	2 0
20 July „	For Breyest Coliroh [?] in Chester ..	2 9
21 Octr. „	For the town of Porcement [Portsmouth] Southampton county	3 0

There are many more collections by briefs recorded in the same volume, which ends with the year 1718; but very few indeed are dated entries after the year 1684, and many names of places are mis-spelled beyond identification by the person who kept the church book.

JAMES HALL.

Lindum House, Nantwich.

[835] STAR CHAMBER CASES FROM CHESHIRE. III.
(Continued from No. 832.)

XIV. 41. Richard Egerton v. Hugh Calveley. Forcible entry into park at Ridley, killing of deer, and assault on ptf's servants.

43. Same v. Richard Jerrard, Peter Typpyng, &c.—Killing of deer in park at Ridley and assault on ptf's servants.

XV. 277. Thomas Fulhurst.—Statement of title to land at Wistaston.

329. Inhab. of Frodsham Lordship v. Hugh Starkye, &c.—Rights of common (remainder in XVIII., 142).

XVI. 50-53. Robert Germyn v. John Holynshed, Richard Roo, Thomas Parsons, &c.—Affray concerning pasturage on Sutton Common.

56. *Hugh Gethyn v Ralph Mannyng, Ralph Baylye, &c.*—Seizure of hay and other crops and arrest and vexatious prosecution of ptff's labourers at Aldersey, &c.

77. *William Glaseor, alderman of Chester v Ralph Egerton, Ralph Ryder, &c.*—Forcible entry and ill-usage of ptff's tenants at Church Christleton.

78. *Same v Ralph Rogerson, Richard Gymson, &c.*—Forcible entry and destruction of enclosures at Chester.

92. *Oliver Godbehere and John Hogekynson v Richard Arowsmith, William Arowsmith, &c.*—Assault at Smallwood.

174. *William Goodman v William Bryd, Thomas Gyllam, &c.*—Forcible entry, destruction of goods, &c., at Chester.

181-2. *Richard Goburne v John Bellot, John Furneivall, Hugh Rathebon, &c.*—Forcible entry and diversion of watercourse at Odred.

339-40 *Edmund Gryffyn v Thomas Crue, Roger Waltho, Thomas Waltho, &c.*—Assault at Nantwich.

340-5. *John Gryffyn v William Hassall, Ralph Hassall, Robert Hassall, &c.*—Assault nr. Hanke-low.

XVII. 14. *John Dokenfeld v Laurence Warren, John Arderne, senr., and Perys Brombill.*—The parish church of Stockport.

76. *John Privet and Uriah Hethe v Randle Brereton*—Rescue of a man from custody at Tilston (bill wanting).

127. *Hugh Venables v William Venables, Richard and Thomas Bromefeld.*—Assault.

139 and 100. *Thomas Harcotte and other tenants of Bickley v Thomas and William a Bromley.*—Common of pasture in Norbury Common.

146. *John Lancaster, prior of Launde v George Bothe.*—Parsonage and church of Rostherne.

245. *Same v Richard Legh and others*—Patronage of church of Rostherne (see XXII., 280).

185. *William Swetnam v John Briddon.*—Murder of Laurence Swetnam at Brereton.

227. *Same v John Fitton, Thomas Bulkeley, John Cotton, Edward Bulkeley, George Bulkeley, &c.*—Same charge (see III., 311; XXIV., 434; and XXVI., 370).

188. *John Mostyn v Richard Grosvenor, Edward Mynshull, Henry Hokynhull, Thomas Pyllyn, &c.*—Murder of Randle Davenport.

248. *Peter Legh v John More.*—Common of pasture of Disley (bill wanting).

389. *William Brayne and Peyrs Goldeston v Richard Charnley.*—Land in Aston under Mondrum.

398. *Sir John Savage, &c., v Sir Piers Dutton.*—Manor of Dutton and other lands late of Laurence Dutton (draft decree only).

XVIII. 42 and 216. *Alice Morton, widow v Richard Golborne, &c.*—Lease of manor of Morton in Odd Rode (answer and replication wanting).

(To be continued.)

MAY 20, 1903.

NOTES.

[836] THE MANOR OF LITTLE CALDY IN WIRRAL IN 1453-4. II.

(See No. 825.)

In the portion of the Rental printed this week all the entries have been abbreviated so as to save space. The spellings of the field names, however, are as in the original. The following is a specimen of the manner in which the entries may be extended, viz.:—"N. and S. between W. W. and H. E." stands for "lying north and south between the land of William Whitmore and Hugh Egerton." T. N. represents Thomas Norris.

Among the points of interest in this week's portion of the Rental may be mentioned *The Halle Walle*. It is rather surprising to find mention of a hall at this early period, as no history has come down to us of any house earlier than the present Caldý Manor. The name Hall Wall is still in use and the field lies to the west of the main road, about fifty yards after passing the monument when coming from Frankby.

Taralayne or *Tarlarayne* is a puzzle which awaits solution at the hands of some ingenious etymologist.

Dalpole Medo was on the bank of the Dee near the Thurstaston boundary.

Caldý Hey is at the south-east extremity of the township; the name is still in use.

The Grene way is the lane or occupation road leading in a southerly direction out of the main road a couple of hundred yards to the west of the Thurstaston footpath-stile.

The Brankers Pytte. This is curious: a brank was a sort of bridle, but it is more commonly used in reference to the iron instrument of torture which in mediæval times was put on the head of scolding women as a punishment. A further punishment for these offenders was to be ducked in a pond, so it is possible that this was the pit where scolds were immersed.

Wete Reynes. Reins or rains, a word still in use in Cheshire, originally meant a boundary and eventually the balk of uncultivated land between two butts or ploughed ridges. The use of the word "rene" meaning boundary at the end of Thos. Clerk's holding is noteworthy.

A *pyke* apparently was a small triangular piece of land, called in some places a gore.

The Portway. The mention of this lane or road is curious and its position is difficult to fix. One would like to see in it a reference to the wharf which in later days lined the shore near the old limekiln, but this is perhaps scarcely tenable.

WM. FERGUSON IRVINE.

RICHARD ANDREW holds one messuage and one londe in Crofte Melayne [N. & S. between W. W. & H. E.]

One halland in Crofte Melayne [E. & W.]

One halland "under the Crosse" [E. & W.—W. W. on both sides]

Another halland "under the Crosse" [E. & W.—W. W. on the N.—T. N. on the S.]

One halland "schotyng upon the Bonke" [E. & W.]

One halland on the north side of The Rake [E. & W.]

Another halland on the south side of The Rake [E. & W.—W. on the S.]

Four bottles in the Ledezatys [three lying E. & W., one N. & S.]

One halland "benethe the Halle Walle" [N. & W.—W. on both sides]

Two hallands between the Mill & the Town [N. W. & S. E.—W. on both sides]

Two hallands "schotyng besyde" Taralayne [S. E. & N. W.]

Four hallands "schotyng a pon Dalpole Medo" [E. & W.—W. on both sides]

One halland in the Fyr Wyttefylde [S. E. & N. W.—T. N. on both sides]

One halland "be the sowthe cornelle of Calday Hey" [N. E. & S. W.—W. on both sides]

One londe in "the Hedyr Whitefylde" [W. W. on the W.—T. N. on the E.]

Three bottles in "the Gredey Bottes" [E. & W.—W. on S. E.—T. N. on the N.]

Two hallands in the same [W. W. on the N.—T. N. on the S.]

Two hadelondes in the same [N. & S.]

One londe in the Goslondes [E. & W.—W. W. on the S.—T. N. on the N.]

Two hallands in the Dyche Hallandes [E. & W.—between W. W. & H. E.]

Another londe "in the same flate" [E. & W.]

Two londes in the Werle Londes [E. & W.—W. W. & A. E.]

Another londe "in the same flate" [E. & W.—W. W. & H. E.]

One londe in the Long Londes [E. & W.]

One hallande in "the same flat" [E. & W.—W. W. & H. E.]

One hallande in the Boke Grenys [N. & S.]

One hadland in the Boke Grenes [N. E. & S. W.]

One halland "in the same flatt" [N. & S.—W. W. & T. N.]

Two hallands in the Kynge Londe [E. & N. W.]

One lond in Dale Londe [N. & S.]

Two londes in the same flat [N. & S.—W. W. on the E. " & the Grene Way" on the W.]

[* "One fysche yorte leyng to the same mese.]

"One londe and a ferthinge besyde the Calezarter on the est syde."

One londe called "The Horne Dyche Londe schotyng a pon the Crofts on the town," and two Caleyortes "betwene the londe of W. W. on aythes syde."

One halland in the Wro [N. & S.—W. W. on both sides]

One halland undyr Knekyn [E. & W.—W. W. on either side]

Two hallandes undyr Knekyn "schotyng a pon "The Brankers Pytte" [E. & W.]

One halland in the Sowters Hallandes [E. & W.—W. W. on the N. & T. N. on the S.]

One londe in the Sowters Land [E. & W.]

One londe in the Bake Brede Londe [N. & S.—H. E. & T. N.]

One other londe in Bake Brede Londe [N. & S.]

"The Bake Brede Hadelonde & a halland schotyng in the ende leyng be the Grene Way syde."

"This is in the holdinge of Ric: Andrew, et reddit: per annum Sum: xvjs."

THOMAS CLERKE holds one messuage & three hallandes and a londe in Crofte Melayne [W. W. on both sides]

One holland in the Crofte Melayne [E. & W.—W. W. on both sides]

One londe called The Schote londe in Crofte Melayne [N. & S.—W. W. on both sides]

One hadlond in the Wete Raynes

Two hallands leyng at the Est ende of the Gorste Buttes [N. & S.]

One londe in the Harde londe [N. E. & S. W.]

Another londe in the Harde londe at the est ende [W. W. on both sides]

One londe in the Gn way [? Greenway] lond [E. & W.—W. W. on both sides]

One londe in Tarlarayne [E. & W.—W. W. on both sides]

One hallande in Tarlarayne [E. & W.—W. W. on both sides]

[* One other londe schotyng upon the same Harde londe]

One londe in Tarlarayne [E. & W.—W. W. on both sides]

Another londe in Tarlarayne and a ferthyng [E. & W.—W. W. on both sides]

Another londe in Tarlarayne [E. & W.—W. W. on both sides]

Another londe in Tarlarayne [E. & W.—W. W. on both sides]

Three hallandes in Tarlarayne [E. & W.—W. W. on both sides]

* Added in the margin.

Two londes & a halland, schotyngge apon Dalpole Dale be Padocke Mere [N. & S.—W. W. on both sides]

Four londes & five hallandes schoteinge apon Dalpole Dale [W. W. on both sides]

Three bottles laying at the northe ende of the londes at schotyn on Dalpole Dale of Thomas Norres.

Five hallandes leyngge together on the northe syde of the three bottles that the six londes schottyn apon.

One meche londe in Rogers Fylde schottinge apon Dalpole Medow [E. & W.]

[* A ferthinge be the same Meche londe.]

One londe callyt the Wene Londe schottyngge apon Dalpole Medow [W. W. on both sides]

One pyke on Rogers Fylde schottinge on Dalpole Medow

One hallande on Rogers Fylde schottyngge on Dalpole Medow [W. W. on both sides]

One hadlond on Rogers Fylde schottyngge on Dalpole Medow [E. & W.—W. W. both sides]

One ferthyngge on the northe syde of the Walle spryngge schottyng on Dalpole Medow]

One hallande in the Hydder Whitfylde [N. & S.—W. W. on both sides]

One other halland in the Hydder Whitfylde schottyngge on Thurstanton Fylde [N. & S.]

One other halland in the same field schottyngge on Thurstanton Fylde [N. & S.]

One hadlonde in the Hedyr Whitefylde [E. & W.]

One hallande in the Hedyr Whitefylde [N. & S.—W. W. on both sides]

Two pykes in the same tylde [E. & W.—W. W. on both sides]

The Whytefylde Hade londe schottyngge on Foculle Medow [E. & W.]

One other londe in the Goslonde [E. & W.—W. W. on the N. & H. E. on the S.]

One other londe in the Goslonde [E. & W.—W. W. on both sides]

One other londe in the Goslonde [E. & W.—W. W. on both sides]

One hade londe in the Goslonde & a pyke by hit [S.-E. & N.-W.]

One londe in the Grede Bottes [N. & S.—W. W. & T. N.]

One hallande in the Grede Bottes [E. & W.—W. W. on the S., T. N. on the N.]

One hallande in the Portway Bottes [E. & W.]

One londe in the Sty fylde [E. & W.—W. W. on both sides]

One hadelonde callyt the Caleyort Hadelonde [S. E. & N. W.]

One londe in the Cambause [N. & S.—W. W. on both sides]

One londe in the Haywode [N. & S.]

One hallande in the Haywoode [S. E. & N. W.]

One other londe in the Haywoode [N. E. & S. W.]

One hadelonde in the Haywoode [N. E. & S. W.]

One hallande in the Mabelys Fylde [E. & W.—W. W. on both sides]

Two buttes schottyngge apon Knekyn [E. & W.]

One hallande in Dofokys Fylde [N. W. & S. E.—W. W. on both sides]

One other hallande in Dofokys Fylde [N. W. & S. E.]

Two hallandes in the Longe Furlong [E. & W.—W. W. on both sides]

One other londe in the Longe Furlong [E. & W.—W. W. on both sides]

One hallande in the Longe Furlong [N. E. & S. W.—W. W. on both sides]

All the grounde callyt Ascow leyngge betwix Calday Hay & Thos. Lytyll.

The iiij parte Gorst Heye every yere vd. longyngge to the same howse.

The iiij parte of the Bonke Hey fro the Copyt Grene to the Rene of John Andrew & so down to the see partys hyt.

The iiij parte of Dalpole Medo longyngge to the same holdeinge.

A fysche yarte lyinge to the same holdyngge. This is the holdyngge of Thom's Clerke. Ea reddit ꝑ annu' xxjs.

(To be continued.)

[837] STAR CHAMBER CASES FROM CHESHIRE. IV.

(See No. 835.)

XVIII. 126, 199 and 219. Katherine Smyth v John Massey.—Parsonage of Burton, &c. (bill wanting).

154. Robert More v Sir Ralph Egerton, Ralph Shepley, Richard Ayre, Humphrey Wilberham, Sir John Felowe, Humphrey Hassall, Sir N. Hacokson, &c.—Messuage and lands in Peckforton (bill addressed to Wolsey).

162. Alice Swetenham, widow of William Swetenham v Sir William Brereton, John Fytton, and Thomas Bulkeley.—Protection afforded to the murderers of Lawrence Swetenham.

212. Henry Clutton v Hugh Bolton, Thomas Hayston, Henry Bolton, and William Cleveley.—Lands in Bureton (remainder in XXII., 238, and XXV., 182).

222. (?) The King v Henry Hockenell, coroner of Wirral.—Misdemeanours in connection with the inquest on the murderer of Randall Davenport.

256. Thomas Drake v Thomas Starkya, &c.—Murder of Robert Drake.

XIX. 3. Robert Hill v Margaret Cheyne, Edward Mynshull, and Roger Wright.—Two pastures within the lordship of Wixtaton.

* Added in the margin.

24. Bishop of Chester *v* Joan Whateley.—Manner of proving wills within the manor of Clifton.

52. Margery Clutton, widow, *v* Hugh Bolton.—Bill exhibited against defendant by Henry Clutton, deceased.

97 and 134. Lawrence Smyth *v* Sir Henry Delves, Humphrey Woodnot, Richard Scryvyner, &c.—Common of pasture in Charlton Heath and Weston Heath.

126. Sir John Holford *v* Anthony Daubney and Elizabeth, his wife.—Wood called Lostock Park (see XXI., 196).

158. Giles Huncote *v* Thomas Hamond, prior of the Abbey of Combermere, &c.—Concealment of a murder committed in the abbey.

166. John Aldersey *v* Ralph Dalton, &c.—Close in Aldersey.

187. Roger Joyderell, Edward Browne, Richard Nyxon, and John Sherle *v* Peter Legh, John Kyghley, Reynold Gateshales, &c.—Common of pasture in Disley and Weyley.

352. John Falowes *v* Humphrey Alen, John Stubbe, &c.—Death of Humphrey Falowes (interrogatory and deposition).

XX. 58. Thomas Hatton *v* Lawrence Hatton.—Land in Hatton.

71. Peres Legh, &c. *v* Roger Jodrell and others.—Common of pasture at Disley (see XXI., 156, 266).

175. Sir William Brereton *v* William Swetnam.—Slander (see XXII., 113).

177. Elizabeth Wykestedde *v* John Manweryng, Thomas Morall, &c.—Forcible entry and kidnapping of piff's son.

182 and 306.—John Aldersey *v* William Aldersey, Robert Hay, William Abrani, and Robert Brome.—Unlawful assembly and riot (bill wanting).

220. Sir Piers Dutton *v* Thomas Aston, &c.—Draft decree.

264. Edward Brinley and George Allott *v* Sir Peres Dutton, John Cowper, Peter Richardson, and John Allott.—False imprisonment.

335. Alice Morton, widow, and Richard Goburn *v* John Bylott, John Furnyvall, Hugh Rythebon, Ralph Furnyvall, and Katherine Roo.—Watercourse supplying certain mills at Odd Rode (bill addressed to Sir Thomas More).

(To be continued.)

MAY 27, 1908.

NOTES.

[838] FRODSHAM CHURCH ROLL, 1637 & 1747. I. In No. 688 of the "Sheaf," giving the very early seat Roll of 1494, reference is made to the later Rolls of the years 1637 and 1747, of this old Saxon and Anglo-Norman Church. The following copy of these two later rolls is taken from a MS. book in

brown paper cover, formerly belonging to Mr. Francis Ashley, a well-known attorney-at-law, of Frodsam, and bearing his autograph, in about the year 1786-90. Both rolls are there written side by side, and are evidently copies of the original rolls, which were on faded parchment in the parish chest some 30 years ago. It appears that the sites, positions, and numbers of the "ranks of seats" of those dates completely correspond with the sites, positions, and numbers of the "ranckes of formes" there in 10 Hen. VII., but there are about 17 more pews than in the old seat roll. Thus in all the rolls the number of ranks was 6—all abreast, in line, facing the High Altar; and they counted east and West, in six columns, from the lower or private altars, formerly within the two Kingsley and Helsby chapels, which form the south and north chancels at the eastern end of the side aisles; the seats in which are of course not given in these rolls. The Helsby Chantry appears by the warden's books to have been also called "The Andrewe Chapel"—the dedication to that Saint probably having been originally suggested by the saltire sable of the Helsby coat, which resembles "St. Andrew's Cross" in all respects, save tincture; and which some heralds, in consequence, erroneously so describe it. These armorial bearings as they now stand being traceable as far back as the year 1230-40, most probably originated in the third Crusade, of Cœur de Lion's time; and the original Chantry Chapel was not unlikely founded in about the end of King John's reign. As there was in 14 Edw. II, after and before much fighting between various near relatives of the family, a partition, on an arbitration, of that family's manorial lands, this chapel, or a part of it, seems to have passed with the Old Hall of Helsby. However, in 1637, it seems that the heirs male of that day, and other younger descendants, held only a few scattered seats in and about the chapel in the north aisle.

The other, or "Kingsley Chapel," having passed in the reign of Edw. I. by the elder co-heiresses of the Kingsleys to the Le Roters, with the Hall of Kingsley, it subsequently, and wrongly, acquired the name of "The Rutter Chapel"—a corruption of the more ancient and reasonable custom, greater than the corruption of Roter to Rutter. The following heading shews that in 1637 the chancel screen was still in existence. These lists form quite unique 'Directories' of most of the heads of families in the parish in the 17th and 18th centuries.

First rank of seats on south side the church beginning at chancel door and ending at porch door.

Owners' Names 1637.	Owners' Names 1747.	Towns they belong to.
1 John Helsbey, Gent. [Warden of the Church]	John Smale, by purchas.	Kingsley } [Hurstle] }
Jn. Holebrooke	Arth. Wilcoxson Seni'.	Alvanley

2 Jas. Thomason	Arth. Wilcockson Juneo'	Alvanley	10 Robt. Ireland	Thomas Trickell	Norley
3 Thomas Brown	Mr. John Baker	Kingsley	Richard Key	William Smith	Kingsley
4 Jno. Wilkinson	Arth. Wilkinson	Newton	11 John Milner	Thos. Lancaster	Kingsley
5 Willm. Witter			Wm. Chadock	Richard Milner	Newton
6 Willm. Witter	Rich. Nangreave, esq. Wm Littlemore	Netherton	[These Milners, yeomen, have long been of Newton, and owned much of this little town- ship, including the Hall—their heiress still living in 1870.]		
7 Rbt. Plimstone	Wm. Hurstfield	Bradley	12 Wm. Poughton	Ralph Darwell	Norley
Ths. Middleton	John Cheshire	Overton	[Poulton]		
8 John Trafford	Henry Aspell	Helsbey	Edw. Walker		
Rich. Milner	John Wrench	Woodhouses	13 Jno. Hammon	Mrs. Wells	Kingsley
9 Randle Hall	Saml. Brownent	Helsbey	Mr. G. Whitley	Mr. Geo. Whitley	Alvanley
Rbt. Plimstone de Bank	Rd. Nangreave, esq.	Netherton	[The Whitleys were of Alvanley in Elizabeth's reign; and the late Mr. Whitley, M.P. was their representative in 1890.]		
10 William Hill	Mr. Randle Fluitt	Overton	14 William Earl	John Parson	On the Ho—
John Jameson	Margrt. Withnall widow	Alvanley	Thomas Harris	Moses Rider	Tanhouse
11 John Adamson	Jas. Ashton, esqr.		15 Edmund Byrech	Mr. Geo. Whitley	Alvanley
Wm. Knowles	Mrs. Llead		[Byrch]		
Mr. J. Brownent	Mr. Jno. Brownent		Ralph Rutter	Thos. Hollewell	Kingsley
13 W. Grymsditch	Abraham Barker		16 Thomas Guest	Thos. Whitley	Kingsley
John Whitley	Mr. George Whitley		17 Thos. Modley	John Woodward	Frodsham
Edw. Hughson	Saml. Websten [Qy. Weston]		John Stretch		
Hugh Smith	Mr. Danl. Ashley [From No. 11		18 Jn. Wainwright	John Woodward	Frodsham
Botts House	Mr. John Dutton	to 19, a leaf	Thomas Brown		
Thomas Deal	Mrs. Deborah	missing.]	19 Thos. Hatton	Samuel Cawley	Norley
	Woods, Wido.		John Grice	a Mr. Jno. Dutton	Frodsham
15 Thos. Banner	Thomas Banner		[a late of the 'Hall of the Heye', in Kingsley, since Henry VIII. reign.]		
Henry Bancks	John Hinds Heirs		20 Thos. Towers	John Cartwright	Alvanley
Thos. Barrow.			Thos. Crook	Mr. Daniel Ashley	Frodsham
16 Ralph Dean	Mr. Joseph Witter		[attorney-at-law.]		
John Barker	John Marrow		21 John Smith	Saml. Millnes	Frodsham
John Pelliton			Ralph Johnson	Willm. Johnson	Frodsham
17 Hough's House	Richard Woodward.		22 Widow Highton	Willm. Knowles	Overton
Simcock's House	Samuel Moss.		[Huyton]		
18 John Griffie	William Earl.		Widow Bradley		
Rich. Barker	Mr. Randle Fluitt.		23 — Woods	Robert Baxter	Alvanley
Rich. Harrison	Thomas Harrison.		— Helsbey		
19 Widow Tapley	Mr. Jos. Hall Attorney		24 — Bradford	John Bradford	Kingsley
John Fletcher	Thomas Fletcher.		— Simcock		
[On the page opposite to the missing leaf :—			(To be continued.)		
		Norley	[839] STAR CHAMBER CASES FROM CHESHIRE. V.		
		Overton	(See No. 837.)		
		Overton	XXI. 12. John Hopwoode v Ralph Hopwoode,		
		Alvanley	Reginald Hopwoode and William Hopwood.—Mes-		
		Alvanley	suage and land in parish of Mottram.		
		Overton	40. Dame Elizabeth Holdforth, widow, v Sir		
		Kingsley	John Holdforth and George Holdforth.—Estate of		
		Kingsley	Sir G. H. dec'd. (remainder in XXIV., 337 and		
		Alvanley	XXVI., 82, two answers).		
[2nd Rank of Seats] "beginning at East and ending			59. James Hordron v James, Roger, George,		
at West End."			Edward, Humphrey and Arthur Brouster.—Forcible		
[Here should come the names			entry at Boseley.		
of the owners of 5 pews,			91. Otewell Hobson v Ralph Lecetor, &c.—		
under both dates, from the			Messuage and land in parish of Mobberley.		
opposite and missing page.			126 and 256. Peres Legh v Edward Swyndels.—		
The corresponding half leaf,			Common of pasture in Disley (see XX., 71).		
or sheet, will be noticed later			177. Harry Hoult v John Shawe and Thomas		
on.]			Mynshawe—Vicarage of Bawdeyn.		
6 Robt. Williams	John Leech	Alvanley			
Thos. Simcock	Rich. Simcock	Alvanley			
7 John Hughes	Mr. Rogr. Merriok	Newton			
8 Rich. Jennien	Robert Jennien	Newton			
	Thomas Jennien				
9 Peter Oranges	Mr. Rich. Turner	Norley			
Mrs. Rutter	Lawrence Scars-				
	brooke [Scar-	Kingsley			
	brick.]				

186. *Ralph Hurst and William Pownall v Peter Legh, Reginald Bowne, T. Kytheley, Reginald Getestathe, Roger Echehouse, &c.*—Rescue of sheep taken "damage fessant" at Disley.

196. *Sir John Holford v Anthony Daubeney and Dame Elizabeth, his wife.*—Estate of Sir George Holford, dec'd. (bill addressed to Sir T. Audley; see XIX., 126).

197. *Robert Legh v Hanblot Massy, Edward Massy, Robert Massy, Ralph Forest and Thomas Forest.*—Slander (a Calais case; depositions taken in Cheshire).

198. *Peter Legh v John Kithely, Reginald Gaskell, John Home, Ralph Ashyde, &c.*—Trespass (interrogatory and depositions).

223. *Peter Legh v William Broke, Griffen Broke, James Sherle, Ralph Hurst, &c.*—Manor called the Lyme and other lands in Handley.

229 and 239. *Sir Pierce Legh v William Dampport, Nicholas Dampport, &c.*—Unlawful assembly and riot near Marple (answer wanting).

248. *Peter Legh v Ralph Hurst, &c.*—Riot.

XXII. 29. *Sir Peirs Legh v Henry Swyndella, Thomas Clayton, Robert Myller, Humphrey Robothom, Ralph Robothom, and Roger Daniell.*—Forcible entry.

106. *George Ireland v Hugh Birkenhead.*—Lands and tenements (replication only).

113. *William Swetenham v Sir William Brereton, &c.*—Murder of Lawrence Swetenham.

120. Fragment of an answer relating to a message called Troutbeck House near Chester Castle.

128. *Margery Clutton, widow, v Hugh Bolton.*—Riot.

131. Articles against Edward Mynshall, George Calvey and Richard Gravenor concerning the death of Randall Davenport.

143. *William Ardern v George Chatterton, Robert Parker, Edward Kyle, Richard Hardy and Robert Voyddrey.*—Right to take turves on Tymperley Moes (see II., 1).

280. *John Lancaster, prior of Laund v William Venables and Ralph Snede.*—Advowson of church and parsonage of Rostherne (bill wanting; remainder in XXVI., 419).

XXIII. 67. *Edward Jennye v George Newton.*—Assault.

155. *Henry Wyld v John Legh, Thomas Hebert, John Allen, &c.*—Assault at Disley.

(*To be continued.*)

[840] THE GUARDIANSHIP OF THE BRIDGE GATE.

The following letter from the Earl of Shrewsbury to Edward Norris of Speke shews with what jealousy the ancient honours of their families were preserved, the former claiming a share in the wardship of the Bridge Gate as heir of the Troutbecks, Holes and Rabys, lords of Raby in Wirral, and the latter as heir of the old Chester family of Erneys.

After my vearie hartie co'mendac'ons : wheareas you and my self (by turne) haue the keepinge of the Bridge gate of the Citie of Chester, and certene Rocoones ouer the same w'ch to our disherison are detainede from vs, and disposed by the Maior and his Brethren there, and vnderstandinge that you haue some Evidenoe to sortifie our tytles therevnto, I make bolde to praie you, (so that I wold willinge haue this wronge speedilie reformed) to deliuer vnto my servaunte (Thomas Crue) whome I haue appointed to sollicite this cause, vnto Mr. Maior and his Brethren, the same evidence or Coppies thereof to satisfie them of our tytles, you(r) evidence you shall receiue againe at his handes, Or otherwaies that will please to send them or the coppies thereof, by some one of yo'r owne people at such time as my seruante shall appoointe, the defence of this tytle concerneth you as much as my self, therfore I hope you will haue a care to ioine w'th me to defend yt nowe, Leste hereafter further inconveniencie ensue; And so I co'mitt you to god. Pexhill this vijth of Marche 1600.

Yo'r verey louinge Frend

JOHN TALBOTT.

Addressed: To the wor'll my verie
good frend Mr.
Norris esquier at
Speake geue
these.

Small seal—a talbot

JUNE 3, 1903.

NOTES.

[841] AN OLD LEASE OF HILBRE

The following lease of Hilbre and the bordland tithes of West Kirby in 1660 is of some interest. It will be noticed that the house on Hilbre is still called a "Cell":—

This Indenture made the Twenty nyntth day of November in the yeare of our Lord One thousand Six hundred & Sixty & in the twelfth yeare of the Reigne of our Sovereigne Lord Charles the Second, of England Scotland France and Ireland King defender of the faith &c. Betweene Henry Bridge-nan Doctor in Divinity & Deane of the Cathedrall Church of Christ & Blessed St. Mary the virgin in Chester & the Chapter of the same-place upon the one part And Willm. Stanley of Hooton within the County of Chester Esq. upon the other part Witnesseth yt. ye said Deane and Chapter with a full free and unanimous assent and consent, & for & in consideracon of the yearly rent hern & herafter mentioned & reserved and for divers other good causes & considera'cons them therunto moving Have demised granted sett and to farne let &c. unto the said Willm. Stanley his Executors &c. All that Mease or Cell called the house of Helbrey and the Isle there with all houses Edifices buildings Lands

Fishings and other appurt'ences &c. And also all & singular those tyths of corne Hay hempe & flax called Boardland tyths yearly renewing increasing & growing within the Parish of West Kirby, and also all those tyths of corn & hay called Boardland tyths yearly renewing increasing and growing within the township of Ireby, in the parishes of Woodchurch and Thurstaston in Wirrall, And also all that Milne in Irby aforesaid called Irby milne with all the tolles and mulctures thereunto belonging *To have and to hould* all and singular the said mease houses Edifices buildings Lands tenements tyths Milne &c., unto the said Willm. Stanley his Executors &c. from henceforth for and during the tearme and space of one and twenty yeares next ensuing fully to bee compleat and ended *Yeilding and paying* therfore yearly during the said terme unto the said Deane and Chapter for the tyme being and their Successors the rent & sum of twenty pounds of Lawfull English money at the Feast daies of the Nativity of St. John Baptist, and St. Martin the Bishopp in winter by even and Equall porc'ons. The distraint clause follows.

E. C. L.

[842] A WICH-HOUSE LEAD AT NANTWICH, 1662.

In the "Cheshire Sheaf," vol. iii. p. 169, Sept. 1884, is an account of a discovery in August of that year of the remains of an ancient salt-house floor and its arrangements for salt-making at Nantwich. I have recently discovered a document in the writing of Roger Wilbraham, Esq., of Townsend House, Nantwich, preserved in the treasurer's chest of the Trustees of the Wright's Charities in Nantwich, which gives some interesting particulars relating to the dimensions of lead pans in use in the time of Queen Elizabeth, and to the slight changes that took place on the introduction of iron pans into the salt houses in the time of the early Stuart Kings.

"A Wich-house Lead"

"To find ye demensions of a Lead Walling."

"Enquire of Margery Maisterson who hath ye papers of her Uncle Willm. Maisterson who was Mr. [master] of the Heating-howse."

Upon the cever of my Father his Book of Walling begun 1629 I find, That a Wichouse Lead ought to weighe 8 score & 5, or 8 score & 6 pound [165lb. or 166lb.]

In my g[reat] grandfather his Book of rents begun 1581, ye last leaf, I find, That he deli'u'd [delivered] to Math. Wright vj wichouse Leads in weight vj hundred lxiiij pounds [664lb.]; which is lesse than my Fathers account.

Richard Robinson sayth, That ve plate of Lead yt [that] went to make a wichouse Lead, before it was turned upp, was 4 foot in length and 3 foot in breadth.

Upon ye alteracon from or [our] Ancient Leads to Iron-pannes, care was taken by ye Rulers [of Walling] being upon oath, That their Pannes where of some at first had one, others 2, & most 4, that

none of these did exceed ye gage of or [our] ancient 6 Leads. Untill at last when all occupiers of walling did conforme to ye usage of 4 Pannes in a house, viz: in ye yeare 1649; Capt. Malbon being then one of ye Rulers.

A Gage staff (as 'twas called) was invented for ye Measureing of their 4 Iron-pannes. And finding it to be for ye advantage of ye Occupiers being above ye gage of vj Leads, they required it to be allowed & approved of by a Jury at ye Town Court, wch staff hath bin since delivered ou' [over] to ye succeeding Rulers.

By ye sd. Staff each of or [our] 4 Pannes is allowed to be 3 foot and ix. inches in length, 3 foot & 4 inches in breadth; & vj inches in depth.

The dimensions of ye Gage staff I had out of Jo: Tench his Book of Walling 1 Feb: 1661[-2].

(With the above compare account of the salt-trade in my History of Nantwich, particularly the footnote on page 259).

JAMES HALL.

Lindum House, Nantwich

[843] STAR CHAMBER CASES FROM CHESHIRE VI.

(See No. 839.)

XXIII. 175. William Sneyde v William Parre, Edward Bunbury, Ralph Talbot, and William Halewoode.—Eight messuages and lands in Backford.

287. Alexander Marsheland v Margery Holford, Philip Holford, Edwin Holford, George Lee, Ellen Holford and Blanche Holford.—Messuage in Bosden (see XVII., 41).

298. John Oldfield and other the King's tenants of the Manor of Sutton and Wincle v the tenants of Boaley.—Common of pastura.

311. William Hardwyke v Richard Legh, &c.—Expulsion from the cure of the church of Rostherne.

XXIV. 26 Ralph Cantrell, dean of the College Church of St. John's, Chester, v Robert Tatton, Hugh Hauke, Robert Hall, John Massey, Piers Catrall, John Tatton, William Yarnes, Hugh Clarke, William Blythe, &c.—Trespasse and taking of tithe corn and hay (remainder in XVIII., 326).

53. Robert Cheshire v Robert Coppock.—Right of way (interrogatory and deposition).

138. Edward Lucas v Reynold Barker, George Baskervyle, Thomas Walton, and Sir Randle Mainwaring.—Provision for a priest to serve a chapel adjoining to the parish church of Overpener.

179. Sir Richard Edgerton, Thomas Edgerton, Richard Wyche, William Bebington, Peter Nevell, and John Dutton (defendants).—Messuage and lands in Upton, late of Eleanor Ball, deceased (interrogatory only).

183. Katharine Smith (widow), &c., v John Massey.—Farm of hospital of Denwall and parsonage of Burton (see XVIII., 126).

235. Sir Piers Legh v William Dampore, Robert Torkyngton, John Baude, John Rawcroft, Ralph Wyche, &c.—Land within the manor of Marple (bill wanting).

256. William Aldersey v Ralph Dutton and Perys Tylston.—Riot.

266 (?Cheshire). Fragments of depositions as to death of Robert Drake from a blow by Robert Woodward.

310. John Massey v William Davidson and other merchants of Chester.—Shipping of goods contrary to proclamation.

322. John Wilson v Thomas Stepylton, Hugh Bancroft, Hugh Johnson, Robert Johnson, and William Holt.—Assault.

346 Ralph Byrne v Sir John Savage, &c.—Death of T. Graunge by violence.

XXV. 18. William Bryndley v Thomas Fulshurst.—Land commission (interrogatory and report).

43 Hugh Starky v Philip Eggerton, Robert Maynwaryng, Edward Brereton, Lancelotte Wodhall, &c.—Assault.

97. John Fleetwood and others v Lawrence Rostorne, John Milner, and John Forrester.—A common within the lordship of Hooton.

149. Edward Plankney v Hugh Ley clerk, Robert Ensedale, Gryffyth Emfelde, &c.—A barn (bill wanting).

158 Robert Fletcher v John Geynes and Richard Garrett.—Perjury in a Chancery suit for the manor of Sutton and the tithe of Bromborrow.

166. John Arrowsmith and Katharine, his wife, v John Davenport, father and son.—Murder of plaintiff's son Oliver while serving as a soldier in Ireland and subsequent maintenance (bill in draft).

225. John Brereton v Lawrence Rawlynson, William Grymsdych, William Hesketh, Nicholas Brame, &c.—Riot (bill wanting).

XXVI. 18. Portion of depositions relating to the murder of one Otuell by John Janyns in the monastery of Combermere.

46. David Massey v William Glasier and Alexander Cootes.—Removal of plaintiff from office of coroner.

126. Alice Moorton, widow, v Richard Goldborne.—Detention of corn at Odd Rode (remainder in XVIII., 42).

258. John Falows v John Stubbes, Humphrey Alen, &c.—Drowning of Humphrey Falows in a pond at Hanbury.

278. William Radclyffe v Edmund Savage, Thomas Parsons, Richard Radclyffe, and Michael Legh.—A close called Horse Hey Meadow in Macclesfield.

370 Alice Swetman, late wife of Lawrence Swetman v The Sheriff of Chester and Sir William Brereton.—Escape of murderers of said Lawrence (see XVII., 185 and 227, and XXIV., 434).

407. Richard Roo v Hugh Dampore, John Ryle, Roger Brewster, Humphrey Legh, and William Ratclyffe.—Riotous assembly at Macclesfield.

(To be continued.)

[844] CHESTER AT THE REVOLUTION. I.

The following abstracts of letters from Thomas Kenyon to his father Roger, printed by the Historical Manuscripts Commission (14th Report, Appendix iv.—Lord Kenyon's MSS.), are interesting as shewing the condition of public affairs in Chester and the county at the Revolution.

(720) Chester, 5 Feb., 1689-90.

It was on Monday last I received the news of my Lord Derby's appointing Mr. Arthur Bennett (our Attorney Bennett's younger brother) his Deputy Bailiff Itinerant for Cheshire, allowing him for his services £30 a year. We have little news now in Chester besides the adjournment of the Parliament till 22 April, and a great expectancy of seeing the King here ere long, in his passage for Ireland; whether it is real or a State trick to make soldiers come in faster, I must leave to wiser heads.

(724) Chester, 19 March, 1689-90.

The election of members for the ensuing Parliament of this city began Monday morning last and continued till near 7 at night, at which time, proclamation being thrice made by the Common Crier of the court that "if any freemen of this city were yet to vote let them come forth, the Sheriffs would take their poll, otherwise the books would be closed"; but none answering the court adjourned till nine next day to give judgment; about which hour the court sat again and several candidates attended, both sides having raked together the small remainder of freemen which had not voted the preceding day. Upon the first meeting Colonel Whitby and Alderman Mainwaring demanded the poll for some of their party, which the said Sheriff refused, answering that having caused proclamation to be made the day before (as aforesaid) and none appearing the Court was adjourned to this time and place to inspect the books and give judgment, pursuant to which he was resolved to take no more votes of either side; in whose judgment Sir Thomas Grosvenor and Leeving (unwilling to give the court further trouble, though they had as strong a party in readiness) acquiesced. The other Sheriff (who is supposed to have been tampered with) resolved to make difference, protested his brother's proceedings, but being hastily asked again of them and surprised for want of sufficient instructions what to say, was at a loss for an answer. By and by a paper was put into his hands to read; but not used much to writing was consequently as unready as afore in speaking, but clapping it into a young clerk's hand at his elbow, made him his deputy *pro tempore* and desired him to read it for him, who instantly begins—The protestation of Mr. Sheriff's brother; at which the head sheriff (Mr. Partington) commands

him silence, who not readily obeying was forced from his standing by the Sheriffs' officers. Sir John Mainwaring (present at the election) takes the paper together with his office out of his hand and gets up to read it, but the noise of the rabble's continued shouting prevented. Some time after, silence being made, the books were openly inspected and the Sheriff declared

Alderman Mainwaring	457
Colonel Whitby	483
Mr. Leeving	494
Sir Thomas [Grosvenor]	498

and then adjourned to the Pentice to seal and sign the indentures; which being accordingly done by the Mayor, Aldermen, &c., and affixed to the Chamberlain's mandate, endorsed with the Sheriffs' return, was by the head Sheriff (the usual and proper officer) delivered into the Seal-keeper's hands, whose office it is to return together with the indenture the original writ out of Chancery before directed to the Chamberlain, with the Sheriffs' answer to him endorsed, affixed thereto; which was by him accordingly done and delivered to the hands of the chief member elect, by him to be returned above. . . . Sir Thomas, Mr. Leeving, and (I hear just now) my Lord Cholmondeley are on their way already to London. The election for the county is not yet over, but I suppose may end to-night in disfavour of Sir Philip [? Egerton].

(To be continued.)

JUNE 10, 1903.

NOTES.

[845] THE MANOR OF LITTLE CALDY IN WIRRAL IN 1453-4. III.

(See Nos. 825 and 836.)

From the second entry under Thomas Letyll's holding the position of the Rake will be gathered. Croft Melayne, now divided into Lower and Higher Croft Mellon lies to the north of the lane leading down from the Caldý Road to the old Wharf and Lime Kiln, therefore it is evident that this is the lane then known as the Rake.

The Long Londe is the field lying at the extreme northern boundary of the township stretching down to the Bank from the Caldý Road.

The Buck Greves (Bukke Greuys) or the Buck Ditches as we should call it, is as yet unidentified.

The Elbowys, was evidently a bent piece of land like an elbow.

The Mere way is another puzzle. There is a field on the south of the road leading from Frankby two hundred yards east of the Thurstaston footpath stile called the Mare Hey, which may be a clue as to the position.

Wymbulys Dyche is interesting as preserving an old English name, which we get in other places in Cheshire, e.g. Wimbolds Trafford.

The Kyngs Londe. There are two references to this "land." It may have been the central land from which the others radiated. The phrase "capital headland" and "capital land" occur in other documents of the period.

To get some idea of the size of Little Caldý a few years subsequent to this it may not be out of place to print a list of names drawn from two Subsidy Rolls (Lay Subsidy, Cheshire, 85/15) dated 1544 and 1545.

Hugh Pemberton.	Roger Curtise.
James Colley.	William Wauerton.
William Ledsham.	Thomas Whitmore Senior.
Thomas Hogg.	Thomas Whitmore Junior.
John Totty.	Christopher Johnson.
Thomas Brabon.	William Holland.
Richard Andrew.	Ralph Whyttell.
Thomas Coventry.	William Andrew.

In this list we see some of the names from the rental reappearing, the bearers probably being grandchildren or even great-grandchildren of those in the earlier list.

WM. FERGUSSON IRVINE.

THOMAS LETYLL holds one messuage and Holleys, one londe in Crofte Melayne [E. & W.—W. W. on S. T. N. on N.]

One halland in the same [E. & W.—T. N. on N. & the Rake on the S.]

One halland in the Medylfylde [E. & W.—W. W. on both sides.]

One Butt in the Wet Reynys [E. & W.—T. N. on S. & W. W. on N.]

One halland undyr the Kyrke Crosse [E. & W.—W. W. on N., H. E. on S.]

One halland undyr the Crosse [E. & W.—W. W. on N. & H. E. on S.]

One londe in the Hordeways Endys [N. & S.—W. W. on the W., T. N. on E.]

Two hallandes schotyng upon the Mylne Way [E. & W.—W. W. on N., & H. E. on S.]

Six hallandes & one londe togedyr in the Medo Sych [E. & W.—W. W. on N., T. N. on S.]

One londe in the Goslonde & a Pyke [E. & W.—W. W. on N., T. N. on S.]

Two hallandes at the Fyrre Whyttfylde [E. & W.—W. W. on N., T. N. on S.]

One londe in the Hedyr Whyttfylde [S. E. & N. W.—W. W. on E., T. N. on W.]

One hallande in the Grede Buttes [E. & W.—T. N. on both sides.]

One hadlande in the Grede Buttes that the Wraglandes schotyn apon [E. & S. W.]

One hallande in the Wranglandes [N. W. & S. E. W. W. on both sides.]

One londe in the Long Furlong [N. E. & S. W.—W. W. on N., T. N. on S.]

One londe in the Long Furlong [N. E. & S. W.—W. W. on both sides.]

One hadlande in the Bukke Greuys [N. & S.—W. W. on E., T. N. on W.]

One hadlonde by the Syre Hallandes [E. & W. T. N. on S., H. E. on N.]

One hadlonde that the Wrangolondes schotyng on [E. & W.—W. W. on N., H. E. on S.]

One hallande in the Elbowys [N. & S. E.—W. W. on E. & H. E. on S.]

Two hallandes in the Astansyche [E. & W.]

Another hallande in the same place [E. & W.—W. W. on S. & T. N. on N.]

One londe in the Bake Bredes [N. & S.—W. W. on W. & T. N. on E.]

One londe in the Sowteralonde [E. & W.—H. E. on S. & T. N. on N.]

One hallande undyr Kneckyn [E. & W.—W. W. on both sides].

Another hallande undyr Kneckyn [E. & W.—W. W. on both sides].

Ye Dale Hadelonde [E. & W.] A fyshe yorte to the same.

This is the holdy'g of Thoms. Lytell and reddit per annum xijs.

WILLIAM BROWN holds one messuage and one hadlonde and a ferthyng in the Bonke londe [N. & S.]

One hallonde in the Gorst Bottes [E. & W.]

One hallonde under the Kyrke Crosse [E. & W.]

One hallonde lying by the Rake [E. & W.—W. W. on one side & E on other].

One But in the Wette Reynes Fylde.

A butt in the Wro [N. & S. Between H. E. & W. W.]

One londe by the Mere Way [E. & W.—The Mere Way on the one side, W. on other.]

A hallonde on the Kneckyn [E. & W.—W. W. on both sides].

Another hallonde under Kneckyn [E. & W.—W. W. on both sides].

Three hallandes callyt Emokes Hallandes lying be Thurstanton Way side, Whitmore's londe on the other syde.

One hadlonde in the Firre Whytfylde.

One londe in the Camben [N. & S.—W. W. on both sides].

Camben hadlonde [E. & W. between Norres and Whitmore].

One halland by the Camben Hadelonde [between Norres and Whitmore].

The smalle londe [N. & S.—W. W. on both sides].

One longe londe leyinge in The Longe Londes [between Norres and Whitmore].

One hallande in the Longe Londes [between T. N. & W. W.]

A bryche hallonde [E. & W.—W. W. on both sides].

One londe in Longe Furlonge [W. W. on both sides].

Three buttes at Wymbulys dyche, the Gorst Hey on one syde [W. W. on the other].

One long londe in the Fyrre Whitfelde [W. on both sides].

One londe in the Hedyr Whitfelde [W. on both sides].

One hallonde in the Dyohe Hallandes [E. & W.]

One Port Way Butt [E. & W.—W. W. or both].

One other Port Way Butt [E. & W. between W. W. & H. E.]

One [sic] at the Wyt Haves [T. N. & W. W.]

One hallande in the Assan Syche [E. & W.—T. N. on both].

One hallande in Wakyr fede [E. & W.—W. W. on both sides].

A but by the He Way [E. & W.—W. W. & H. E.]

A londe by the Brode Rene [W. W. on both sides].

This is the holdyng of Willm. Brown

Et reddit p. Ann. xijs.

JENKYNE BROWNE holds one messuage, one halland at the White Haves [E. & W.—W. W. on both].

One londe in Tarlarane [E. & W.—W. on both]

One hallande in Tarlarane [" "]

Nine buttes schottyng to the Bonke at end of Tarlarane [W. W. & T. N.]

Two hallandes at the White Haves [W. W. on N.—T. N. on S.]

One other londe at the Wette Haves [W. W. on both].

A lyttell pyke in the Wett Haves [E. & W.—W. W. on both].

One londe in the Kynge londe [W. W. & H. E.]

One hallande at the Townys Ende callyt the Wro. [N. & S.—W. W. on both].

One other hallande lying in the Wro [N. & S.]

One hallonde under the Kneckyn [E. & W.—W. W. on both].

One hallonde by the Mere Way [W. W. on one. The Mere Way on the other].

One hallande within the Mere Fylde schottyng on Mabels Fylde [W. W. & T. N.]

One other hallande schottinge on Mabels Fylde [T. N. & W. W.]

One hallande at The Boke Greues [N. & S.—T. N. on both].

One other " by " " [N. & S.] (three times in all).

Five Bottes with the Hadelonde at the Cornelle of Caldý Hey.

One londe callyt The Dyche londe [E. & W.—W. W. on both].

One Port Way Butt [E. & W.—T. N. & W. W.]

This is the holdyng of Jenkin Browne

et reddit per Ann. viijs.

JOHANNES GOLDYNGE holds one messuage and three butts in the Wro [E. & W.—W. W. on both].

One londe in Emmokes londe [E. & W.—W. W. on both].

One londe in Emmokes londe by Thurstanton Way.

One londe in Emmokes londe by Thurstanton Way T. N., the Way on the other]

One Pyke by Enmots londe syde in the Haywode [E. & W.]

One hadlonde at Emmokes londe ende the Souters
londe schottynge apon Leys northe & southe.

One hallande in the Boke Greues [W. W. & T. N.]

One londe in The Bake Brede [H. E. & T. N.]

One londe in Tarlarone schottinge on the Bonke
Hey.

One hallonde in Croft Melayne schottynge on the
Se Bonke [T. N. & H. E.]

This is the holdynge off John Goldynge
et reddit per Ann: vjs. iiijd.

LAURANCE BEKESTAT holds one messuage & a
croft at the Bowrys Ende. Whitmer on ayther
syde.

This is the holdynge of the said Laurence
et reddit: per Ann: ijs.

[Different hand] S'ma totalis of Caldye iijli.
xiijs. iiijd.

Solde Caldey by me William Norres Kt. to
Jon Wittmore in ano. xxxv. H. viij. for a
C. pondes starlynge [£100 sterling] w'th alle
hits app'tef.

[846] CHESTER AT THE REVOLUTION. II.

(See No. 844.)

The second of the following letters is a curious
example of economical loyalty; it shows also the
lack of skill of Chester embroiderers at that time.

(726) Chester, 29 March, 1690.

We have no news from Ireland since the last
account of 8,000 French that landed. Sir James
Poole is already secured by order of Council and
committed for high treason; it is reported some
others are in danger to undergo the same fate.

(734) Chester, 17 May, 1690.

My Lord [Derby] designed to wait on the King at
Chester as chamberlain of this county and "for
that end commanded me to get a new purse made,
bearing their present Majesties' arms and cipher."
Has consulted "the upholsterers here and several
others the best artists in embroidery Chester affords
who unanimously agree that the old one is a piece not
to be sampled in this town; the goodness of the work
. . . richness of the material, not being here
to be met with. . . Those friends who have
seen the old one, and with whom I have advised,
considering the work is but little decayed—except
the ground upon which the motto is wrought—have
persuaded me to have that taken out and a new one
laid on; the which is very sensible, and with alter-
ing the cipher and setting new tassels to, will (it is
not doubted) render the whole very sumptuous and
gay." Desires to know his Lordship's pleasure; if
a new one is required it must be prepared in London,
"Chester not being able to afford it." . . . Its
make "is the same with that carried before the
Chancellor of England, bearing the arms of England
in embroidery and the cipher of their Majesties,
viz. W M [interlaced] in the upper part on one side
the arms and R R [interlaced] on the other side."

QUERY.

[847] THE TITHE BARN OF BOUGHTON.

Is it known where this Tithe barn stood? By a
Lease, dated 28th November, 1631, a copy of which
is in one of the old Chapter books, the Deane and
Chapter, for the sum of £15 a year let to Edward
Russell—

"All that their tyth Barne of Boughton Scituate
standing and being in Great Boughton within the
County of Chester and Comonly Called or knowne
by the name of the Tyth Barne of Boughton, and all
the tyths of Corne Graine and hay within the
Townshipp of Boughton aforesaid or any wise
coming growing and renewing within the sd. Town-
shipp or the fields limits and precincts or Tythable
places of the same, and also all grounds Curtilages
yards backside Services Liberties Rights Priviledges
Customes profits Easements Comodities and Here-
ditam'ts whatsoever to the tyths and tyth barne of
Boughton aforesaid or either of them lying belong-
ing or in any wise appertaining, or had used occupied
or enjoyed or Accustomed to bee had and perceived
at any tyme herefore to or with the said tyth and
Barne or either of them, together with free Ingate.
Outgate, and liberall passage, as wall for Carts
Waines and horses as for people on horseback or on
foot to and from the said Barne and other the
premises at all tymes whatsoever."

E. C. L.

JUNE 17, 1903.

NOTES.

[848] ACTON AND BUNBURY.

The volume issued by the Camden Society,
Miscellany, vol. X., 1902, contains two very
amusing stories told in Sir Roger Wilbraham's
Journal relating to Acton and Bunbury that are
worthy to be garnered in the "Cheshire Sheaf."
They are dated 1600, and are as follows:—

"Sir Rendell Brereton [second son of John
Brereton of Eccleston and Wettenhall, and
admitted to Gray's Inn in 1553] told that one asked
the vicar of Acton [John Lowe, 1559-1601] when he
wold bestow a wief on him that he might geve him
thanks: Since I live by the fruites of my benefice, &
have married 1000 coples in this parishe; not one
that ever came to geve me thanks."

"1600 Contencion devant evesque de Chester
[Richard Vaughan 1597-1604]: enter Sir Georg
Beston [who died in 1601 aged 102, his monumental
effigy is still in Bunbury Church] & Mr.
[Christopher] Harvy, preacher de Bunbury
[1594-1601] pur removing de pulpit: et Harvy
excuse ceo: disant il prit cold in le pulpit pur ceo
state inter dua patia. Beston replie, "My
lord, this is an idle excuse; for it was never hard
that a zelous preacher ever toke cold in the pulpit."

JAMES HALL.

Lindum House, Nantwich.

[849] AN EARLY BEBINGTON CHARTER.

The following abstract of a charter relating to land at Poulton Lancelyn in Bebington Parish is from the Aston Hall muniments. The date is probably about 1260. The charter is of great interest as it throws some fresh light on the early steps of an important Cheshire pedigree—that of the Lancelyns of Poulton Lancelyn, ancestors of the Greenes of that place. The grantor in this charter, William Lancelyn, married Agnes, a daughter and co-heir of Richard de Kingsley, forester of Mara and Mondrem; it is also recorded that during the reign of Henry III. he confirmed to the Abbey of St. Werburgh the donations of his ancestors. The fishery referred to would no doubt be on the shore of the River Mersey.

HISTORICUS.

Sciunt etc. William Launcelin son of Robert Launcelin grants to Joan [Johanna] sister of grantor and her heirs four bovates of land in the vill of Pulton Launcelin, viz. those two bovates which Robert son of Sywerethe held and those two bovates which Robert son of Gilbert held and one messuage [messuagium] which Griffin son of Austin [Augustinus] held in the same vill, with toft and croft and a certain fishery and with all that land which the said Griffin held with all appurtenances etc. To hold of grantor as freely etc. as in that charter which the grantee had from Robert, grantor's father, of the said land and tenements. Witnesses: Richard le Coudrey, Adam le Preers [p'ers], Richard clerk of Pulford, William Walsh [Walensis], Bernard Walsh [Walensis], Henry his brother, William of Prenton [de Preampton], Ralph of Pulford, Simon of Haregreve, William the clerk and others.

[On a red silk tab, a small round seal in green wax, a bird walking to dexter one wing expanded—probably a conventional eagle. Legend + S' WILELI LAVNCELIN].

[850] THE DEE MILLS.

The lease of the tithes of Dee Mills which follows differs but little from that of 1553 which was published in the "Sheaf" in 1883 (No. 1995) except that the old accustomed yearly rent of £9 has fallen to £5, and is to be paid half-yearly instead of quarterly as formerly. More interesting is the Petition to the King (Charles II.) with reference to the damage done to the "Cawsey" in the Siege of Chester. It is copied into an old Book containing copies of leases by the Dean and Chapter.

LEASE OF YE TYTH OF DEE MILLES.

This Indenture made the five and twentieth day of February in the fourteenth yeare of the reigne of our Sovereigne Lord Charles the Second, by the grace of God of England, Scotland, France and Ireland King defender of the faith &c. Betweene Henry Bridgeman Doctor of divinity Deane of the Cathedrall Church of Christ and blessed Mary the virgin in Chester, and the Chapter of the same

Church of the one parte, and John Brerewood of the City of Chester Esq. of the other part. Witnesseth that the said Deane and Chapter by and with their owne assents consents and agreements Have demysed granted & to farme lett and by these p'nts do demyse grant & to farme lett unto the said John Brerewood As well all & all manner of their tythes of all kynd of graines corne & Malt to the said Deane and Chapter in out and from Certaine Milles in Chester Com'only called Dee Milles Comeing growing rising being due and appertaining or belonging, as also all and all manner of their tyths of fish wch. hereafter shall or may happen to bee taken in the Cage, and in a Certaine poole called the Kings poole or within the water of Dee aforessaid To have and to hold the said tyths of all kynd of graines cornes malt and fish wth. the appurtenances to the said John Brerewood his Executors Administrators and Assignes from the date herof for by during & untill the full end & terme of One and twenty yeares thence next ensuing and fully to bee compleate and ended. Yeilding and paying therefore yearly during the said terme to the said Deane and Chapter their Successors and Assignes the old accustomed yearly rent of five pounds of lawfull mony of England at the feasts of the Nativity of St. John Baptist and the Nativity of our Savio'r Christ by even portions &c.

TO YE KINGS MOST EXCELLENT MA'TIE.

Most dread soveraigne

Wee y'r ma'ties most humble & loyall subjects ye Mayor & Aldermen of your City of Chester together w't ye Justices of peace within ye same City do humbly certify that the Cawsey in the River of Dee within the same City being the Inheritance of the Coheires of Sr. Francis Gamull Knt. & Baronett dec'd. serving amongst other things for ye bringing of water unto eleven mills (viz. six water corne mills called Dee Mills, three fishing mills and two water wheelles for ye bringing of water into the said City) is very ruinous, and was in or about ye year 1646 after ye taking of the said City by the Parliaments forces by divers persons then in armes against ye late King your Ma'ties father of pious memory contrary to the lawes of ye land in a riotous manner broken downe, and ye iron, timber stone & other materials amounting to ye value of one thousand pounds were taken and carried away without any other cause than for because that the s'd Sr. Francis during the late warres had been a Collonell & Governour of the said City of Chester by Commission from ye late King your Ma'ties father of blessed memory, and wheras ye said Dee Mills are the greatest part of the estate wch did descend unto the said coheires from the said Sr. Francis their father & were worth before ye breaking of the said Cowsey Eight hundred pounds p. ann. & upwards & now for want of repairing therof & by reason the said Coheires do pay forth of the said milnes ye yearly rent charge of

one hundred and five pounds to Mr. Cotton & his heirs and others who claime the same by grant from some of y'r Ma'ties Ancestors Kings of England the same milnes are become of no value to the said heiress so yt. by ruining of the said Cowsey they are disinherited of at least Eight hundred pounds p. ann. by means wherof & of the other great losses sustained by their said father for his faithfulness & loyalty to y'r Ma'tie as appears by the annexed particular amounting to twenty-three thousand eight hundred fifty one pounds & upwards the said coheirs are disenabled to repair the said Cowsey &c. And it doth appear unto us upon examination of Carpenters, plumbers, & masons taken at our Quarter Sessions holden att Chester for the County of the said City of Chester upon ye 14th day of July in the 15th year of your Ma'ties reigns who have viewed the said Cowsey & the ruines thereof that it will cost at least 8000l. to reedify & repaire ye same, w'ch wee most humbly offer & present to y'r Ma'ties pious and gracious consideration remaining y'r Ma'ties most humble & loyall subjects

RICHARD BROSTER Major

Taken att ye Quarter Sessions holden att ye City of Chester for ye County of the same City the 14th day of July in the 15th year of the Kings Ma'ties reigns that nowe is.

Rt: LEUNGE Rec.
THO: THROPPE
ROBERT HARVEY
THOMAS COWPER
WILLIAM INCE
WILLIAM CROMPTON
RICHARD BYRD
ARTHUR WALLEY

E. C. L.

[851] RUNCORN AS A HEALTH RESORT.

In a contribution to the "Gentleman's Magazine" for March, 1824 (p. 210), Runcorn is said to be "called the Montpellier of Manchester, and whence the invalids of that town resort for health."

STAR.

[852] TOMBSTONES AND REGISTERS.

The "Anthem and Dagdale Bells," chained books and "Restorations" (No. 646) remind me of an old gravestone formerly in Frodsham Church-yard, up to the year 1845-6. It was inscribed to the Memory of "Dame Margery Knowles de Helleby, aged 107 years"; and whose remains by the Parish Registers, were buried on the 13th March, 1694-5, in the name of "Margaret Knowles of Helleby." She was therefore born in the reign of Elizabeth, A.D. 1587-8. But, there is no record of her baptism in the registers—which, however, is not surprising, since nearly all register entries from as early as 1558 (the last year of Q. Mary, to which these register-books go), up to 1600, were merely transcripts—as was customary in numerous parishes—from either paper mem. books, or scraps of paper, made, at the time of interment, by the clergyman who took the duty, or by the parish clerk, or sexton.

This centenarian Margery or Marjerie Helleby, was sister of Dorothy Helleby, of Chorleton, in Backford parish (who made a very brief and very

curious will), and of Brydgett Helleby—daughters of Randal or Randle Helleby, of Helleby, generous, by Joan or Jane his wife, daughter and heir of Edward Stanley, of Hooton, generous, by his wife Anne Mainwaringe. On the lineage-roll of Helleby, 1645, edited by Dr. Howard, LL.D. in the 'sixties, Challoner, the herald painter and genealogist, names only one "Margery," who was "born in June 1581, and died 18 Aug. 1590." This, therefore, must relate to the "death" of some other Margery; if "1581" is a correct date and related to Margery Knowles, she would be 113 years old, instead of 107, if the date of her burial (1694) is correct.

Tradition painted her as remarkable for three things—her beauty of person, her elopement with the son of an ancient yeoman family: the Knowles' of Helleby, and her survival, as his widow, for 90 years!

But, as to the pedigrees, there is another discrepancy; for, in even the fullest enrolments, her marriage is unmentioned. There is, however, an entry I find, on the Roll, of the marriage of one who would be her grand-uncle, viz. John Helleby of Acton (7 Hen. VIII.), to a "Margery, daughter of . . . Knowles, gen.," in about A.D. 1540-50, perhaps—and this is the only mention of one of the name of Knowles.

But, poor Margery's tombstone, which is the occasion of this note, used to be visited frequently by many strangers to the locality; and the writer, in early youth, was also informed, by a lady who, with her sister, had been a pupil of Miss or Mrs. Allen (the principal of a long-established 'Ladies Boarding-School' of considerable local celebrity, situated not far from the church), that the new pupils used always to be taken down to see the tombstone; and that she "often saw it herself" in 1845-6, when she would be about 16 years old.

The situation of the inscribed flagstone was at the westerly, or south-westerly, corner of the church tower. In 1852-3, on another visit to the neighbourhood, I found the tombstone, like poor old Margery herself, departed. In 1868, I enquired of old Sam Aston, clerk and sexton, when and whither the stone had 'departed.' But he was ignorant of its ever having had an existence!

DUCKWOOD.

JUNE 24, 1903.

NOTES.

[853] THE SIEGE OF CHESTER.

(Continued from 812.)

The following from Harl. MS. 2135 is a further instalment of the list of householders in Chester, with their supplies of food just before the end of the siege.

ST. OSWALD'S WARD.

Mr. Thos: Watt, 8 in famely, 1 souldier, 6 mesures of meale, wheate and rye, 1 mesure of wheate, 3 mesures of barley and beanes.

Mrs. Burrowes and her Sonne, 9 in fam.; $1\frac{1}{2}$ m. wheate, $1\frac{1}{2}$ m. meale.

Will: Jones, 2 in fam.; $\frac{1}{2}$ m. meale.

Thos: Evans, 4 in fam.; 1 souldier, 1 m. corne.

Edw: Kinsey, 8 in fam.; $1\frac{1}{2}$ m. wheate, 1 m. meale, 3 peckes beanes.

Mich: Tarleton, 3 in fam.; 1 souldier, 4 m. rye, 1 m. wheate, $1\frac{1}{2}$ m. meale, 1 pecke beanes.

Widow Johnson, 2 in fam.; 1 pecke meale.

Will: Locker, 6 in fam.; 1 m. meale.

Will: Edge, 3 in fam.; $\frac{1}{2}$ m. wheate.

Widow Robynson, 3 in fam.; 1 pecke meale.

Rich: Darowe, 3 in fam.; 2 quarts wheat, 1 loafe bread.

Widow Totty, 12 in fam.; 4 souldiers, $3\frac{1}{2}$ m. meale, $\frac{1}{2}$ m. wheate.

Widow Crogston, 9 in fam.; 2 m. meale.

John Manley, 7 in fam.; 3 m. meale.

Cha: Farington, 9 in fam.; 3 souldiers, 1 pecke wheate, 2 m. meale.

John Whittel, 6 in fam.; 1 souldier, $\frac{1}{2}$ m. barley.

Mat: Starkey, 3 in fam.; noe corne.

Mr. Bridges, 17 in fam.; 1 mesure rye.

Widow Deane, 3 in fam.; $\frac{1}{2}$ m. meale.

Randell Walker, 5 in fam.; 1 m. corne.

Widow Newport, 4 in fam.; noe corne.

Mr. Geo: Bennett, 5 in fam.; 1 souldier, 3 m. barley and beanes.

John Wright, 5 in fam.; noe corne.

Thos: Hickes, 12 in fam.; 4 souldiers, 2 m. wheate, 2 m. rye, 2 m. barley, 4 m. meale.

Widow Whitby, 5 in fam.; 8 souldiers, $9\frac{1}{2}$ m. meale, 5 m. rye, 3 great loafes of bread.

Rand: Bennett, 7 in fam.; 3 souldiers, 2 m. meale, 1 pecke flowre, 2 loafes bread.

Mr. Phillips, 22 in fam.; 3 souldiers, 16 m. rye, 1 m. wheate, $\frac{1}{2}$ m. meale.

And: Minshull, 5 in fam.; 2 souldiers, 1 m. corne.

Rich: Roberts, 4 in fam.; 2 souldiers, 2 m. meale, 1 pecke wheate.

Will: Davies, 5 in fam.; 1 souldier, 1 m. corne.

Will: Skellington, 4 in fam.; 1 m. meale.

Mrs. Gwynn, 2 in fam.; 1 pecke meale.

Ellyn Malpas, 3 in fam.; $1\frac{1}{2}$ m. corne.

Mrs. Prichard, 7 in fam.; 2 m. meale.

Richard Ormestone and Rich: Wade, 9 in fam.; noe corne.

Widow Leckenbye, 6 in fam.; 2 souldiers, 1 m. meale, 1 m. beanes.

Tho: Tompson, 6 in fam.; 3 souldiers, $\frac{1}{2}$ m. beanes, 1 great loafe bread.

John Taylor, 10 in fam.; 1 souldier, 2 m. meale, 1 great loafe.

George Blynston, 4 in fam.; $\frac{1}{2}$ m. meale.

Mark Bunttinge, 6 in fam.; noe corne.

George Pemberton, 4 in fam.; $\frac{1}{2}$ m. meale.

Thos: Deanes wife, 5 in fam.; 1 souldier, 1 great loafe, 1 m. meale.

Daniell Allen, 8 in fam.; 1 souldier, 5 m. meale, 2 great loafes.

Widow Lyndall, 4 in fam.; 2 souldiers, 4 m. corne, 1 m. meale.

Will: Leighe, 6 in fam.; 2 m. meale.

Widow Croughton, 6 in fam.; 5 peckes meale.

John Cowdocks, 2 in fam.; noe corne.

James Pale, 2 in fam.; 1 pecke corne.

Widow Greene, 6 in fam.; $\frac{1}{2}$ m. meale, 2 great loafes.

Mrs. Bennett, 7 in fam.; 1 souldier, $1\frac{1}{2}$ m. wheate and rye, 1 m. meale.

Rand: Ince, 4 in fam.; 2 souldiers, 2 m. wheate, 3 m. 1 pk. meale.

Widow Gregorye, 10 in fam.; 7 souldiers, 2 m. meale.

Mr. Warburton, 17 in fam.; 4 m. corne, 3 m. meale.

Will: Selsbye, 8 in fam.; 3 souldiers, 2 m. 1 pk. meale, 1 m. beanes.

Widow Kinge, 6 in fam.; 2 souldiers, 4 m. wheate.

John Bennye, 2 in fam.; noe corne.

Will: Kinge, 11 in fam.; 2 m. meale.

John Whitby, 7 in fam.; 2 m. meale, 1 pecke beanes.

Mr. Williams, 3 in fam.; no corne.

Mrs. Anion, 14 in fam.; 2 souldiers, 16 m. rye, 1 m. wheate, 3 m. meale.

Thos: Throppe, 3 in fam.; 3 souldiers, 1 m. meale.

Will: Kinge, butcher, 8 in fam.; 3 souldiers, 3 m. meale, 1 m. beanes.

Edw: Mercer, 6 in fam.; 2 souldiers, 2 m. meale.

John Gough, 10 in fam.; 1 souldier, 5 m. meale, $\frac{1}{2}$ m. wheate, 1 m. beanes.

Thos: Jones, 5 in fam.; $1\frac{1}{2}$ m. beanes, 3 peckes meale.

John Hartt, 7 in fam.; noe corne.

Widow Cook, 7 in fam.; 1 m. meale.

Will: Allen, 11 in fam.; 4 souldiers, 5 m. meale, $\frac{1}{2}$ m. beanes, 1 pecke wheate, 1 pecke flowre.

Sam: Partridge, 3 in fam.; 1 m. meale.

Ohrist: Mottram, 4 in fam.; 1 pecke meale, 2 quarts beans.

John Ireland, 10 in fam.; 4 m. corne, 1 m. meale.

Mr. Smith, 3 in fam.; 1 souldier, 1 m. meale.

Perigrine Leighton, 5 in fam.; 5 loafes bread, $\frac{1}{2}$ pecke beanes.

Widow Esome, 4 in fam.; 1 pecke meale, 1 great loafe.

Will: Cowdocks, 3 in fam.; 2 peckes corn, 1 great loafe.

Thos: Jones, 7 in fam.; 1 souldier, 2 m. meale, 1 m. corne

Jo: Hickson, 9 in fam.; 1 pecke corne.

Jo: Hallwoode, 5 in fam.; 2 peckes meale.

Will: Maylor, 3 in fam.; 2 peckes meale.

Thos: Bradborne, 5 in fam.; 2 peckes corne, 1 great loafe

Robert Ensdel, 2 in fam.; 1 great loafe.

Thos: Jones, junr., 2 in fam.; 1 pecke wheate.

Will: Coxe, 5 in fam.; 1 m. 2 pks. meale.
 Robt: Mouson, 5 in fam.; noe corne.
 James Ball, 6 in fam.; 2 m. corne, 1 m. meale.
 In the Bishop's Kitchen, 24 in famelye, noe corne.
 Bryon Crosson, 6 in fam.; noe corne.
 Widow Wright, 3 in fam.; noe corne.
 John Barlowe, 5 in fam.; 1 m. corne, 1 great loafe.
 Mary Mason, 2 in fam.; 1 great loafe.
 Rich: Yardlaw, 2 in fam.; noe corne.
 Will: Williams, 2 in fam.; noe corne.
 Widow Bell, 6 in fam.; 1½ peckes corne.
 Robt: Skellington, 10 in fam.; 2 m. corne.
 Will: Boswell, 7 in fam.; 1 m. beanes.
 Thos: Wright, 7 in fam.; noe corne.
 Mr. Sudden, 12 in fam.; 3 m. meale.
 Mr. Packe, 5 in fam.; 3 peckes corne.
 Mr. Tilston, 3 in fam.; 1 souldier, 1 pecke corne
 Pet: Stringer, 6 in fam.; 1 m. corne.
 John Pollkington, 2 in fam.; noe corne.
 John Taylor, 3 in fam.; 1 m. beanes.
 Mrs. Bispham, 3 in fam.; 1 souldier, 2 peckes
 meale.

There is a note on the back of the last folio as follows:—

119 mesures of Corne in ye whole warde whereof
 20 ms. already given to Richard Deane, Baker, soe
 rests 99 ms. to be distributed as infra:

Col. Wynne.

Hugh Croupe	} for 21 mesures
Randall Dod	
Richard Deane	
Thomas Throppe..	for 27 ms.
Rich: Hickoke ...	for 5 ms.
Widow Kinge.....	} for 26 ms.
William Kinge ...	

Col. Mostin.

Raph Lee.....	} for 25 ms.
Thomas Lee	
Richard Walton...	
Raph Moss	for 15 ms.

119 ms.

G. P. G.

(To be continued.)

[854] WICH-HOUSE LEAD AT NANTWICH, 1662.

(See No. 842.)

I have before me a copy of lease made 26th April, 1662, between the Dean and Chapter of Chester and William Jollife, Citizen and Merchant of London, in which, amongst other properties, they demise

"All that their wiche house of three bayes of building and twelve leades walling together wth a little parcell of ground thereunto belonging situate ...in Nampwich."

This Lease, it will be noticed, is not quite three months later than "Jo: Tench his Book of Walling." This wiche-house apparently conformed to "ye usage of 4 Pannes in a house."

E. C. L.

[855] STAR CHAMBER CASES FROM CHESHIRE. VII.
 (See No. 843.)

XXVII. 116. John, earl of Oxford, v Thomas Smyth, mayor of Chester.—Assault on John Davy, nominated by plaintiff as mayor's serjeant at Chester. (Bill addressed to the Chancellor.)

121. Thomas Voudray v James Massie.—Riot about turbary at Sale.

XXVIII. 12. Anne Massey and Magdalena, her daughter, v Roger Massey, Thomas Salisbury, George Calverley, &c.—Manors of Edgerley, Carden, Horton, &c. (portions of two suits).

14. John Masey, searcher of Chester.—Information against William Goodman, John Detwerto, and Richard Bunbury for shipments of goods contrary to the proclamation, with answer from the first.

24. Same.—Information as to exports of grain and malt by Richard Shepparde, John Hynde, &c., contrary to the proclamation.

29. James Massey v Richard Barlowe, James Barlowe, Richard Spencer, Thomas Harrall, Thomas Robertson, &c.—Seizure of 200 loads of dung at Sale.

33. Roger Mason v Humphrey Owen and Anne, his wife.—Appeal against a decree of the Star Chamber as to lands in Beechin, made in default of plaintiffs appearance.

39. John Aldersey v Sir John Fello, parson of Coddington, Thomas Hethe, &c.—Forcible entry and assault at Middle Aldersey.

43. Hugh Newton v Thomas Stapleton, senr., Thomas Stapleton, junr., Humphrey Kyrke, Lawrence Bradeley, Henry Wood, and Oliver Greyves.—Forcible entry and ouster from the manor of Lostock.

64. Sir William Stanley, Sir John Massey, and Thomas Ireland v William Wyllyamson, Richard Broscowe, John Teylute, and Thomas Wyllyamson.—Forcible entry and seizure of turf, &c., at Nether Bebington.

66. James Massey v William Barlow, Roger Whytlegg, Richard Barlow, Ralph Devyas, Robert Thomasyn, Sir Edward Fitton, &c.—Forcible entry, seizure of corn, cattle, &c.; annexed is a copy of proceedings in the earlier of the suits included in No. 12.

80. Piers Masey and John Masey, his son, v Hugh Starky.—Pasture land in Monks' Coppenhall claimed by plaintiffs under a lease from defendant.

88. Robert Mores v John Holdfeld, George Grevys and Charles Alen.—Turning cattle into plaintiff's pasture at Bosley, destruction of timber, &c.

113. Edward Waren v John Johnson, William Jebson, Ralph Kelshawe, Sir William Aasheton, chaplain &c.—Destruction of hay at Poynton.

115. George Wagge v John Walche, Alice Walche, and Thomas Walche.—Assault near Smalwood.

134. Edward Warren v Randolph Wynnyngton, Nicholas Wynnyngton, Thomas Rydgeway, and John Rydgeway.—Forcible ouster from Stockport Moor, &c.

XXIX. 6. John Shore and William Shore v Hugh Dampert.—Assault at Macclesfield.

33. Richard Roo, deputy mayor of Macclesfield, v William Ratolyffe, Hugh Damperte and Thomas Clooys.—Assault at Macclesfield.

57. Hugh Typpying, parson of Ashton-on-Mersey v George Caryngton, Sir Nicholas Werberton, clerk, Peter Ryle, Thomas Ryle and John (alias Jenkin) Owen.—Forcible entry, seizure of hay, &c., at Ashton.

57. Richard Cheeshyre v Hugh Typpying.—Depositions as to a right of way at Ashton-on-Mersey (see VIII., 258).

71. George Robynson v Sir William Brereton, William Pykeryng and Philip Pykerryng.—Seizure of plaintiff's servant's horse at Malpas.

76. John Roode v Richard Grene, John Smythe, and Roger Grene.—Forcible entry at Congleton (bill wanting).

135. Lady Elizabeth Savage v Sir John Dawney, Thomas Rutter, &c.—Seizure of hay at Frodsham.

138. Edmund Savage and Mary, his wife, v William Radolyffe, Hugh Danport, John Grey (alias Jermyn), &c.—Assault and seizure of hay at Macclesfield.

- 145. Information by John Masey against Thomas Pyllyn, Henry Hokenhill, Richard Gravenour, and Edward Mynshall.—Murder of Randall Davenport and tampering with subsequent inquest.

160. Sir John Savage, Sir William Molyneux, Sir Thomas Suthworth, Richard Cholmondley and Margaret Vernon v Sir Piers Dutton, Piers Raufson, Randal Hasillhurst, Richard Gerarde, &c.—Assaults on plaintiffs' servants, &c., and destruction of a house at Dutton (see XVII., 398).

163. James Massey v Richard Hondford, William Hopwodde, &c.—Seizure of turf at Godley.

188. Sir John Savage, Anne, his wife, and Richard Cotton v Thomas Venables.—Contempt of a Star Chamber decree assigning large estate in Northwich, &c., to plaintiffs (note of defendant's examination endorsed on answer).

(To be continued.)

[856] FRODSHAM LORDSHIP. II.

(Continued from No. 807.)

"Exchequer Decrees and Orders," Book 7.—Elizabeth—p. 226. Savage v. Trafford. Frodsham.

Order :

Chester. Easter Term 24 Elizth. 14 May.

WHEREAS there is a suite depending in the Exchequer, as well by information of Intrusion preferred by Mr. Attorney [General], as by Bill exhibited by Sir John Savage, the farmer of her

Majesty's Manor of Froddesham, for and concerning two parcels of ground called Lee More and Westmore. It is Ordered that the Queen's Majesty's farmer and tenants of the Manor of Froddesham shall have the drifte of the Common according to an Order of the Star Chamber Anno 36 Hen. 8, and as hath been used for 20 years last past until the Summer now last past, at which time the inhabitants of Hellesby did disturb them contrary to the said Order and usage.

And whereas by the same Order it is appointed that all inclosures then made should be cast open, and that no other inclosures should be made. And whereas this Court is informed on her Majesty's behalfe that divers inclosures have been made by the same inhabitants of Hellesby since the beginning of the said suytes in this Courte. It is Ordered that the same shall be cast open. And that none other Moore inclosures shall be made hanging the said suyte and until further Order.

(To be continued.)

JULY 1, 1903.

NOTES.

[857]

A CHESTER POET.

The following letter from Archdeacon Wrangham (canon of Chester, 1825) to Mr. Thomas Bradford must have been very gratifying to its recipient, whose son (Mr. W. H. Bradford) has permitted its publication in the "Sheaf" :—

Chester, March 16.

My Dear Sir,—Accept my best thanks for the flattering compliment implied in the Dedication of the Martyr Student. Of its poetry—harmonious, elegant, and imaginative—you have already had my opinion, but I have not said how much you rose in my opinion by the occasional sacrifices you made to my *elder* and graver judgment. To give up a brilliant poem on the suggestion of a sober, perhaps austere, friend, is no little effort. *Experto crede*. But I think the day will come, in your riper years and higher functions, when you will find your reward.—I remain, my dear sir, very faithfully yours,

FRS. WRANGHAM.

Mr. W. H. Bradford writes : It may be noticed that the Archdeacon has not given the year in which he wrote the above letter. I think it would be in the year 1830, or thereabout.

[858]

FRODSHAM LORDSHIP. III.

(Continued from No. 856.)

Exchequer Depositions by Commission. Chester, 23 April. Elizabeth, 1581. Michaelmas Term, No. 1.

INTERROGATORIES to be ministered on behalf of our Sovereign Lady the Queen, against Sir Edmund Trafford, knight, George Beeston, Esq., William

Whitbye, and John Gerrye, Defendants, concerning the estate and interest claimed in and to certain waste and commonable ground within the parish of Froddesham.

1. Whether do you know one Shepcote builded upon Woodhouse Green within the parish of Froddesham, and the lands, Moors and Wasts hereinbefore particularly named. That is to say, Woodhouse Green, containing by estimation 60 acres; The Ridges, containing, &c., 30 acres; Depmore 80 acres; Lee More, 100 acres; Westmore, 300 acres. All which premises are lying and being within the parish of Froddesham, &c. Yea, or No. How long have you known the same.

2. Whether do you know or have heard that the lands, mores, and wasts aforementioned or any of them be the inheritance of our said Sovereign Lady the Queen's Majesty. And whether that the same or any of them be parcel of the manor or Lordship of Froddesham, having been always heretofore reputed, taken, and known as part, parcel, or member of the said Lordship or Manor. And how it has been reputed, and to be [within] the time of your remembrance. And what can you depose concerning the same.

3. Whether, &c., that the village called Woodhouses adjoining to the [land] or house called Woodhouse Green is the inheritance of our said Sovereign, &c., and in part and parcel of the Lordship or Manor of, &c.

4. Whether, &c., that the Burgesses, inhabitants, and tenants of [the Borough] of Froddesham have or heretofore during your remembrance had . . . then letten the same lands and waste called [Wood] house . . . and Westmore, without interruption of any person . . . about the 3rd yeere of King Henry the 8th . . .

5. . . . you know . . . [Defaced.]

6. [Interrog. defaced.]

7. Whether, &c., that the said [Sheepcote] is builded upon the Waste called Woodhouse Green, between the said Water called . . . and called Old Lowent [Llewellyns?] Brook, and the said Village or Hamlet called Woodhouses.

8. Whether, &c., that the tenants and inhabitants within the Lordship of F. have cropped and lopped the trees growing in and upon the same waste called W. Green, or made . . . in the same and digged and gotten turves and . . . and carried thence gorse and fern, and if you do, then who do you know or have . . . and hath so done, and whether have they done it by licence of any of the Lords or inhabitants of Hellesbye, or in their own right. And whether do you know that any of them have been heretofore interrupted in the doing thereof, and what have you heard concerning the same.

9. And whether, &c., that upon the said waste called Woodhouse Green one . . . of Froddesham did build an oven, and occupied and enjoyed

the same, and if you do . . . when was it builded, and by whose licence, and how long did he . . . the . . . have [you] heard, &c.

10. Whether, &c., that one Lloyd did inclose any . . . build any Shepcote before the same, and if you then . . . and when was it done, and what have you heard.

[In the Palatine Exchequer records, temp. Hen. 8th a distraint appears made by Henry Hellesbye, of the cattle of his tenant, one Lloyd, for rent of lands in Woodhouses (or Alvanley?) for which Lloyd made suit in equity.]

11. [As to the Burgesses or tenants getting Gorse, by Licence, and if they restrained any others from taking it.]

12. Whether do you know of any of the Inhabitants of Hellesbye [taking gorse, &c.]

13. Whether do you know that the Queen's Majesty and her progenitors [have appointed to the office of Haywarden] from time to time the officer within the Lordship. And whether hath the same Hayward yearly answered to her Majesty and her progenitors 6d. rent for his office, and whether [by reason thereof, he had taken for his own use certain sums from trespassers by him imprisoned within the Lordship aforesaid.]

14. Whether hath not the same Hayward, Burgesses, Inhabitants, and tenants of the Lordship yearly driven in the . . . found both of Hellesbye or other foreigners not being . . . or a burgess, inhabitant or tenant of Froddesham Lordship; whether did not any such foreigner or stranger pay several . . . by . . . providing according to the custom of the same Lordship.

[15 to 20. Interroga. defaced.]

21. Whether do you know or have heard that trees, shrubs, and underwood do grow upon the said piece of waste called Lee More, and whether the tenants, &c., of the Lordship, &c., have [felled, taken] and carried the same away at their pleasure.

22. Whether, &c., that about 38 [33?] years past the Queen's [King's] Majesty . . . sued out of the High Court of Star Chamber, directed to Richard Hels— [Hulse?] . . . Thomas Aston Esquire, and John Byrkenhed Esquire to examine Witnesses in a matter in . . . depending in the said Court between John Norbrye now deceased and others, then Plaintiffs, and Thomas Wall and other the Inhabitants of Hellesbye then Defendants, or no. And if you did where did the said Commissioners sit in execution of the said commission, and whether it was sitting at the place called the . . . Yate [gate] being a Mere between Hellesbye and Froddesham, or no.

23. Whether, &c., that the former [farmer] of the Lordship of Froddesham about . . . years past did set posts and rails on the way leading from Hellesbye to Westmore, and did . . .

and stop up the way that the Inhabitants of Hellesbye could not drive their [horses and cattle?] to the said More called Westmore, or no. And have you not known the same, and how do you know the same, and whether have you seen any posts or rails there.

24. Whether do you know that the Inhabitants of the Lordship, &c. weeks yearly used to go with to the said old water course called Pynlors [Llewellyn's or Fluelins?] being the or Meare between them and Hellesbye, or no, &c.

There are several more of these questions.

X.

[859] STAR CHAMBER CASES FROM CHESHIRE. VIII.

(See No. 855.)

XXX. 21. Robert Halforde, v Humphrey Woode, Godfrey Hygonson, Roger Blynston, Richard Wytter, &c.—Forcible entry and assault at Frodsham

37. William Launcelyn v Lawrence Maklyn, Robert Mawre, Richard Hole, William Huntington, William Dwerres, &c.—Destruction of turf and furze at Spital (2 suits).

42. John Lancastre, prior of Launde v William Venable and Ralph Snede, clerk.—Ouster of vicar from Rostherne Church, of which plaintiff claims advowson, and assault on plaintiff's servant (2 bills).

68. Thomas Pyllyn v Sir Piers Dutton, knight, Sir Thomas Pynchewar, and Sir William Horseman, knights.—Forcible entry into half-built houses at Chester.

81. Arthur Lorkyn v John Aburgayne and John Davy.—Assault at Chester.

86. Thomas Pygott v William Newton, Sir James Smythe, clerk, &c.—Ouster from the manor of Butley, and assault on a tenant of plaintiff's.

151. John Prestland v Thomas Haughton, &c.—Seizure of a horse and cattle in the manor of Sound.

XXXI. 34. Katharine, widow of Sir Thomas Smyth v John Massy, George Lee, clerk, T. Gyrtre, Richard Gravenor, &c.—Forcible ouster from the hospital of St. Andrew, Denwall, and the parsonage of Burton, seizure of cattle, &c. (2 suits; See XVIII., 126).

74. William Newton v Thomas Mottershead, &c.—Cutting turf on Newton Heath.

89. Katharine Richardson v John Roode, Thomas Roode, James Roode, and John Cartwright.—Seizure of horses and cattle at Rode.

127. Thomas Tochet v John Dutton, Thomas Werberton, Randall Venables, Ralph Wallen, and William Benet.—Forcible entry, killing of horses, and assault at Nether Whitley.

163. Humphrey Owen and Ann his wife v Roger Massye and Edward Barnyston.—Forcible ouster in contempt of a decree of the Star Chamber.

166. Same v Roger Massye, Hugh Cawverley and Elizabeth Cawverley.—Retention of lands awarded to plaintiffs by a decree of the Star Chamber.

168. Same v Hugh Hulme.—Lands in Coddington and Clutton.

169. (? same) v Roger Massy.—Forcible ouster from a house in Clutton in contempt of a decree of the Star Chamber.

173. Same v same.—Jointure of second plaintiff in Bechin, Clutton and Coddington.

XXXII. 10. John Massy v Edward Mynshull and Richard Grosveneur.—Inquest on Randle Davenport (bill waiting).

49. William Helde v John Wenynghon, sen., John Wenynghon, jun., William Wenynghon, and Laurence Hulme.—Forcible ouster from salt works at Northwich.

XXXIII. 77. Henry Broke v Sir Edward Fytton, Ralph Egerton, Ralph Chekyns, James Chytwood, Humphrey Vyvys, Ralph Bloure, Hugh Kabon, John Haderseche, &c.—Forcible entry at Wrinehill Manor house and assault on plaintiff's wife and servant.

XXXIV. 40. John Prestelond v Hamnett Barnett and Roger Adams.—Forcible ouster from land belonging to the manor of Sound, &c.

Edward VI.

I. 7. William Jannyns v Sir Hugh Cholmley.—Forcible entry, seizure of cattle, &c., at Malpas.

12. Thomas Dean v John Newhall.—Assault, &c.

18. Richard Hough v John Mynshull, John Pole, Thomas Jenson, &c.—Forcible ouster from land in the manor of Poole.

23. George Holford v Piers Leycetour, John Brooke, John Jeffray Brome, William Thomasson (alias Williamson), and John Leycetour.—Assault at Nether Peover.

II. 23. John Prestland v Sir Hugh Chomley, Katharine Prestland, Ralph Crokson, &c.—Forcible ouster, &c., from the manor house of Sound.

28. Hugh Newton v Thomas Stepulton, Lawrence Bradley, &c.—Forcible ouster at Lostock and Poynton (bill in draft).

31. John Norbery v Sir John Savage, his servants, &c.—Assaults on plaintiff in Frodsham Church and elsewhere, taking away his pew, &c.

64. John, Earl of Oxford v Richard Hodgekinson, &c.—Turbary in Warmingham.

85. John Sygar and Katharine his wife, guardians of Randle Prestlond v Robert Manweryng, John Prestlond, George Baggle, George Duncalf, &c.—Forcible entry and damage at Priestland Hall in Bunbury, imprisonment, &c.

III. 8. Randle Manweryng v Sir John Legh, Ieuan Rycrofte, Randal Wright, Robert Crowther, and J. Thyrlwynde.—Illegal impounding of plaintiff's cattle pasturing at Chelford.

30. Rowland Stanley v Thomas Tayliour, &c.—Poaching in the Dee at Rough Shotwick, riot, &c.

43. Helen Sweyne v Robert Tofte, Roger, his son, and Elyn Tofte.—Forcible entries, assault on plaintiff's servant, seizure of cattle, &c., at Buglawton.

44. Roger Shryley and Thomas, his son, v Jasper Worth and Humphrey Swyndles.—Destruction of a mill at Rainow and assault on first plaintiff.

58. Sir Peres Legh, Richard Sutton, John Legh, &c., copyholders in Disley, v Sir George Vernon, Sir Edward Warren, &c.—Rights of common in Disley.

62. Henry Birde, Agnes, his wife, and Thomas, their son, v Ralph Dutton, Hugh Higginson, Ralph Penke, &c.—Forcible entries and felling and carrying timber on land let to plaintiffs by first defendant at Broxton.

82. Robert Pigott v John Duncalf, &c.—Felling and carrying of timber and assault on plaintiff's servants at Ryley Carr in the lordship of Butley.

(To be continued.)

JULY 8, 1903.

NOTES.

[860] THE CATHEDRAL PRECINCTS, 1661-2. I.

The writer has received the courteous permission of the Dean of Chester to transcribe for the "Sheaf" a number of leases by the Dean and Chapter, of which there are copies in one of the old Chapter books. The majority of these belong to the years 1661 and 1662, Dean Bridgeman being evidently determined after the Restoration to rescue the property of the Cathedral from the state of ruin and neglect into which it had fallen. Six of these leases relate to property within the Precincts of the Cathedral, and may be grouped together, as throwing some light upon the surroundings of the Mother Church at this time.

I.

It strikes one as curious to find the Dean and Chapter granting a 21 years' Lease of a house in Abbey Court to the spinster daughter of the Dean, and at a rent of 6s. 8d. per annum. But by an Indenture, of 8th October, 1661, made between "Henry Bridgeman doctor in divinity and Deane of the Cathedrall Church of Christ and Blessed Mary the virgin in Chester and the Chapter of the same place upon the one part, and Elizabeth Bridgeman Spinster daughter of the said Dr. Bridgeman upon the other parte," the Dean and Chapter "in consideration of a Competent Summe of money to them in hand paid and of the greete charge which the said Elizabeth Bridgeman is to expend and lay forth in Re-edifying and repairing of the messuage and buildings hereafter named which is now ruining and in decay . . . demyse grant sett lett and to farme betake unto the said Elizabeth Bridgeman. . . . All messuage or tenement with the appurtenances Scituate lying and being in the Abbey Court of the

said Cathedrall church within the City of Chester, heretofore in the occupation of Thomas Jones and late in the possession of Charles Jones clark, with all buildings walls gardens Courts Curtillages thereunto belonging with some void peeces of ground containing by estimation three hundred and sixty-one yards square or thereabouts bee it more or lesse" &c.

This Elizabeth Bridgeman was married on April 17th, 1665, to Thomas Greenhalgh, Esq., and their child Katherine was baptised at St. Oswald's on February 18th, 1667. It is somewhat startling to find entries of the births of two more children of the Dean as long after as 24th December 1680, and 6th February 1682 (See No. 498). The Dean himself died May 15th, 1682.

II.

The following Lease is interesting as shewing where St. Thomas' Court was held:—

By an Indenture made "the Nynth day of January in the yeare of our Lord God one thousand six hundred sixty one Betweene Henry Bridgeman Doctor of Divinity Deane of the Cathedrall Church of Christ and the blessed Virgin Marv in Chester and the Chapter of the same place of the one parte and John Oldfield of the City of Chester gen. on the other part" the Dean and Chapter demise grant &c. unto the said John Oldfield and his assigns for 20s. per annum "all that tenement or p'cell of brickbuilding containing an upper end and a lower roome Scituate lying and being within the Abby Court of Chester over against the house now in the tenure or Occupation of William Willson gen. and on the one side towards the east adjoining to the house now or late in the tenure or occupation of Richard Lea in the same Court and all waies easments com'odities and appurten'ces whatsoever to the said tenement belonging or in any wise appertaining" But the following right is reserved: "And further it shall and may be lawfull to and for the said Deane and Chapter and their successors and the Steward of the same Deane and Chapter of the Court called St Thomas Court from tyme to tyme to keepe and hold the afforsaid Court called St Thomas Court within the said tenement at any tyme or tymes during the terme aforsaid att his or their will and pleasures" &c.

Hugh Barkley of the City of Chester Inholder is appointed Attorney for the Dean and Chapter.

E. C. L.

(To be continued.)

[861] POOLE OF POOLE, CO. CHESTER.

(See No. 789).

In Ormerod's "History of Cheshire" (2nd edition) is a note 'communicated by the Revd. E. H. Mainwaring Sladen, M.A., giving the inscription on the monument in Shute Church, Devon' (vol. ii, p. 420 note).

William Pole's letter of 1620, shows that the following mistakes were made in the inscription on the monument:—The name of the heiress of John

Pole, of Devon, was Elizabeth, not 'Johan'; she married John, not 'Arturi' Pole, and he was the son of John, not 'William.' They were the Poles of Nether-Peover, near Knutsford. I have not been able to find when—if?—they branched off from the Poles of Nether-Poole, Wirral.

The arms of "Sir John Poole of Shute, 1628," according to the Portcullis Herald, are those of Poole of Wirral. But, arms are often very confusing. Entirely distinct families, in ancient times, in distant counties, often bore the same coat, differenced only by the metals or tinctures; and, just as often, families connected with each other—in the male lines, too—bore entirely different arms.

The following pedigree may be constructed:—
From Inqs. p m. and Will. Pole's letter of 1620, by Miss Poole.

Sir John de la Pole, or Pull, chivaler, Inq. p.m., died 1394. Married Isabella, who married 2nd Sir Thomas Peeke, knight. [Qy.: Peck of Peck Hall, near Holt].

Sir John de la Pole, vel Pull, knight, his son. [Qy.: Was he married twice, and was his 1st wife Elizabeth Pole, of Devon?]. Born 1380, Inq. p.m., ob. 1477. Married Alice, widow, a name confounded perhaps with "Arthur"; and Johan (Joan) with John?

John Pole, his son. b. 1437, Inq. p.m., ob. 1504.

William Pole, his son, sold Nether Peover, ob. 1514.

Married—Drake, and (before or after)—Waller.

William Pole, his son, born 1513, ob. 1587; whose son was William Pole [author of letter of 1620].

T. H.

[862] STAR CHAMBER CASES FROM CHESHIRE. IX
(See No. 859.)

IV. 3. Richard Wylbram, servant to the Lady Mary v William Somerforde, Thomas Grene, chaplain, John Walker, Robert Hyne, and John Stubbs.—Seizure of hay from the glebe of Astbury personage.

20 (g). Robert Mynshull v Richard Hashall, Sir Thomas Fulshurst, Sir Randall Manning, &c.—Compulsion to a contract of sale of Burland Hall in Acton, conspiracy to obstruct justice, &c.

24. George Wood and Margaret, his wife, v Robert Byrckenhed, &c.—Forcible ouster from a house in Bridge Street, Chester, and subsequent assault.

68. Edward Plankney v Hugh Lee, clerk, &c.—Forcible ouster, &c., from a barn at Chester.

70. John Brereton v Edward Planckney, &c.—Destruction of a barn at Chester (indictment pending at general sessions).

92 (c). James Starkey v John Baterich, Jeffrey Wyddowes, and Jane, his wife, &c.—Pulling down a house at Tarvin, &c.

V. 15. Peter Dutton v Richard Bolde, Richard Curren, Henry Barnes, chaplain, Adam Gande, &c.—Assault at Dutton.

17. Edward Earl of Derby v Lawrence Redferne, William Shepulbothum, &c.—Hunting in the forest of Macclesfield.

28. Sir Roger Brereton and Sir Brian Brereton v Randle Brereton, John Bolton, Thomas Acon, William Redroppe, &c.—Forcible resistance to a writ of *liberate*.

33. Henry Byrde v Ralph Dutton, Robert Ratclyffe, Arthur Brundell, &c.—Forcible ouster from a house and land and damage to pasture in Clutton and Chowley.

41. Henry Falowes v Sir Randle Manwerryng, Ralph Nuhall, &c.—Forcible entries, &c., at Peover.

43. Sir John Talbot v John Broughton, John Eyton, &c.—Forcible entry, damage, &c., in a garden in Chester Castle ditch (bill damaged).

VI. 6. John Prestland v Hugh Wilkynson, Hamnet Barnet, &c.—Forcible entries and depasturing of grass in the manor of Sound.

14. Sir George Vernon v Sir Piers Leigh, Roger Leigh, Ralfe Hackson, Peter Synaedelles, Hugh Foll, clerk, &c.—Forcible ouster from pasture in manor of Marple, &c.

28. Edmund Sutton v Roger Shryggeley, Thomas Shryggeley, &c.—Breaking a mill dam in the forest of Macclesfield.

58. John Aldersey v William Aldersey, &c.—Assault on plaintiff's servants, &c., at Claverton.

67. William Aldersey v Ralph Dutton, Sir Thomas Gravener, Piers Telston, Robert Rotchedale, &c.—Destruction of gates at Littleton.

77. William Aldersey and Margaret, his wife v. Ralph Dutton, Sir Thomas Gravenour, John Monexfelde, &c.—Forcible entries, destruction of gates, seizure of cattle, &c., at Littleton and Claverton (2 suits).

93. John Caryngton v. Hamnet Caryngton, Gerves Christerson, John Holland, Andrew Hollynworthe, and Hugh Hollynworthe.—Forcible entry, assault on plaintiff's servants and destruction of the frame of a house at Hollingworth.

VII. (imperfect suits, without bills).

18. George Bothe v Urian Brereton, Ralph Devias, &c.—Grass on land on the boundaries of the lordships of Ashton and "Dummeshum."

92. Edmund Sutton v Roger Shryggeley.—Mills in Pott-Shrigley, Rainow, &c. (interrogatory and depositions).

98. Sir George Vernon (Crown intervening) v Sir Piers Leigh, William Stanley, Roger Legh, John Cowper, &c.—Forcible dispute as to rights of common in Disley.

VIII. (imperfect suits, mostly without bills).

8 Sir Piers Legh v Sir George Vernon, Sir Edwin Warren, &c.—Common of pasture in Disley (interrogatory and depositions).

32. Sir Piers Dutton v Henry Stryngfelowe and others tenants of Halton and Runcorn.—Forcible entry on the manor of Dutton.

(Cross refs. Suits of Ed. VI. under bundles of Hy. VIII.)

(Henry VIII.) XXI. 161. Thomas Pecok and Alice his wife, v Ralph Ardern.—Lands late belonging to Thomas Ardern in Stopford and Frodsham.

(To be continued.)

[863]

THE BREREWOODS.

(See No. 618).

From an interesting extract in "Local Gleanings (Lancashire and Cheshire)," i.64, it appears that Edward Brerewood's "Treatise on Sabbath" took its occasion from the conduct of his nephew, John Brerewood. The latter's father and grandfather being dead, and he being quite young, his uncle became guardian and apprenticed him to a London tradesman. All went well until after a visit to Chester John Brerewood showed signs of mental distress. On inquiry, his uncle found it arose from sermons by John Bruen's friend, Master Byfield, about the obligation to do no work whatever on Sunday. As the youth's master occasionally required him to go on an errand on this day, scruples of conscience were naturally created.

JULY 15, 1903.

NOTES.

[864] FRODSHAM CHURCH ROLL, 1637 & 1747. II.
(See No. 838.)

The following is a continuation of the list of those who had seats assigned them in Frodsham Parish Church in the years 1637 (first column) and 1747 (second column). The present instalment contains the sittings in the central aisle.

GABBS AND MULLETS.

3rd Rank of Seats on South side the Middle Isle, beginning at Chancel and ending at Steeple.

Owners' Names 1637.	Owners' Names 1747.	Townships.
1 . . . [Mil]ner	Sr. Matthew Deane	Manley
2 . . . [Ar]dern	Richard Arden, Esqr.	Alvanley
3 Mr. Rowland Heywood, Vic.	Mr. Fra. Gastrell, *Vicar	Overton
4 The Ministers Seat	Mr. Fra. Gastrell	Overton
[A very large deep-sided box, a step down, and lined with much faded green baize, pulled down, with the rest, in 1879-80, on "Restoration."]		

* A cleric of the same names pulled down Shakespeare's house "New Place," Stratford-on-Avon, circ. 1750, which had become a nuisance to him, by visitors.

5 The Old Reading Desk	George Hyde, Esqr.	Frodsham
6 The Old Wardens Seat		
7 Rich. Jennien	Mr. J. Wilkinson	Newton
8 Mr. H. Rutter	Rev. Mr. Hugh Breck	West brook house, Kingsley and Gale Moor House.
9 Thos. Hatton	Thomas Hatton	Kingsley
Rich. Johnson	Rich. Middleton	Alvanley
10 Jno. Eccleston	John Johnson	Kingsley
Thos. Cooper	Samuel Pigott	Bradley
11 W. Anderton	Mr. C. Pickering	Kingsley
John Bushell	Mr. John Hunt	Mickledale [Ov'tn H'lls]
12 Rich. Hickfield	Mr. John Sellers	Norley
Wid. Wearton	Rich. Nangreave, Esqr.	Netherton
13 Thos. Higginson	Trustees of Bushells Money	Netherton
Rt. Ashbrooke	Thomas Whitley	Banners, Aston's, Kingsley
14 T. Littlemore	Hatley Estate	Netherton
Rt. Plimstone	The Rev. Mr. Pickering	Late Witter's
15 Wm. Tompson	John Plumb	Bleaklee, Kingsley
Cooke's House or Jno. Sutton		
16 Richard Edge	John Frodsham	Kingsley
Wm. Pickering	Thos. Woodward	Kingsley
17 Wid. Brerewood	Peter Hall	Kingsley
Rich. Weston	Geo. Eaton, Esqr.	Kingsley
18 T. Walworth	John Woolridge	Norley
Robt. Taylor	Saml. Berrington	Overton
19 Thos. Modasley	Thomas Plumb Joseph Witter Richard Moss	Frodsham
Thos. Witter		Frodsham
20 Ed. Savage		Frodsham
R. Cumberbirch	Joseph Pritchley	Frodsham
21 William Smith	Joseph Oxford	Alvanley
T. Nangreave	J. Leche, Esqr.	Helsbey
22 Rich. Heath	Geo. Hyde, Esqr.	
23 Thomas Tapley	Prest. Wardens Seat	Frodsham
Widow Guest		
24		
25	Richard Banner	Frodsham
26	John Witter	Frodsham
	Bernard Farrar	Overton
27		
28	Wm. Pickering	West brooke, Kingsley
29	The Sextons Seat.	

Fourth Rank of Seats Lying on North side middle Isle, beginning at Chancel and ending at Steeple.

1 John Ld. Vicount Savage	Lady Aston . .
2 John Ld. Vicount Savage	Lady Aston . .
3 John Ld. Vicount Savage	Lady Aston . .
4 John Ld. Vicount Savage	Lady Sidne Beauclerk Peel, Kingsley
5 Mrs. Jane Done	The New Pulpit and Reading Desk . . .
6 Mr. Garrat, & Old Pulpit	

7	Sr. Gil. Gerrard†	Ralph Lyeoester, Esqr.	Crewwood H'll Kingsley
8	Rd. Widenhall	Thomas Plumb	Alvanley
	Thomas Hall	Geo. Eaton, Esq.	Frodsham
9	Berkenheads		
	Farm		
	T. Grymsditch	Mr. W. Widdens	Manley
	Gardener's H'se		
10	Richard Pike	Peter Hall	Kingsley
	Alice Poulton	Samuel Burgess	Helsbey
	William Pike	Peter Hall	Kingsley
11	John Hatton	Lady Aston	Helsbey
	Robt. Whitby	Robert Bromley	Helsbey
12	Rd. Wilkinson	Wm. Knowles	Overton
	Wm. Smith	Ralph Wakers	Netherton
13	John Primrose	The Rev. Dean Powell	Helsbey
	Widow Barlow	Thos. Frodsham	Helsbey
14	Thos. Sarrat	The Earl of Barrymore	Frodsham
	Rt. Smallshoe	Moses Denson	Helsbey
	Jas. Fletcher	Wm. Wilcockson	Alvanley
15	Hugh Kelley	The Earl of Barrymore	Bradley
	Ralph Milner	Barrows Heirs	Sutch, Newton
16	Peter Hall	Mr. William Hall	Norley
	William Hall		
17	Richard Grice	The Earl of Barrymore	Bradley
	Wm. Smith	Thomas Smith	Netherton
18	J. Cartwright	Geo. Hyde, Esqr.	Frodsham
	Randle Bailey	Thomas Bailey	Netherton
19	John Barker	The Earl of Barrymore	Newton
	Wm. Helsby, one seat	Moses Rider	Kingsley
	George Davis		
20	Wm. Widdens, Gent.	Mr. W. Widdens	Manley
	Wm. Bushell		
	John Johnson		
	H'gh Woodward		
	Roger Tickell		
21	Adam Witter	Mr. Wm. Widdens	
	for two houses		
	Randle Helsby, Gent.		
	Hamnett Hignett	Mr. Wm. Widdens	
	John Haslehurst		
22	John Ley	John Redish	Overton
	Thos. Corbett	Wm. Woodward	Manley
	Ralph Ashbroke	Samuel Polett	Alvanley
23	James Collier	Wm. Atherton	
	Widow Bushell		
24	— — — — —	— — — — —	— — — — —
25	— — — — —	Mr. J. Wilkinson	Newton
26	— — — — —	James Saunders	Manley
	Thomas Fryer	Thomas Moores	Overton
27	— — — — —	Benj. Roberts	Manley
		Richard Milner	Newton
28 & 29	— — — — —	— — — — —	— — — — —

(To be continued.)

† Never knighted; he was a Parliamentary Colonel.

[865] THE CATHEDRAL PRECINCTS, 1661-2. II. (See No. 860).

The lease given below is so short that it may be given in extenso. Can any reader say where the Bishop's Registry stood at this time?

III.

Articles of Agreement indented concluded covenanted and agreed upon by and Betweene the Reverend Henry Bridgeman doctor in divinity Deane of the Cathedral Church of Chester, on the behalfe of himself and the Chapter of the said Church on the one part and Raph Morgell gent principall register to the Lord Bishop of Chester on the other part the first day of November in the year of our Lord God 1661.

Imprimis the said Dr. Bridgeman doth demyse grant and to farme lett unto the said Raph Morgell and his successors Regist'rs to the said Lord Bishop and his successors and to his and their deputies the new house with a porch to it and a little yard or court at the end of the said house, and adjoyneing to the west end of the Registry belonging to the Bishop. To have and to hold the said house and premisses to the said Mr. Morgell and his successors in the said office of Register and their deputies from the first day of November instant for and during the tyme and terme of one and twenty yeares from thence next ensueing fully to bee compleate and ended.

Item in consideration thereof the aforesaid Mr. Morgell for himself and his successors Registers doth covenant promise and grant to and with the said Doctor Bridgeman Deane of Chester to pay unto him or his successors Deanes there or to the receiver for the Dean and Chapter of Chester aforesaid for the tyme being for their uses the annuall sum or rent of fifty shillings at two tymes in the year viz.: upon the first of May and the twenty nynth of September yearly to bee paid as aforesaid by the said Mr. Morgell or his successors in the said office or his or their deputies. That the same may continue as an addition to the said Registers office. In witness whereof the parties aforesaid have interchangeably sett their hands and seales the day and yeare aforesaid.

IV.

Perhaps the most interesting of the leases of this date is an indenture made 28th January in 13th year of Charles II. between Henry Bridgeman, Dean of Chester, and Ralph Bingley of the city of Chester, tallow chandler, by which in consideration of £5 paid by him, and also "of one hundred of fruit trees already had of the said Ralph Bingley and planted in his the said Deane's orchard on the east side of the Bowling greene"—the Dean for himself and his successors demyses, &c., unto the said Ralph Bidgley, his executors, &c.,

"All that part or parcell of ground being p't of and belonging unto a certaine close comonly called the Deane's orchard acituate lying and being neere

the Walls and Northgate of the said City, containing in length from north to south seaventy-two yards, and breadth from east to west sixty five yards and convenient waies and passages and all liberties privileges profits and comodities thereunto belonging or in any wise appertaining" for 21 years "from the feast day of the Circumcision of our Lord God and Saviour Jesus Christ comonly called new years day last past" for the yearly rent of twenty shillings.

Then follows a covenant by R. Bingley that he, his executors, &c., 'att or before the first day of May next ensuing the date hereof att his and their propper cost and charges shall and will levell part of the said ground so demysed as aforesaid for a Bowling-green and shall sodd the same with greene sodd, and further shall from tyme to tyme and att all tymes hereafter obserue and keep all such Lawes rules and acts as from tyme to tyme by the said Deane and his successors Deanes of Chester shall be made for the due regulating of all such persons as shall repaire to the said greene and premises that if possible there may bee no just cause of offence giuen unto God or man but that honest recreation may bee seasonably and soberly used for healths sake without excessive riott or prophanenes"

There is a further covenant by R. Bingley before June 24th next ensuing to "convert all the rest and residue of the said close or parcell of ground . . . into a garden or orchard and plant trees and build a garden house and harbours thereon with the aduice of the Deane for the tyme being." E. C. L.

(To be continued.)

[866] STAR CHAMBER CASES FROM CHESHIRE. X.
(See No. 862).

Philip and Mary.

I. 16. Thomas Legh v Richard Legh, Anthony Legh, Hamlet Sworton, &c.—Forcible ouster and pulling down of a house at Swynehedd.

17. Robert Maynrynge v Sir Thomas Hoberofte, Ellis Entwissell, Thomas Rygbye, Edmund Barker, and John Smyth.—Tithe of Whitegate.

50. Henry Jameson v William Cally, &c.—Assault at Harthill and attempted assault at Hampton Post.

51. Hugh Yance v Richard Massye, Robert Dutton, William Astyll, and John Wyllyamson.—Assault on plaintiff while acting as bailiff and woodward of the lordship of Tattenhall.

II. 52. Thomas Starkye v John Mynshaw; William Plounger, &c.—Forcible entry and assault on plaintiff's brother in a meadow at Minshull Vernon.

53. Ralph Sherman, yeoman in the ewery, v George Huxley, James Cade, &c.—Forcible entry and assault at Tiresford.

58. James Starkye v Sir Philip Egerton, Ralph Slaver, &c.—Enclosure of pasture in the manor of Oulton.

73. Robert Delahay v John Dawmport, Reynold Mottrum, Ralph Bower, William Holme and Christopher Holme.—Forcible entry and seizure of title deeds at Widford.

III. 29. Christopher Gardiner and Elizabeth, his wife, v Hugh Holinshead, Margaret Smithe, &c.—Forcible entry, seizure of goods, and murder of plaintiffs' child at Bosley, &c.

IV. 9. William Sneyde, executor to Ralph Sneyde v John Warburton, Robert Domoben, Hamlet Domoben, John Harryson (alias Johnson) and Thomas Harryson (alias Johnson).—Forcible ouster from Acton Grange, held by plaintiff in execution for a debt of first defendant.

V. 37. Sir Edward Warren v Arthur Lowe, clerk, Edward Thorneley, &c.—Rescuing distress taken for amercements in the lordship of Stockport.

(To be continued.)

JULY 22, 1903.

NOTES.

[867] THE OLD CHESHIRE HIGHWAYS. II.

(Continued from No. 831.)

Another of the great roads of 1775 passing through Cheshire was that from London to Carlisle, by way of Coventry and Lichfield. After passing Talk on the Hill, Mr. Potter says, "Enter Cheshire," and gives the following table of places on the road, with the miles from London:—

	Miles.	Fur.
Ordrede	157	0
Knoles	159	2
Bruerton Green	163	0
Holmes	164	0
Carnage (sic)	165	2
L. over the Heath	166	0
Stublage	167	6
Lostock	168	2
Lach Green	170	0
Lastocke	171	0
Grulam	172	0
Whitley	175	2
Stocks	176	0
Olist Hill	179	0
Stocken	180	2
Warrington (Lancs.)	182	0

Warrington was the first post town after Newton-under-Lyme. It does not argue in favour of Mr. Potter's personal knowledge of the road that he should separate Lostock and Grulam and place a mile between them. As will be seen this mistake is derived from the older maps.

An earlier folio edition (1690) of Ogilby's maps gives the following particulars:—

The road passes northward through Newcastle, and soon after leaving the village of Talk on the Hill crosses the Cheshire border after 155. At 157

a road branches off on the left to Sandbach. There are "Butts" on the right between 157 and 158. At 158 Oddrode is marked on the left and Rodehall (Mr. Rodes) on the right, and here a road branches off eastwardly to Congleton (alias Congerton). After passing 159 Bear's Head Inne is reached; and soon after there are cross roads leading (left) to Sandbach and (east) to Astbury. Between 160 and 161 is Knoles, and then a road leads on the right to Smalwood; between 161 and 162 a road branches off to Arkley on the left, and on the same side Sandbach Church is marked. At 163 is Brewerton green, with the Hall on the right; half a mile further a small brook is crossed, and then Holmes Chapel is reached, at which point are cross roads, on the left to Middlewich and Chester, and on the right to Congleton and Derby; the chapel itself is marked at this side (164½).

Then the river Dane is crossed, and about a mile further on is Cranage (alias Craunidge). At 166 a road to the north goes to Manchester; between 166 and 167 is a heath on the right; and just before 168 at Stublage, other roads branch off (on the left) to Middlewich and Chester, and at Lostock, a little further on (on the right), to Manchester. Lach green on the right with Birches Hall and a road to Daneham on the left are marked before 170; before the next milestone a road goes to the right to Feever and Lastock is passed. After crossing a brook Grulam is marked (172), just before which cross roads lead (left) to Nutsford and Manchester, and on this side just afterwards Wincham Hall appears. At 173 a road to the left leads to Northwich, and at the next milestone Budworth church is shewn on the right and Dutton on the left. At 175 a road to the right leads to Knutsford, and then Whitley is passed and Franley Stocks at 176. Between this and 177 a road (on the right) leads to Stretton and Wormton, and Stretton Chapel is shewn on the same side, near 178. Clift hill is then surmounted and half-way between 179 and 180 a road leads (to the left) to Dallamore and Acton Bridge; just after 180 Stocken is passed, and at 182, after crossing the Mersey by Prescott bridge, Warrington is reached.

From this point the road goes northward through Winwick, Newton in the Willows, and Ashton to Wigan, and then to Preston, Garstang, Lancaster, Kendal, and Penrith, to Carlisle.

The following additional particulars may be added to the account of the Cheshire section of the London-Holyhead road already given. They are taken from the same folio edition as the above account of the Carlisle road. Between 156 and 157 Checkley is marked on the right. The brook between 159 and 160 was crossed by a "stone bridge," and at Stapeley "The Eagle" is marked. At 169 on the left is "The Wolves Head," and Bunbury Church about a mile west. About 173½ "Mr. Cookins" is marked, and at 174 Idenshaw Hall (not heath), both on the left. Just before 175 "The Red Cap" stands on the left side of the road. About 175½ Clotton

appears, on the right. "Alias Christleton" is added after Chisterton. After 184 Lower Lees (for Dower Lees).

(To be continued.)

[868] THE CATHEDRAL PRECINCTS, 1661-2. III.

(See No. 865.)

V.

A portion of the Lease quoted below appeared in a previous article in the "Sheaf" (784). It relates to the land and buildings between the Music Hall and the west end of the Cathedral. The provision made for supplying additional burying ground for St. Peter's parish shews what a deep impression had been made some 14 years before, when, following upon the siege, 2,099 persons had died of the plague in the several parishes of Chester, between June 22nd, 1647, and April 29th of the following year (Hemingway, i., 145).

Indenture made 25th April, 1662, between the Dean and Chapter and Henry Harpur of the City of Chester Gent. and Dulcibella his wife. The Dean and Chapter demyse to the said Henry and Dulcibella Harpur

"all that parcell of ground ancyently Inclosed out of the Churchyard and Called St. Oswald's Churchyard as the same is and for many yeares last past hath been inclosed with a Stone wall and converted of late yeares into a Court and garden with divers buildings Stables Maltrooms and other Edifices erected and standing thereupon and abutting on the highway leading to the Bishops pallace to the Church of St. Oswalds on the North part and to the Com'on Hall on the South part and adjoyneing to the tenem't called the Wolfes head upon the west part and to the Churchyard aforesaid on the East part" &c. for the yearly rent of 2s.

It is expressly stipulated—
"that if it shall happen that the Parish of St. Peeters within the City of Chester at any tyme during the terme in and by thees p'nts granted and demysed by the visitation of God to bee visited with any Com'on plague, greivous Sickness or other mortality, so as no convenient Buriall place can or may bee had within the said parish of St. Peeters aforesaid That then, it shall and may bee lawfull to and for the said Deane and Chapter and their Successors att all and every tyme and tymes and as often as need shall require of such Com'on plague mortality or Sicknes so happening within the said parish of St. Peeters and in want of a buriall place there as aforesaid to bury in the said inclosed ground" &c.

Thomas Spaine of the City of Chester gent. and Will'm Bate of the same City mercer are appointed Attorneys for the Dean and Chapter.

VI.

An extract from this Lease was given in No. 784 of the "Sheaf," and is only given here for the sake of completeness and of the interest attaching to the names of the parties to it.

Indenture made 26 April 1662 Between the Dean and Chapter of Chester upon the one part and "Roger Mostin gent. Sonne of William Mostin Arch Deacon of Bangor by Elizabeth Aldersey his late wife deceased and Alice Barnston widdow and daughter and heire of Mary Aldersey by Thomas Trafford Esq deceased" upon the other part. The Dean and Chapter demyse &c to the said Roger Mostyn and Alice Barnston.

"all that free entrie and way through the Churchyarde of St. Warburs afors'd from a certaine Messuage or burgage in the Eastgate street of the said Citty wherin Will'm Aldersey did inhabit and dwell, and all those three gardens or garden places lyeing neare the Churchyard of St. Warburs aforesaid, heretofore in tenure of Will'm Aldersey with all buildings thereupon erected and all wayes passages," &c. (at the yearly rent of 4s 4d. The Dean and Chapter appoint Ralph Finchet of Eccleston in the County of Chester yeoman as their attorney. E. O. L.

[869] A CHESTER POET.
(See No. 857.)

I have much pleasure in forwarding for the "Sheaf" the poetical lines sent by my late father for the "Musical Souvenir" for 1829. One remark I have to make is that in the list of contributors to the volume my father is described as Thos. Bradford, Esq., and not the Rev. T. Bradford; as when he sent the lines, "The Land Above," to the "Souvenir," he had not been ordained but was still an undergraduate of Magdalene College, Cambridge. The "annual" had been issued at the end of the year 1828—but perhaps only to contributors—and my father was not ordained until the 9th of August, 1829, when, of course, the work was fully out.

THE LAND ABOVE.

1.

When flowers are bright, and skies are fair,
And wit and wealth around us glow,
When yet our hearts unstrung by care,
Swell with the pride of what they know;
When friendship with her steady smile
Vies with the fiery looks of love,
When pleasure spreads th' attractive wile,
Then we forget the land above.

2.

When life's wide sea but gently heaves
Beneath our vessel's swelling breast,
And the wild breeze its dwelling leaves,
To waft us to some port of rest:
When on our canvas sunbeams fall,
And gaily o'er the surf we move,
And feel no check, no chill, no thrall,
Then we forget the land above.

3.

But when the curtain of the cloud
Frowns darkly o'er the dashing sea,
And winds that seem'd our friends avow'd
Blow strong, and cold, and treacherously:

When sickness, want, and dark despair

Usurp the seats of wit and love,

Then, then we recollect the fair,

The bright, the beauteous land above.

My father's associates as contributors to the "Musical Souvenir" for 1829 were Mrs. Hamana, L.E.L., Mrs. Opie, and others; which bright stars have long set, and are, I hope, in "the land above."

W. H. BRADFORD.

JULY 29, 1903.

NOTES.

[870] FRODSHAM CHURCH ROLL, 1637 & 1747. III.
(See No. 864.)

The concluding portion of the list of seat-owners in Frodsham Parish Church in 1637 and 1747 contains those in the north aisle, beginning from the Helsby Chantry or "Andrewe Chapel." Many of the blanks in both ranks no doubt were left for the names of the houses and tenants, and many of the houses must refer to those sold off during the 17th and 18th centuries.

Fifth Rank of Seats Lying on South side
North Isle beginning at East and ending
at West end.

Owners' Names 1637.	Owners' Names 1747.	Townships.
1 Mr. Rafe Helsby	Dame Catherine Aston	Helsby
2 John Stretch T. Modesley	Earl of Barrymore Thomas Smith	Late Hulse's house, Overton
3 Mr. Randle Helsby	Mr. Daniel Winstanley	Overton Frodsham
4 D. Maddock	Mr. Corbett Costard	Netherton
5*Mr.R. Helsby	John Berkenhead	Kingsley
6*Mr.R. Helsby	Mr. Dnl. Ashley [attorney-at-law]	Church St., Frodsham
7*Mr.R. Helsby	Mr. John Conolly	Beach house, Bradley
8*Mr. David Maddock	Mr. William Widdens	Manley
9	Richard Stretch	Frodsham
10	G. Gerrard, Esqr.	Frodsham
11	Mr. J. Comberbach	†Helsbey
12	Robert Bromley	Rake house, †Helsbey
13 Stare case to old Pulpit	Ralph Leycester, Esqr. [of Toft]	Creswood Hall, Kingsley
14 Sir G. Gerrard		

* Nos. 5 to 8 are in pencil only, as if obtained from some other source: the original roll being thus far defective, and probably supplied by Mr. Ashley the attorney and purchaser of so many pews.

† The proper spelling is only given where the owner's name is the same as the name of the township where the house to which the pew or seat belongs is situated, probably because the writer had written evidence before him of all the facts.

15 Whitley's	Mr. Thomas	Late Warbur-
Daughter	Edwards	ton's Woodhous's
Rd. Simcock	Rd. Simcock	Alvanley
Geo. Smith	Earl of Barrymore	Woodhouses
16 R. Wilkinson	Mr. W. Widdens [Coroner for the Hund. of Eddisbury]	Manley
Wm. Parr		
J. Johnson		
H. Woodward		
Wm. Bushell		
17 John Hall	Mr. Wm. Hall	Norley
Thos. Sparkes		Alvanley
18 Hy. Whitbey	John Churchman	Bank field
		house, Alvanley
John Pickern	Mrs. M. Norman	Norley
J. Plumpton	John Simcock	Frodsham
19 Widow Moberley		
Wid. Stockton	Stockt'n Adamson	Alvanley
John Hatton	John Nangreave	Woodhouses
20 Rd. Turner	Mr. Rd. Turner	Norley
Robt. Foster	William Barker	Norley
Hugh Trafford	Mr. T. Edwards Mr. John Wrench	Woodhouses
21 Jno. Knowles	Robert Bromley	
Jno. Holland	Thomas Ashton	
Jno. Chalner	Wm. Hyde, Esqr.	
22 John and	Mr. John Holebrook	
Wm. Helsbey†	Mr. Daniel Ashley	
23 W. Ashbrooke	Henry Aspell	[Helsby]
24 Wid. Coddington		
Wid. Pike for her	Daniel Seddon	
and Cookes House		
Rd. Br[own]	John Parson	
25 Wm. Heays	John Heays	
Randle Stretch	The Rev. Mr. Wm. Jones§	
Rd. Hignett	Mr. Thos. Webster [Master of the	
	Free Gram. School]	
26 T. Mainwaring	Martha Cooke	
Heavell's	Thomas Lancaster	
27 John Pykstone, alias		
Jno. Toyles		
Thos. Easum	Samuel Wright	
Thos. Woods	John Smale	
Joan Wilcock-		
son, widow	Joseph Washington	
Margaret Manley	Samuel Wright	
28 Thos. Owen	Mr. Wm. Widdens	
Wm. Johnson		
Thos. Moores		
J. Woodward		
	Thomas Woodward	

[Two pages of a leaf, or half sheet, are here missing (comprising about 12 pews)—the other half being already referred to at No. 14 of the "first" column of this list]

[On the page opposite to the missing leaf:—

{ Netherton
Overton
Alvanley
Frodsham
Late Antrobus's, Newton

† Perhaps sons or grandsons of James Helsby of "Helsby house" in Alvanley, gent., younger son of Randle of Helsby.

§ Then Curate.

[Sixth Rank of Seats lying on the North side of North Aisle beginning at East end and ending at North Door.]

1	[See above]	Overton. Lower Hall, Manley
	[Qy. Anciently up to Hen. viii. the Chapel of the Manleys, lying next below (west of) the Helsby Chapel.]	
2		Kingsley
3		Kingsley
4 [. Arderne?]		Peel, Kingsley
5		Netherton
6		Peel, Kingsley
7		Kingsley
8		Overton
9	Mr. J. Webster	Helsbey
	Ralph Barnes	Helsbey
10	Mrs. Daniell, widow	Frodsham
	Richard Stretch	Frodsham
11	Richard Jackson	Frodsham
12	James Scarsbrook	Overton
	Mrs. Gore, widow	Frodsham
13	Mr. John Witter	Frodsham
14	Mr. Randle Flutt	Overton
	Free[Grammar]School	Overton
15	Mr. Daniel Ashley	Frodsham
	Mr. Roger Merrick	Newton
16	R. Nangreave, Esq.	Frodsham
17	Mr. J. Wilkinson	Newton
18	Mr. Daniel Ashley	Frodsham
	Mr. Joseph Witter	||Ship Street, Frodsham
19	Mr. Danl. Winstanley	Frodsham
	Joseph Jackson	Kingsley
20	Rev. Mr. Samuel Aldersey	Overton
	Mr. Edward Platt	Frodsham
21	Mr. Thos. Webster	Woodhouses
	John Harrison	Netherton
22 Rd. Smith	Mrs. Daniel	The Nook, Netherton
23 Thos. Pulton	Samuel Lewis	Bradley
24 John Sumner	Massey's Executors	Netherton
Wid. Woodward	Thos. Woodward	Manley
25 Wm. Chalner	Mary Hall	Helsbey
Thomas Hall	Samuel Pigot	Bradley
26 Thos. Garrat	Ralph Woodcock	Helsbey
Rd. Wilkinson	Richard Higham	Overton
27 Rd. Smith	Geo. Eaton, Esqr.	Church St., Frodsham
	John Plimstone } for Helsbey H'se }	[Alvanley]
28 Thos. Bushell	Samuel Bushell	Frodsham
Widow Chalner		
Thos. Hevell	Ann Hevell	Norley
29 John Hatton	Mrs. Deborah Woods, widow	Church Street, Frodsham
	Geo. Hyde, Esqr.	Frodsham
Gilbert Lawton		
30 Margaret Nangreave	Mr. J. Nangreave	Woodhouses

GARBS AND MULLETS.

|| This street so called occurs as early as the middle of the 14th century.

[871] STAR CHAMBER CASES FROM CHESHIRE. XI.
(See No. 866.)

VI. 8. Richard Corden v Joan Gythen, Edward Calveley, Anthony Calveley, Hugh Calveley, &c.—Forcible ejection from a messuage at Aldersey.

13 Ellen Colstynscoke and Robert, her son v Richard Mosse, John Guldeyn, Robert Woodnet, Peter Crambe, &c.—Forcible ouster from house and land held of the manor of Over Whitley.

14. Peter Colstinsock v Thomas Venables, &c.—Estate of plaintiff's father in Appleton, Stockton, Helsby, Berton, &c.

61. Richard Hurleston v Hamnet Penkethman, John Kelsall, Richard Penkethman, &c.—Forcible ouster from a meadow belonging to the manor of Bridge Trafford.

VII. 32. John Pickton v Richard Hurleston.—Vexatious suits, &c., as to land at Newton.

IX. 7. Humphrey Bate v Sir Ralph Leicester, Sir John Lee, Geoffrey Brereton, Ralph Rygeway, &c.—Assault near Knutsford

9 Roger Brereton v Randall Ieuen, Richard Moyle (also John Colly) Perys Egerton, Randle Moyle, &c.—Unlawful assembly and dispute as to right to build on certain land (Flint or Chester).

26. Richard Birkhead v George Ireland, Edward Walker, Randle Maynwaring, Edward Gare (Ayer), Thomas Ewood, &c.—Land in Mouldsworth.

37. John Bykerton v John Rydley and Richard Oulton.—Assault while serving a writ at Tarporley.

41. Humphrey Bate v Sir John Lee, John Holt, William Urnyston, Ralph Rygeweye, &c.—Damage to property at Knutsford (see No. 7).

45. Sir Bryan Brereton v James Wilbram, William Awcocke and Ellen Fleete.—Lands in Brindley.

61. Ralph Bruyn v Sir John Savage, Evan Rees, Richard Humston, John Okell, &c.—Riot arising out of a dispute as to turbary in Tarvin manor and malpractices at the resulting inquest.

X. 69. Sir John Savage v Randle Venables.—Charge against plaintiff that he procured the murder of Thomas Grange and the acquittal of his murderers (interrogatories, depositions, &c.).

QUERY.

[872] A SHREWSBURY-MOLYNEUX PUZZLE.

According to an old pedigree of the ancient family of Molyneux of Sefton, one of the younger sons of Sir Richard Molyneux, father of the Sir Richard who fell at Blore Heath, was a Robert Molyneux who married Margaret daughter of Sir Baldwin Lestrangle. This pair had a daughter and heir Jane, who married Sir William Troutbeck, knight,

and their daughter and heir was Ellen, who married Gilbert Talbot of Grafton, from whom came the Earls of Shrewsbury, still holders of land in Cheshire by virtue of their descent from the Troutbecks.

In agreement with this statement the Talbots, in the Shropshire Visitation printed by the Harleian Society, gave a long series of Molyneux quarterings, stopping correctly before the Haydock alliance, though the accompanying pedigree shows not the least trace of a Molyneux descent to justify the assumption of the arms.

Was there any justification for this assumption?

The true connection of Troutbeck with Talbot, as given in Mr. Earkwaker's "St. Mary's," excludes the Molyneux marriages asserted above. It reads: William Troutbeck (d. 1446) by his wife Joan Massey of Rixton had a son John, who married Margery, daughter and heir of Thomas Hulse of Brimstage. John died in 1458, and his son Sir William Troutbeck, knight, was killed next year at Blore Heath. By his wife Margaret Stanley of Lathom he had sons (Sir) William and Adam; and the latter's daughter by Margaret Boteler of Bewsey, named after her mother, married Sir John Talbot of Grafton and carried the united inheritance to this family. There are no blanks to be filled up by a Molyneux marriage.

Nevertheless, the Troutbeck chapel in St. Mary's Church contained evidence of such an alliance, for the arms of the Molyneux family appeared in one of the windows in connection with those of Troutbeck and Rixton ("St. Mary's," p. 36).

The Molyneux pedigree above quoted is certainly wrong, and were it not for this evidence in the Troutbeck window and the Talbot pedigree, it would not be worth discussing. Perhaps some reader will be able to throw light on the matter. Meanwhile, what appears to be the true pedigree may be inserted at this point.

Sir Baldwin Lestrangle, a natural son of the lord of Knockin, fought in the French wars of Henry V.'s time—possibly he was knighted at Agincourt. He married Margaret, apparently heiress of a Ludlow, who brought him the moiety of the manor of Campden in Gloucestershire and other lands. Their daughter Elizabeth (aged 14 in 1432) married Robert Molyneux; they had a son John, whose daughter and heir Cecily married John Josslyn. They had land in Staffordshire. After this the story ceases. Possibly the above John Molyneux had a sister Elizabeth, who may have married William Troutbeck, a younger son of the first William Troutbeck named above ("St. Mary's," p. 183); and they may have had a daughter who married a Talbot.

This is the puzzle. Can it be solved? If the history of the Ludlow moiety of the manor of Campden can be traced it may solve the matter. The other moiety was in the hands of the Stafford family, one of whom was Bishop of Exeter in 1419.

STAR.

AUGUST 5, 1903

NOTES.

[873] THE PARKGATE ROAD.

The Parkgate Road and the boundaries of St. Oswald's Parish, particularly that portion of it adjoining the above-mentioned road, have received much attention in the "Sheaf," but no mention has been made of a third stone bridge existing on it, and the fact that there was and still is one may throw a different light on some of the theories which have been set forth respecting the parish boundaries.

In an issue of the "Chester Chronicle" for April, 1903, the following note, which I think is worthy of a place in the "Sheaf," appeared:—

"INTERESTING FIND AT MOLLINGTON. —While excavating on the footpath between the last house on 'The Meadows' and the Blacon Cottage, near the Canal, the men came upon an old well-built stone bridge, which evidently runs under the whole width of the Parkgate Road and was choked up with mud. Various conjectures have been made as to the origin and use of the bridge. Probability points to its having been built some time anterior to the making of the canal to carry off a stream which it was found necessary to divert when the canal bank was made."

I visited the spot and, although the excavation referred to had been filled in, found traces of the bridge at the end of the last cottage of the group called "Abbott's Meads." The keystone of the arch in one or two places was visible close to the road level, and a stick inserted in a hole went down about two feet. On each side of the road there is a depression in the land, and on the canal side this runs parallel to the water courses which are still existing and have been mentioned in these columns.

J. H. E. B.

[874] LEASE OF THE BAILLIWICK OF CHESTER, 1662.

The title thus given to the document that follows opens up a question as to the exact position of the tenant. He appears to have become 'bailiff' of the property demised. What did that term imply? These are some of the explanations given in dictionaries: "An officer that belongs to a manour to order husbandry, hath authority to gather the profits for the lord's use, pay quit rents issuing out of the manour, fell trees, dispose of the under servants, &c." (Bailey, 1751); "An under steward of a manor" (Johnson, 1813); "One who has things put into his bail or control: a lessee or deputy: an agent or steward" (Chambers, 1872); "An overseer or under steward of an estate who directs husbandry operations, collects rents, &c." (Webster, 1894). A Bailiwick (according to Bailey) "was the whole district within which the trust of a

bailiwick was to be executed; and thence a whole county was formerly so called, in respect of the sheriff; a whole barony, in respect of the lord baron; a hundred, in respect of the chief constable; a manour, in respect of the steward, &c." "Bailiwick [Bailie, Bailiff; wick, a village]—The precincts within which a bailiff has jurisdiction; the limits of a bailiff's authority" (Webster). The following passage from "The English Institutions" p. 84, by P. V. Smith, perhaps throws light on the use of the term here. Speaking of Borough Charters before the Conquest, he says, "These boroughs were not handed over by the Conqueror to his barons with the counties in which they were situate, but were retained by him as part of his own demesne, or specially granted to some lay or spiritual noble. The lord, whether king or noble, required from the burgesses an annual rent besides various dues and customs, and, to insure punctual payment to himself, generally farmed out these revenues, like those of the hundreds, for the highest price he could get. The man who paid this price became, under the title of bailiff, chief magistrate of the borough in lieu of the old borough-reeve or port-reeve, and used the powers delegated to him by the lord for the oppression and extortion of the inhabitants." It would appear that the Dean and Chapter, in an analogous way, farmed out the revenues of their manors to a bailiff, or under-steward, for a fixed annual rental. The preamble of the Tithe Apportionment of the Township of St. Oswald (1844) contains these passages: "Whereas I find that the Dean and Chapter of the Cathedral Church of Christ and the Blessed Virgin in Chester are the Appropriators of all and all manner of tithes whatsoever arising and issuing out of or accruing due upon the Lands of the said Township as well as owners of certain Lands therein called the Bailiwick containing by admeasurement two hundred Acres, &c. And whereas I find that Lynch Sidney Cotton Esquire holds a lease for an unexpired term of twenty-one years under the said Dean and Chapter of all Tithes whatsoever arising and issuing out of or accruing due upon the Lands of the said Township save and except those Tithes arising and issuing out of or accruing due upon the said Lands called the Bailiwick, &c."

An abstract of portions only of a Lease of the Bailiwick (which is of great length) is given below.

"Indenture made 26th April 1662 Between Dean and Chapter of Chester and Will'm Jolliffe Citizen and Merchant of London. In consideration of surrender of a certain Lease and of £300 &c. The Dean and Chapter demyse grant sett lett and confirme unto said William Jolliffe all those their messuages lands tenements houses Cottages Shops Cellars Stables barnes building tyths milnes, mulctures tolles tolleges milnedammes waterpooles fishings Course of waters waies Orchards Gardens Acres of Land butts paddocks platts heyes fields clausures meadows leasowes pastures Common of

pasture rents and services whatsoever they bee lying and being in the City of Chester aforesaid or the liberties thereof And the townfields precincts and Circuits of the same in the said City or elsewhere in the County of Chester, viz. :

"All that parcell of ground whereon a Capitall Messuage and tenement heretofore called St. Thomas Chappell and heretofore being the dwelling house of Richard Dutton Esquire did stand, and all buildings stables and barnes now standing thereon and all Orchards and Gardens thereunto belonging . . . together with the Horse milne at the end of the Barne and stable and all those places or parcells of Land where a Wynd-milne and Water-milne did lately stand lying neare unto or not farr from the said Barne and Horse-milne and the place where the said Capitall Messuage or tenement did stand, with all waters streames pooles poledamnes tolls fishings and other Comodities and Advantages whatsoever to the said Milnes or any of them (when they were standing) &c. . . . together with one parcell of ground adjoining to the said late Water milne w'ch now is or lately was inclosed with a Stone wall and is now in the occupation of Will'm Crompton Alderman, And also all and singular that and those clausures pastures meadows crofts or parcells of Land heretofore belonging unto the said Capitall Messuage and now or late in the holding and occupation of Will'm Jollife Esq. Father to the said Will'm Jollife . . . comonly called or knowne by the name or names hereafter mentioned, viz., the Croft near adjoyneinge to the said Horse-Milne and now usually called the milne-croft, the walls-hey, the Stone-bridge feild, the two poole-hey, the pearly wall hey, the Harpers feild or the Wind-milne feild, Worsleys hey the Harpers croft the Preist feild the two sellars meadows. The Bache flatt being now divided into the Flookers-brooke hey, the horse-feild or the horse pasture being now divided into two feilds with their and every of their Appurtenances together with the tyth hay and tyth corne of the Bache."

"The Chapel of St. Thomas à Becket occurs in St. Werburgh's Chartulary, E1190, as the 'Cemetery of St. Thomas without the Northgate,' at the north extremity of Northgate Street, between the roads leading to Eastham and Parkgate. It was afterwards known as 'Green Hall,' and later 'Jolly's Hall,' being demolished in the siege." (Morris, p. 167). Was "Jolly's Hall" a corruption of "Jollife's Hall"?

Several of the meadows here mentioned can be identified from their names appearing in the Tithe Map. Thus, "Mill Croft" lay between the Liverpool and Parkgate Roads, immediately to the south of Rocky Lane. "Stone Bridge Field" was a small triangular field on the East side of the Canal, and separated from Cheyney Road by "Blacon Cross Field." "The pearly wall hey" lay midway between the Liverpool and Parkgate Roads, bounded on the north by the Bache brook. "The Wind-

milne field" was a long field of 7 acres running from Victoria Road (formerly Windmill Lane) to the loop line of the Birkenhead section of the L. and N.W. Railway. The "Priestfield" was, roughly, the land now occupied by Denbigh Street, Hemahall Street, and the west side of Bouverie Street. The "Bache Flatt" was a triangle bounded by the Liverpool Road, Bache Brook, and the Pearl Wall Hey. The lease proceeds :

"And also all those messuages or dwelling houses, buildings, Barnes, Stables, orchards, gardens, lands, tenements, butts portions and parcels of land sett lying and being without the Northgate of the said City of Chester and dispersed in the streets lands and fields neare thereunto adjoyneing, viz: One barne now turned into a Little Cottage, and a little garden thereunto belonging . . . two little Cottage places . . . w'ch now lye wast . . . one messuage and tenement heretofore divided into three or foure, and now divided into two, with the gardens and a butt of ground thereunto belonging . . . one messuage place with a garden and two butts of ground thereunto belonging . . . one parcell of ground upon which a kilne formerly stood and was in the possession of the said Richard Dutton Esq. and now lies wast. One messuage place upon which a Little Cottage is lately built with a garden and three butts of land therunto belonging . . . and also three acres of Land lying in Chester townfields . . . one messuage and tenement with a garden and two butts of ground and two acres of land lying on Dee bankes in Chester townfield &c. Two acres of Land lying neare the Wynd milne hill. . . . Three acres of arrable Land two wherof lye on Dee banke . . . and the other acre lies in Foulakes. . . . One croft or p'cell of Land lying neare Flookers-brooke. One acre of land neare ye townes end . . . one little Croft called the Paddock adjoyneing to Sellers Meadows, one close adjoyneing to the poole hey. . . . Three cottages w'ch three severall gardens thereunto belonging which were formerly a little croft Scituat and lying in or neare Rennstie lane, one Close lying at the point of Dee banke . . . one croft or parcell of Land lying in or neare unto Dee-lane, and one acre and a half of land lying in Fowleakes neare where the tyth barne did stand. One close or parcell of Land in or neare Gorstach lane upon which three dwelling houses formerly stood . . . together with those ancient and cheif rents yearly issuing or growing out of the lands and tenements herafter mentioned viz. . . . One messuage and garden lying in or neare Barne lane . . . one close or parcell of land . . . called the Lady Barrowes hey. One messuage and tenement with courts and gardens and two acres or thereabouts of land bee the same more or lesse lying neare the Stone bridge. . . . One acre and a half of ground bee itt more or less adjoyneing to the Porte poole bridge. One close neare Dee lane end called Cow sucke hey or the Queenes hay. The Comon hall of the City

of Chester and all profits and Commodities therunto belonging now and heretofore in the usage holding or occupation of the Mayor and Citizens of Chester . . . and also all and singular those their messuages &c. in or neare Parsons lane. And also all those their messuages &c. in or near Ennpings Lane—one messuage and garden in the Castle lane—certaine lands and tenem'ts in Fleshmongers lane—All that one messuage and tenement—without the Barrs of the said City. All that croft or parcell of land comonly called Connigree in or near Boughton and near the said City of Chester. . . . And also one close croft or parcell of land on which a barnedid formerly stand neare unto a lane called Remisty lane. And also all their stalls and fishings in the River of Dee. And also all that and those theirs the said Deane and Chapters boardland tyths of hay and corne within Figden in the County of Chester—and all that their wiche house of three bayes of building and twelve leades walling together w'th a little parcell of ground thereunto belonging scituate . . . in Namptwich. And alsoall those their tyths of hay and Corne within the Lordships or Townships of Worlaston Wigsterston and Weston—together with all that and those their tyths of hay and corne within the Parish of Woodchurch in Wirral. . . . Yearly rent £72 18s."

Most of the streets here mentioned are familiar—Dee Lane (now Canal Street), Barne lane (King Street), Parsons lane (Princess Street), Fleshmongers lane (Newgate Street). But where were "Ennpings Lane," and "Remisty lane"; also "Chester townesfield," "Sellars Meadows," and "Connigree?"

E. C. L.

AUGUST 12, 1908.

NOTES.

[875] THE LANCELYNS OF POULTON.

This family held land in Kirkdale and elsewhere in Lancashire and from the inquisitions it appears that Roger Lancelyn, who died 19 Henry VIII., left a son and heir William. This latter died 5 Edward VI., leaving a daughter Elizabeth, aged three years, to inherit.

From the Moore deeds we learn that the property in Kirkdale came to Roger Lancelyn through his wife, the daughter and heir of Thomas Ewes (or Eves), and that his son William's wardship and marriage were granted to William Moore of Liverpool, the annual value of his land being—in Wirral £16 1s. 8d. and in Lancashire £6. William Lancelyn came of age about 1547. A difficulty arose because Roger had died a few days before his father William, and therefore the inquisition *post mortem* was inexact.

These particulars will assist in filling up some of the blank spaces in the pedigree in Ormerod's "Cheshire" (Halsby's ed.), ii. 444.

STAR.

[876] A GIRL APPRENTICE OF THE 16TH CENTURY.

This abstract of an indenture dated late in the 16th Century is transcribed from Harl. MS. 2020, fo. 460. The Richard Bavand mentioned represented Chester in Parliament 1584-6, and a pedigree of the family is given in vol. iii, p. 153 of the "Sheaf." There is also one in the Visitations of Chester printed by the Harleian Society. It is to be hoped that Grace Turner's mistress did not feel herself called upon too often to carry out her part of the covenant with respect to the chastising.

"An indenture made 5 Aprill 1581 bet: Jane Bavand wife of Richard Bavand of the city of Chester Alder & now maior of the same city upon on p't & Grace dau: to Hen: Turner of the sayd City wever Witnesseth whereas the sayd Grace w'th the assent & consent of her father & friends hath put her selph apprentice & covenant servant to & with the sayd Jane Bavand & to abide with her after the maner of an Apprentice from the day of the date of theis p'sents for 7 years etc. as in all oomon Indentures to—and the sayd Jane covenanteth with the sayd Grace that she shall Justly & truly w'th conselinge Instruct & teach the sayd grace all such trades as she now useth to the utermost of her skill & in due maner to chastise her etc. as in oomon Indentures."

In the margin is a note:—"Woman bound apprentice to the maiors wife," and lower down the remark:—"it was maltinge" written against the underlined words "such trades."

J. H. E. B.

[877] THE TRIAL OF LORD BACON.

In the House of Commons proceedings against Lord Bacon for bribery and corruption in connection with the discharge of his duties as Lord Chancellor (March 15, 1620-1) occurs the following:—

Egerton sheweth That he desiring to procure my Lord's favour was persuaded by Sir George Hastings and Sir Richard Young to present my Lord with a sum of money. Before this advice he had given a present of £52 and odd shillings in plate as a testimony of his love, but yet rests doubtful whether before his calling to seal or since. But now by mortgaging his estate he got up £400 and sends for Sir George Hastings and Sir Richard Young, desires their assistance in presenting this money, and told them how much it was. They took it and carried it in and presented it to the Lord Chancellor as a gratuity from the gentleman, for that my Lord (when he was attorney) stood by him. My Lord, as they say, started at it first, saying it was too much, he would not take it; but at length was persuaded, because it was for favours past, and took it; and the gentleman returned him thanks, saying that their Lord said that he did not only enrich him but laid a tie on him to assist him in all just and lawful business. . . . Another point came in by the by (continues Sir Robert Philipe' report) showing that some indirect means are sometimes

open—I fear too often—to the courts of justice. It concerns no less a man than a divine that is now a bishop [of Llandaff], but then called Doctor Field. Mr. Egerton and he being acquainted and Mr. Egerton's mind being troubled with the ill-success of his business, vented it to this divine, who (contrary to his profession) took it upon him to broke for him in such a manner as was never preceded by any. He made Egerton to acknowledge a recognizance of £10,000 with a defeasance that if my Lord Chancellor did decree it for him £6,000 was to be distributed amongst those honourable persons that did solicit it for him; but if it did not go as they desired he promised *in verbo sacerdotis* that he would deliver the bonds again. This appeared by letters from the now reverend bishop but then practical doctor. Mr. Johnson, a moral honest man, perceiving that Mr. Egerton (finding no relief) did intend to prefer a petition against my Lord Chancellor by one Heal's means, took occasion to talk with Mr. Egerton, asking him why he would prefer such a scandalous petition against my Lord. He would have him take the money out of the petition and then his cause, by the mediation and conference of some other judge with my Lord, might be brought to a good end; and for money, if he had lent any, he might be satisfied again. There was upon a petition by Sir Rowland Egerton a reference of this matter to my Lord Chancellor and Mr. Edward Egerton entered into 10,000 marks bond. He had treated with one Doctor Sharp that if he would give £1,100 he should have his decree. We sent for Sharp, but he denied that he ever contracted with him.

On the following Saturday, March 17, Sir Robert Phillips and his Committee reported further on this case:—

Now for Mr. Egerton's case. As the matter was of more weight, so the sum was of larger extent, for there was £400 given them, and a suit then depending in the Star Chamber, about which time Sir Rowland Egerton did prefer a petition to the King for a reference unto the Lord Chancellor; whereupon my Lord caused him to enter into 10,000 marks bond to stand to his award. An award was made, which was refused by Edward Egerton; thereupon a suit by the Lord Chancellor's direction was commenced against him and the bond of 10,000 marks assigned over to Sir Rowland Egerton. About this time Edward Egerton became acquainted with Doctor Field, relating his cause unto him, who pitying him sent him two worthy gentlemen, Mr. Dampont and Sir John Butler (who is now dead); he makes known his case to them and desires them to be a means to put off his cause from hearing because his witnesses were not here. Whereupon Dampont rode to the Marquis of Buckingham to have had his letter to the Lord Chancellor to stop it; but the Marquis said he would not write because the matter was already decreed, and he would not receive it. Mr. Egerton was drawn into a bond of £10,000 for £6,000, and Mr. Dampont being asked

what he and Doctor Field should have had of this money, he said he did not remember what certain sum, but he said it was more than any cause could deserve in any court of justice.

It would thus appear that a Cheshire case had something to do with the downfall of the learned Chancellor.

B.

AUGUST 19, 1903.

NOTES.

[878] LETTERS OF THE REV. THOMAS CRANE.

I send for the "Cheshire Sheaf" copies of some interesting letters from the Rev. Thomas Crane.

The first was written by him, as vicar of Over, to the bishop of the diocese (Dr. Law) relating to his resident curate (Mr. Young) and enclosing a copy of correspondence, including the second letter here given.

This letter is intended to reprove his curate for his dissatisfaction as to the house he resided in at Over. It gives one some insight into clerical life ninety years ago.

The third letter (first in order of time) was addressed to Peter Patten, Esq.; from this it may be observed that Harvey was not the "discoverer" of the circulation of the blood, as it was known to the Greeks centuries before he was born.

W. H. BRADFORD.

I.

My Lord,—I send to your Lordship a letter which I have received from Mr. Young with a copy of my answer. I hope that he will remain contented in ye Vicar's house.

If you should have ten minutes' leisure to call at Crane street before you go to parliament, I can shew you two coins found at Carthage which illustrate a passage in Virgil: and one coin struck at Tyre which explains a text in ye prophesy of Ezekiel, c. 28. It is impossible to procure a single barrel of Puffins from North Wales. A quantity of Rats landed from a ship which was wrecked on Puffin Island and made such depredations among ye birds, that there are no barrels for sale: and it is said there will be none till ye rats are completely destroyed.

Sept. 30, 1816.

II.

Dear Sir,—I was not very well when I received your letter of the eleventh or I would have answered it sooner.

When that good Bishop Dr. Majendie collated me to Over he knew it was impossible for me to do ye duty personally. The Vicar's House was given up to you that you might reside in my place: you must either continue to reside in that house, or give up the Curacy entirely.

You seem very unthankful for the kindness which has been shewn to you during my incumbency. I found you in Over with a salary of forty pounds and no house. You know how very much your salary has been enlarged in my time. You say the Vicar's House will let for eight pounds yearly; perhaps with only a Garden it did let for that mean sum when it was degraded into a lodging house during the severe affliction of ye last Vicar: and a more abominable place I never entered than it was when I took possession: it was highly offensive to the sight and smell. I spent my money freely to remove this abomination. I did not stop here. That you might be supplied with fruit and pot herbs I enclosed a garden. This garden is worth ten pounds yearly independent of the house: for it is ye eighth part of an acre planted with fruit trees. You told me some years ago that one of your bedrooms was large enough for two rooms and I gave you leave to divide it by a screen. After what I have said, if you still continue discontented: give me only three months' notice and I will send a Clergyman to Over who will esteem himself happy with such a house and such a salary as you possess. I am too far advanced in life to bear continual plague and vexation.

The Lord Bishop is not at ye palace: but I will take care to send him your message of thanks.

Sep. 19, 1816.

III.

To Peter Patten, Esq.

Sir,—Since I last conversed with you I have found in Harvey de Generatione Animalium two passages in favour of your Assertion, that it is possible to foretell from ye form of a hen's egg whether a male or female chicken will be produced. The method is either from ye position of ye internal cavity, or from ye acuteness or obtuseness of ye shell.

The passages you may read in ye book itself which I send with this.—See page 34 and 36. Pliny and Columella it seems hold an opinion contrary to that of Aristotle. Perhaps these Authors are equally right, though they seem dissentient, if climate causes any difference: for what is true in Italy, might not be true in Greece.

Harvey is ye same Professor of Anatome, who gained so much reputation by reviving ye long forgotten doctrine of ye Circulation of ye blood—a doctrine known to ye Greeks many centuries before he existed.

March 13, 1792.

[879] CHESHIRE IN THE CALENDARS. I.

The following from the volume of the Calendar of State Papers, "Domestic, 1547—1580," may be of interest to some readers of the "Sheaf."

28 Jan., 1560.—Grant of arms to John Weld, gentleman, haberdasher of London, son of John Weld, of Eaton [Tarporely], Cheshire; by Sir G. Dethick, Garter. (p. 149.)

2 Nov., 1573.—The Commissioners of Musters for the county certify to the Council their doings in taking the general musters of all the men, horses, armour, &c.; and the provision for the defence of the shire. They enclose a certificate of the number of common soldiers without armour in the county, amounting to 2063 able men; also a muster book, containing the names and number of all knights, esquires, gentlemen, and freeholders within the county, with the horses, armour and other furniture, amounting to 937 men. (p. 469.)

1573 (?).—Petition of Thomas Manley, son and heir apparent of William Manley, to hold the manor of Wettenhall in farm, till livery of the same be legally sued. (p. 472.)

29 Nov., 1577.—G. Fyton writes from Alford to Secretary Walsingham, relative to the recusants in Cheshire; the chief of them are not touched who hear mass daily. He encloses a certificate of certain Papists refusing to attend the church, with the value of their lands and goods. Then follows a certificate of recusants in the diocese which the late Bishop of Chester would have sent had he not been prevented by death. (p. 568.)

30 June, 1578.—Mr. Fyton (Alford), to Lord Burghley, sends particulars of the claim made by Mr. Randle Maynwaringe and Randle Brereton, esquires, to Rode Heath as part of their Manor of Eaton [Congleton], it being part of the Earl of Oxford's manor of North Rode. (p. 593.)

4 Oct. 1580.—Rowland Stanley, to his mother Mrs. Elizabeth Stanley; writes that his father is fully determined to leave the wars and retire to some private part of the country. Desires that the hawks and a greyhound may be sent with Tom; a postscript for his sister. (p. 679.)

This last letter is probably from Rowland, grandson of Sir Rowland Stanley of Hooton and son of William Stanley, who betrayed Deventer to Philip II. in 1587 and took service under this King on religious grounds; Rowland's mother was Elizabeth, daughter of John Egerton of Egerton. The date seems wrong.

B.

(To be continued.)

[879a] AN ANCIENT CHESHIRE FAMILY.

The following letter to the editor of the "Courant" deserves to be preserved in the "Sheaf," where also it is conveniently placed for reference.

Sir,—In an issue of the "Chester Courant" of July, 1879, there appeared a letter of enquiry from a reader anxious to learn something of the ancient Holes family. The writer stated that he had in his possession an old document, wherein it appeared that a Hugh Holes resided at Chester in 1384, David and John Holes at Norbury in 1386, and Robert Holes at Hargreave in 1453. He asked, "Can any of your readers give any fair account of the family, their origin, descents, and present representatives, if any?"

A reply was given the same month by Dean Hole (at that time Canon of Lincoln), writing from Cauntton Manor, Notts. His reply was to the effect that the Hole family of Devonshire and Notts is the present representative of the old Cheshire stock. The Dean referred enquirers to Burke's "Landed Gentry" and Walford's "County Families."

Now, I would not be thought wanting in respect to the venerable Dean, but, surely, his statement lacks warrant. The ancient family of Holes took its name from the manor and township of Holes or Hulse, four miles south-east of Northwich. The family name, in fact, was very frequently written "Hulse." How, then, has it come about that the sibilant should have been dropped, to produce the name of "Hole"? It is surely most unusual. For, great as have been the changes which many names have undergone, the changes have always taken place with regard to phonetic principles.

In those early days of unsettled orthography, when every man was a law unto himself, one naturally expects to find the same name spelled in a variety of ways. But the name, so written, is always the honest attempt of the writer to reproduce, in characters, the word as he has learned to pronounce it. Is it possible to imagine an Anglo-Saxon word like Hulse or Holes being pronounced and perpetuated as "Hole"?

Furthermore, I am of opinion that the name Holes is dissyllabic and that the penultimate vowel had the short sound. And for this reason amongst others—that of the many grants of land at Holes made to St. Werburgh's Abbey at Chester, and recited in the Chartulary, several appear under the names of Yonas de Holys, and Robert, son of Herbert de Holys. There appears also (temp. Ed. II.) a grant of Robert, son of Herbert del Holis, to Wladus Walens of a piece of land of "the Holis." This, taken in conjunction with the fact that the neighbouring township was called "Birohes," leads to the conclusion that the district was, at one time, well wooded, and that Holes took its name from the Hollies which gave it its distinctive feature. The etymology of the word "holly" in Skeat's Etymological Dictionary would seem to lend support to this conjecture. I find there that the Teutonic root is "hul," as may be seen in Dutch, "hulst," and German, "Hulse" (holly). This would certainly suggest one form of the name.

I do not know upon what authority the claims of the Hole family are based, for in no single instance have I been able to discover that the names "Holes" and "Hole" were ever interchangeable. If, as is likely, the family is of Devonshire origin, it would probably have taken its name from the township of Hole, near Ashburton, or from the other township of that name near Clovelly. If of Cheshire origin, the town of

Hole would most readily suggest 'Hole.' Indeed, in Foster's "Alumni Oxonienses" (early series), the names Hole and Hoole are interchangeable.

I know that in advancing the etymology of the name "Holes" I am opposed to the opinion of Gervase Hollis of Grimsby (temp. Charles I.), a learned and judicious antiquary, and friend of William Dugdale. In a manuscript dated 1658, and dedicated to his son Admiral Sir Frocheville Hollis, he gives an accurate account of his ancestors to the death of Sir John Hollis (afterwards Baron Houghton and Earl of Clare), his uncle. He takes the name of "Holes" to signify "lowlying lands," comparing with it "Holland" and "Holoraft." In this, as I believe, he was wrong. But, whatever the origin of the word may have been, he has no doubt as to the origin of his family. He claims descent from the old Cheshire family of Holes or Hulse.

Turning to the pedigree of John Hollis, 1st Earl of Clare (Harl. Soc. MSS.), I find that he traces his descent from Richard a brother of Sir Hugh Holes, Knt., Chief Justice of Chester (19 Rich. II.). Whether this Richard is the same with the Richard Hulse (Burke's Commoners, vol. ii.) who married Margaret, daughter of Thomas Beckwith of Beckwith (temp. Richard II.), I have not been able to discover. In Booth's Pedigree of the Hulses of Norbury, the names of none of Sir Hugh's brothers are given (this being a junior branch of the family). Booth's Pedigree begins with Sir William de Hulse, who married the heiress of Norbury. The John and David Holes mentioned in the old document alluded to by your correspondent were respectively uncle and cousin of Sir Hugh Holes above mentioned. Robert Holes does not appear in any pedigree that I know of, but a Robert Holes was justice of Chester in 1394, in succession to Thomas de Mowbray, Earl of Nottingham. It is plain that he was a member of the same family, for from the Chester Recognizance Rolls one learns that three-fifths of the hamlet of Hargreve (Robert's reputed place of residence), were acquired by Sir Hugh, John, and David Holes in 1396.

Sir Hugh Holes was grandson of Sir William de Hulse. He was one of the witnesses for Sir Robert le Grosvenor in the great heraldic dispute with Sir Richard Scrope; on which occasion representatives of "the noblest blood in Cheshire were brought forward on behalf of the Grosvenor party." (Dr. Morris's "History of Chester.") Sir Hugh died in 1416, and is buried with his wife in Watford Church, Herts. In the 36th and 37th Annual Reports of the Deputy Keeper of Public Records (Welsh Records, and Calendar of Recognizance Rolls of the Palatinate of Chester), there is an amount of useful information concerning the Holes family, extending over a century from 1380. It is comprised under the headings Holes, Hulse, Huls, Vernon, Brereton and Foulshirst.

Branches of the family were settled at Norbury, Raby, Neeson, Olive, Knutsford, Elworth, Baddeley, Marbury and Astley. The last of the Elworth Hulses, the Rev. John Hulse, a most eccentric character, left his estate to Cambridge University, and founded the Hulsean Prize and Scholarship. The estate of Sir Hugh Holes passed by marriage to the Troutbecks and Talbots, and from them to the Earl of Shrewsbury. Sir Hugh's brother Richard was great-grandfather of Sir William Hollis, Lord Mayor of London in 1540. This Sir William founded the celebrated Cross, formerly one of Coventry's chief glories, but demolished by a later utilitarian age. His wife, Dame Elizabeth, founded six almshouses in St. Helena, London. To see the easy transition from the name Holes to Hollis, Holles or Holleys, one has but to examine documents relative to this Sir William Hollis. In a grant to him under the great seal of Henry VIII., of land in Lincs., are these words—"Commisimus Willhelmo Hollys, militi, etc.," and these—"Habendum, etc., prae-fatis Willhelmo Holles, etc." And in conveyance to him of lands in Burgh Marsh, Lincs., the "Dedimus" as likewise the "Habendum" is Willhelmo "Holes," militi. In his will he uses the form Hollys, Hollis, and Holles indiscriminately. In Foster's "Gray's Inn Register" he is styled William Holes (1534).

Again, to take the case of an undisputed member of the old Cheshire family: Sir Hugh Holes (above mentioned) had three sons, Thomas, Edmund and Andrew, and three daughters, Alianore, Isabella and Joan. The third son, Andrew, became a priest and finally Archdeacon of York. And in the Collections of Roger Dodsworth, amongst the ornaments belonging to the Cathedral Church of St. Peter in York, are "six Copes of Blew Cloath of Tissue ex dono Andraee Hollis, Archidiaconi Ebor." Moreover, Andraee Holes makes his testament (an. 1467), wherein he mentions his three sisters, the Lady Alianore Vernon, the Lady of Brereton, and the Lady Joan of Foulshirst. He bequeathed to the Metropolitan Church of St. Peter at York, "Unam sectam Vestimentorum pro Presbitero, Diacono, et Subdiacono, cum sex Copis de panno blanco de Tisew," etc. This cleric may probably be the same with the Andrew Holes who was sent by King Henry VI. in 1435 on an Embassy to Pope Eugene, to procure absolution for the Duke of Burgundy from the oath he had taken to the French King.

Sir William Hollis (Lord Mayor of London) had three sons, Sir Thomas Hollis (of Fritcham, Norfolk), Sir William and Francis. The eldest (Sir Thomas) squandered his patrimony and beggared his posterity. The second son, Sir William Hollis, of Houghton, Notts., married twice, first, Anne, daughter and heiress of John Denzill of Denzill, Cornwall, and, second, Jane,

daughter of Sir Robert Grosvenor. By his first wife he had issue, the eldest of whom, Denzill Hollis (of Houghton, Notts., and Eresby Lincs.), married Ellinor, daughter of Edmund, Lord Sheffield (afterwards Earl Mulgrave), son of John Vere, sixth Earl of Oxford. John Hollis, eldest son of this marriage, was a captain in Ireland, where he was knighted by the Lord Deputy in 1693. Previously to this he had served in the Netherlands, Hungary and Spain, and had taken part in the great sea fight with the Spaniards in 1588. He was Comptroller of the Household of the Prince of Wales in 1610-12, and was created Baron Houghton 1616 and Earl of Clare 1624. This latter title had been but recently refused to Robert Richard, Earl of Warwick, who greatly desired it, the Crown lawyers solemnly declaring that it was a title peculiar to the Royal Blood, and not to be conferred upon a subject. The Earl married Anne, daughter of Sir Thomas Stanhope (ancestor of the Earls Chesterfield, Stanhope and Harrington). The second son of this marriage was the celebrated Parliamentary leader and patriot, Denzill Hollis, whose person Charles I. made an ineffectual attempt to seize. In reward for the prominent part he afterwards played in bringing about the Restoration, he was created Baron Holles of Ifield, Sussex.

By his first wife only, Dorothy, daughter and heiress of Sir Francis Ashley, of Dorchester, had he issue. He died in 1679, and was buried in Dorchester Church, where in after years the Duke of Newcastle, his kinsman, raised a monument to his memory. The title became extinct with the third Baron. A sister of Denzill's married Thomas Wentworth, the unfortunate Earl of Strafford, and had issue by him.

The second Earl of Clare was Lord Chancellor of Ireland. He married Elizabeth, daughter and co-heir of the celebrated Horace, Lord Vere. His eldest surviving son, Gilbert (third Earl), married into the Pierrepont family (Earl of Kingston; and of the second Earl's large family of fourteen daughters, the eldest, Anne, married Edward, Lord Clinton, and became mother of the fifth Earl of Lincoln. The second daughter, Elizabeth, married Wentworth, thirteenth Earl of Kildare. Of the third Earl's family, John Holles, born in 1661, succeeded to the title as fourth Earl of Clare. One of his sisters married Lord Barnard, and the youngest sister, Grace, married Sir Thomas Pelham (afterwards Baron Pelham), and became the mother of Thomas Pelham. The Earl married his first cousin, Margaret, daughter and co-heir of Henry Cavendish, Duke of Newcastle. About this time also he succeeded to the estates of his kinsman, Baron Holles of Ifield, and thus by all his united titles became "the richest subject that had been seen in the kingdom for some ages." (Burnett). His estates comprised a large portion of Notts., with Welbeck, Worksop and Clumber; numerous

manors and extensive lands in Derbyshire, Stafford, Norfolk, Lincolnshire, and Northumberland, with lands and tenements in St. Clement Danes, St. Giles, St. Pancras and Kentish Town. He was created Marquis of Clare and Duke of Newcastle, May 14, 1684. His Grace enjoyed several high offices at Court, and was a Knight of the Garter. He died from the effects of a fall while stag-hunting, 15 July, 1711, leaving an only daughter, the Lady Henrietta Cavendish Holles, who married, in 1713, Edward, Lord Harley, son and heir of Robert, Earl of Oxford, to whom she conveyed a very considerable estate, and by whom she had an only surviving daughter, Lady Margaret Cavendish Harley (the lady celebrated by Prior as "my noble lovely little Peggy"). This lady married William Bentinck, second Duke of Portland, thereby conveying to that family Welbeck and other large estates. In honour of these two marriages there have been designated in London the thoroughfares of Bentinck-street, Margaret-street, Duke-street, Duchess-street, Portland Place and Great Portland-street, Henrietta-street, Holles-street, Cavendish-street, Cavendish Square, and Harley-street, Newcastle-street, Vere-street, Stanhope-street, and Denzil-street, near Clare Market, recall former marriages. Clare Market itself was formerly the site of one of the town residences of the Earl of Clare. A portion of his great estates had been devised in 1707 by the Duke of Newcastle to his nephew, Thomas Pelham (before mentioned). In him the honours of the family were renewed. He assumed the additional arms and surname of Holles, and was created Earl of Clare and Duke of Newcastle in 1715, with special remainder to his nephew, Henry Clinton, Earl of Lincoln. This was the Duke of Newcastle who, at a critical period in English history, earned a certain distinction as Prime Minister. Dying without issue in 1768, the Dukedom of Newcastle devolved upon his nephew, Henry Clinton, who assumed the additional surname and arms of Pelham. In this family the succession has up to the present been constant.

Looking back with a dispassionate eye over the history of the past, it seems singular that while John, Duke of Newcastle, and his warrior kinsmen, Sir George, Francis, and Sir Frecheville Hollis, have been honoured with proud monuments in Westminster Abbey, contiguous to the Veres, the best known and the one who has made an indelible mark upon English history, Denzil Hollis, should have no monument to his memory beyond that in the parish church of Dorchester. His great services to the cause of civil and religious liberty were surely deserving of public recognition. If he opposed the enormous exertion of the prerogative of Charles I., he was equally the enemy of Cromwell's tyranny, declaring him in the dedication of one of his works to be "the great designer of the ruin of three

kingdoms." Upon Cromwell's death he was one of the most zealous promoters of the Restoration. Burnet described him as "a man of courage and of as great pride. The head of the Presbyterian party for some years, and who during the whole course of his life never changed sides. He had indeed the soul of the old stubborn Roman in him."

Hallam gives him most favourable notice throughout his Constitutional History. In the chapter dealing with the transactions between Louis XIV. and the opposition party in England, he states that "the views of Lord Hollis and Lord Russell were sincerely patriotic and honourable." He calls them "the most public-spirited and high-minded characters of their age," honourably refusing to touch French money, at a time when even the King himself was in receipt of a secret pension from the Grand Monarque, and not a few of the opposition party besides. Well does the honest fellow deserve the encomium passed upon him by Guizot (*Revolution d'Angleterre*)—"Denzil Hollis, fils cadet de Lord Clare, compagnon de l'enfance de Charles, mais ami sincère de la liberté, et trop fier pour servir sous un favori."

Perhaps it was his uncompromising attitude towards tyranny and corruption, from whatever party proceeding, which deprived him, at his death, of that public recognition and honour which were undoubtedly his due—an omission which the clearer judgment of this generation might very well make good. To Denzil Hollis belongs the honour of "having established beyond controversy the great privilege of unlimited freedom of speech in Parliament: unlimited, I mean, by any authority except that by which the House itself ought always to restrain indecent and disorderly language in its members—a most important decision with respect to our Constitutional law." (Hallam.) This he established by procuring in both Houses the reversal of the judgment given against him (5 Car. I) for those proceedings in Parliament which led to that ill-advised attempt of the King, with his bodyguard, to arrest Hollis, Pym, Hampden, Haselrig and Strode within the privileged Chamber in full session, a most unfortunate proceeding which only precipitated a conflict, soon to cost the unhappy King his life and crown.

Within the compass of this sketch, necessarily scrappy and hastily strung together, I have attempted to deal with the subject opened up in the columns of the "Chester Courant" over twenty years ago. I am not without hope that the after-history of one branch of the old Chester family of Holles may be of interest to those who are proud of belonging to the County Palatine. I have taken in hand only the one branch, and that the most illustrious. To have touched upon other branches would have been to unduly lengthen this sketch.

A. H. HOLLIS.

[890] SOME CHESHIRE CATHOLICS.

It may not be generally known that a list of the local names in the great "Dictionary of National Biography," recently completed, has been published in instalments in the "Transactions" of the Lancashire and Cheshire Antiquarian Society (Manchester). The following list, which may be regarded as supplementary, is from Mr. Gillow's "Bibliographical Dictionary of the English Catholics," in which very interesting work further particulars as to the persons named may be found:—

Almond, John, priest and Cistercian; died in prison in Hull, 1585

Aston, Sir Arthur, royalist general, cut to pieces in the Drogheda massacre, 1655. See Ormerod i. 724.

Bentney (alias Bennet), William, S. J. A victim of the Oates plot; condemned to death in 1683 and 1689; died in Leicester Gaol, 1692.

Bonner, Edmund, bishop of London. Mr. Gillow denies that he was a Cheshire man and illegitimate. See Ormerod ii. 720. iii. 243

Brittain, Thomas Lewis, Dominican, born near Chester, 1744; convert, author; d. 1827.

Crockett, Ralph, born at Barton on the Hill, Cheshire; executed for his priesthood at Chichester, 1 Oct., 1588.

Hatton, Richard—supposed to be son of William Hatton of Stockton Yate (Chesh. Vis. 1580)—priest; died in prison in Lancaster.

Hockenhull, John, of Prenton—convicted as a recusant in 1582, and lingered many years in Salford gaol. He is said to have died there, not without suspicion of violence. (The inquisition in Helsby's Ormerod, ii. 531, says that he died at Chester, on 24 April, 1590.)

Holford, Peter, priest; convert; d. at Paris, 1722; also his nephew Peter Holford, who died at Acton Burnell in 1803.

Holford, Thomas, of Aston in Acton; executed for his priesthood in 1588.

Ireland, Edmund, priest; son of Thomas Dutton, but took his mother's maiden name; Douay College, 1621-47; supposed to have become a Carthusian.

Latham, Christopher, chaplain to his cousin, William Massey of Puddington, about 1680-90.

Nicholson, William, of Thelwall; convert; d. at Bournemouth, 1888, aged 72.

Savage, John, priest (5th Earl Rivers); d. at Liege, 1737, aged 71. See Ormerod i. 718.

AUGUST 26, 1903.

NOTES.

[881] LEASE OF THE BREWHOUSE IN ABBEY SQUARE, 1634.

The Lease which follows is worth quoting somewhat fully for the many interesting points it contains, e.g. 'the workhouse,' 'ye Bishop's garden,'

'the brewhouse,' 'the Bakehouse,' 'the Schoolhouse with a malthouse over the same,' 'the kilne,' 'the well and wellhouse,' the ground 'whereupon heretofore Gorse stacks have stood,' 'a place walled about to lay coales in,' 'the free scoole' (kept over a brew-house!) The Cathedral clergy of the day were apparently in the habit of brewing their own beer, and kept a common bakehouse. The John Glendoll who acted as one of the Attorneys of the Dean and Chapter was Vicar of St. Oswald's. Little regard was seemingly paid to the Injunction of Bishop Bridgeman in 1623, who complained that "there is daily seen a most shameful and unsufferable abuse, by the demising of some of those buildings in the Abbey Court and Cloysters and sometimes in the Church itself being prophaned or much annoyed by horses, hoggs, and other means, so as the Court, which was formerly kept for the decent and convenient use and refreshment of the Church members, is now become most vile and sordid; and with the daily noyse of the brewers, with the knocking, cooping, carting, and the like, all the members of the Church are much annoyed: for which cause it is ordered that all such abuses be taken away."

This Indenture made the twelue day of August in the tenth yeare of the reigne of our soveraigne Lord Charles by the Grace of God of England Scotland France & Ireland King defender of the faith &c. *Betweene* Thomas Mallory professor of Divinity, and Deane of the Cathedrall Church of Christ and blessed Mary the Virgin in Chester and the Chapter of the same place upon thone part, and Jane Ratcliffe of the City of Chester widdow, late wife of John Ratcliffe late of the said City of Chester Ald: dec'd upon the other parte *Witnesseth* that ye said Deane and Chapter with one assent and consent for and in consideration of the Surrend'r of foure former Leases &c. and also for and in consideration of the summe of thirty pounds of lawfull money &c. *Have demysed granted sett lett' and to ferme betaken &c.* unto the said Jane Ratcliffe her heires and Assignes, All that one house or Messuage at ye North end of the Kilne house, wherein shee the said Jane Ratcliffe doth now inhabit and dwell, sometime called the workhouse with a loft over ye same extending in length to the great gate next ye garden now call ye B'pps garden, and also the new building lately made and erected by John Ratcliffe the Elder, late of the said City of Chester Ald: dec'd in his lyfe tyme adjoyneing to the North end of the same house, and all other houses edifices & buildings belonging to ye said Messuage & premises lately erected & built by the said John Ratcliffe late husband of ye said Jane Ratcliffe party to thees presents, and likewise y't new building made and erected by the said John Ratcliffe thelder at ye east side of the said house, And one house of office called the brewhouse, and one other house comonly called the Bakehouse belonging unto the same, One ground chamber w'ch sometimes was the schoole house with a malthouse over the same, the said Schoolhouse extending in length to the

kilne, One kilne and a kilne house at the north end of the said schoolhouse, and also the loft over the said Bakehouse, All which are situate lying and being Within ye precincts Site & circuit of the said Cathedrall Church with free egress & regress wth horse & carriages at all convenient tymes to every of ye said demysed premises so as the same horse or horses bee not tothered or depasture during their abode there, within the circuit of the great Court comonly called ye Abbie court, and with cart and wayne unto the Malt house doore and unto the brewhouse doore to lade and unlade & no further, and also the custody use and occupation of the well and wellhouse within the said site (except and allwaies reserved unto the said Deane and Chapter and Prebendaries and every of them together with the Petty Canons and all other inferiour members of the said Cathedrall church during their abode & dwelling within the precincts of the said house not onely sufficient water to bee by them taken out of the said well att all tyme and tymes att their wills and pleasures together with the use of the Rove and other utensills for drawing of water in as large and ample manner and forme as the said Jane Ratcliffe and her Assignes shall or may haue use occupy and enjoy the same, but also except & reserved unto the said Deane and Chapter & every of them for egress ingresse and regress at all times convenient as well into the said Bakehouse for the necessary use of the oven and ovens as also into the brewhouse to brew in the vessells hereafter in theses p^{ts} mentioned and demysed, and particularly expressed and declared in a soedule indented to theses presents annexed at such tyme & times as the said Deane & Chapter or any of them shall bee commorant & abyding within the precincts of the said house and mynded to use the said Oven or Ovens and Brewhouse together with the brewing vessells aforesaid to their own use and uses & no otherwise And further the said Deane and Chapter with like assent &c. doe demyse grant sett lett and to ferme betake unto the said Jane Ratcliffe all their vessells utensills & implements contained and expressed in one Schedule indented to theses presents annexed, And also all that void place or parcell of ground whereupon heretofore Gorse stacks have stood lying and being over against the stables of the said Deane and Chapter in length ten yards or thereabouts, and in breadth five yards or thereabouts, And also one parcell of building or showreing built at the back of the said Brewhouse now in the possession of the said Jane Ratcliffe towards the B'pps Garden and where shee the said Jane Ratcliffe doth usually lay her Gorse together also with one parcell of building & showreing upon ye Backside of the said brewhouse with a place walled about to lay coales in, and also one little Sellar at the south end of the said Schoolhouse, All w^{ch} said premises are situate lying & being within the precincts Site and circuit of the said Cathedrall Church with free egress and regress by & through the gate next adjoyneing unto the garden comonly

called the B'pps garden and not otherwise with horse & carriages at all convenient times to every of the said demysed premises, and also all that buid- ing room or house over the brewhouse of the said Jane Ratcliffe where the free schoole was lately kept Scituate and being within the site circuit and precinct of the said Cathedrall Church of Chester, with all and singular the Appurtenances whatsoever, And also all those two small roomes Chambers or Cocklofts scituate & being in the Abbey Court aforesaid, within ye lib^{ties} and precincts of the Cathedrall Church aforesaid att the upper end of a certain brewhouse there now in the possession and occupation of the said Jane Ratcliffe or of her under- tenant or Assigne, and betweene the said brewhouse and the now dwelling-house of the said Jane Ratcliffe and sometimes heretofore in the use & occupa- tion of ye Lord B'pp of Chester. To haue and to hold all and singular ye said Messuage or tenement house Edifices Chambers lofts kilne and kilne house with free egress & regress with horse cart & wayne at all convenient tymes to the said demysed premises in manner & forme before specified and declared, together with the use & occupation of the said well and well house, and also the said parcells of ground buildings Sello^rs showering roomes Cocklofts and all and singular the premises before demysed with their and every of their appurtenances and every part & parcell thereof (except before excepted) unto the said Jane Ratcliffe her heires & Assignes for and during the liues naturall of her the said Jane Ratcliffe and of John Ratcliffe & Samuall Ratcliffe her Sonnes and for and during the liues and lyfe naturall of the survivour and longest liver of them. Yeilding and paying therefore yearly the summe of Forty foure shillings of lawfull English money upon the severall feast daies of the Annunciation of the blessed Virgin Mary & St. Michael the Arch Angell by even and equal portions.

John Glendoll of the City of Chester Clerk and Thomas Humphreys of the said City Kent are appointed Attorneys for the Dean and Chapter.

The following Memorandum and Schedule are appended :—

Memorandum y^t possession & seisin of the messuage within mentioned was had & taken by John Glendall & Thomas Humphrye Attorneys within named and after such possession so had & taken ye said Attorneys did deliver ye same to the within named Jane Ratcliffe for and in ye name of the same messuage & of all other ye houses Edifices, Chambers, buildings, Kilnes, Brewhouses & premises within mentioned. To haue & to hold to the said Jane Ratcliffe her heires & Assignes, according to the purport true intent and meaneing of theses present Indentures.

In the presence of Hen: Harpur, John Leche, Ales Knowles.

A true note or schedule of the goods and imple- ments in the Indenture mentioned.

Impr^{mis} ene furnace of copper.

It'm twomash combes.
 It'm one stone trough.
 It'm two mush rows.
 It'm one treene Prowing-gholer (?).
 It'm one long Cisterne of lead containing 36 bushells or thereabouts.

E. C. L.

[882] CHESHIRE IN THE CALENDARS, II.

(See No. 879.)

The following notes are from the "Calendar of State Papers: Domestic: 1581-1590."

4 Aug. 1582.—The justices of Cheshire, writing to the Council, object to pay an allowance to Robert Woraley, overseer of the New Fleet in Salford, for the relief of the recusants there. They have been at great charge in keeping their own prisoners at Chester, and request that the recusants of their county may be committed to their proper gaol, according to the liberties of the county palatine. (p. 65.)

6 Nov. 1584.—The Earl of Derby, writing from Northwich to the Earl of Leicester, says that he found all the gentlemen of Lancashire most ready and willing to join the "Association for the Defence of her Majesty's person." He himself most reverently, upon his knees, bareheaded, in the church took his oath first, ministered unto him by the Bishop of Chester; and so the rest, six at a time. The gentlemen of Cheshire, with the same zeal and cheerfulness, joined the association. (p. 212.)

1584?—P.H. to Sir F. Walsingham: Secret advertisements of priests and Papists and receivers of the same, in Cheshire, Lancaster, Westmorland, Northumberland and Yorkshire. Lady Warburton at Congleton keeps one old priest named William Worthington. (p. 222.)

12 May, 1586.—Bishop Chaderton writes from Chester to Sir Francis Walsingham, stating the difficulties he has had to encounter in promoting the contribution among the clergy of Chester for the furnishing of light horses, and giving some of the reasons alleged for avoiding it. Many of the best rectories are appropriated and have no other incumbents than very beggarly vicars and curates. He encloses a list of the clergy holding pluralities and non-resident; and of others as yet chargeable with their first fruits. (p. 326.)

17 April, 1588.—Sir John Savage and Sir Hugh Cholmondeley write to Walsingham, requesting to be supplied with arms and armour from London or out of her Majesty's stores, for the 500 men raised in Cheshire, at the prices rated by the Lord Lieutenant. They enclose a statement of proportion of armour for 500 men, as estimated by the Lord Strange for service towards Scotland. (p. 477.)

[7 July], 1589.—Petition of George Cotton to the Council. His affairs being deranged since his restraint, he desires three months' liberty to settle his affairs and make sale of his lands in Hampshire and Cheshire for payment of fines to her Majesty.

On the 7th July the Council ordered Cotton to be enlarged until the first day of next term. (p. 609.)

George Cotton had been for years in prison for religion. (See Ormerod iii. 415.)

B.

(To be continued.)

SEPTEMBER 2, 1903.

NOTES.

[883] THE OLD CHESHIRE HIGHWAYS. III.

(See No. 867.)

A very important road was that leading from the south and midland districts through Shropshire to Chester and the north. In the "Travellers' Pocket Book" of 1775, the coach road passed through Castle Bromwich and Newport to Whitechurch (161 miles from London). The route is thus given:—

	From London.	Bristol.
	m. f.	m. f.
Whitechurch (a post town)	161 0 ...	125 4
Crinsley Bridge	162 4 ...	127 2
Hampton Post	167 0 ...	131 4
Plume of Feathers Inn	172 0 ...	136 5
Golbourn Bridge	174 4 ...	139 2
Hatton Heath	175 0 ...	140 1
Chester (city)	181 0 ...	145 4

And the note is appended: "From Chester to Castle Bromwich is 76 miles, the stones beginning at Chester and carried to Castle Bromwich."

The road from Bath lay through Gloucester and Worcester to Newport and Whitechurch; that from Bristol passed through Chepstow, Monmouth, Hereford, Leominster, Ludlow, Church Stretton and Shrewsbury, reaching Whitechurch after 125½ miles; the succeeding stages have the distances in the last column of the table above, which do not exactly agree with those for the London route.

The older map (1690) shews that after passing Whitechurch (125½ miles from Bristol) a road turned off to the right to Hinton Hall. Then, just before 127, the brook was crossed at Crinsley bridge and Cheshire was entered. A little further on a road on the right led to Nantwich, and just before 128 one on the left to Chester (this would be the road through Malpas); here "footbridge" is marked at the same side. Between 128 and 129 two separate roads branch off to Willowmore (now Willey moor), and just before 129 is "The signe of the bel." A church (no doubt Tushingham or Chad kirk) is marked on the left, a little to the south, and to the west lived "Mr. Dod of Bellow hill." After passing the inn a brook was crossed, and then there was an ascent, Gallow hill being on the western summit; further on on the same side "Mason" is marked. At 130 was Birch house (on the left); on the right, a little ahead was Coffin hill, while to the left a road led to Malpas, the church being duly marked.

At 131 the road took a sharp turn to the north east. A windmill is seen on the right; on the left another road leads to Malpas, just after which, on the same side, stood "The Black Griffon," Hampton Post showing on the opposite side of the road. For about two miles nothing is marked by the road side; at 133½ is a barn on the right, and "a way post" just ahead of it, while "by-lanes" led off to the left. At 134 on the right was Varne hill, crowned by a windmill, with Butterton hill to the north. On the left hand, between 134 and 135, stood the houses of Mr. Thamuts of Broxton and Mr. Bird. Just before and just after 135 roads on the right led to Nantwich; on the left another led to "Mr. Dod of Borton." At 136 on the left was Puk house; and still further to the west "Sand" is marked. About 136½ the road crossed Towley (Chowley) green, after which on the right was "The Plume of Feathers, an inn." After 137 cross roads (right) to Tatton hall, when a wind mill is marked, and (left) to Thouley, and Touley oke adorned the same side of the road.

At 138 on the right was Hanley church; shortly after this, on the other side, Milton green was passed, and then at 139 Golborne bridge was crossed. Then "Hatton heath begins;" after 140 another bridge was crossed, and at 141 we read "Hatton heath ends." At 142, some distance on the left was Routon, with Routon More to the north of it. Just before 143 a road, to the right, led to Warton, and at 143 were by-lanes. Half way to the next mile stone stood Glashouse Inne on the left, opposite which was a road to Nantwich. After 144 roads branched off on the right to Northwich and to Manchester, soon after which (about 145½) Chester was reached.

(To be continued.)

[884] THE STANLEY FAMILY.

In the 1st year of Henry VI. Sir William Stanley of Hooton was pardoned the outlawries he had incurred at the suits of Peter Thornley (debt) and others.

Kuerden (II. fo. 177) has preserved a notice of the pardon of the outlawry of William son of William son of William de Stanley, knight, of Clifton in Cheshire; dated 18 March, 14 Henry VI. It is also printed in the Deputy Keeper's Reports.

In one of the deeds preserved at Aston hall William de Stanley, senior, in 33 Edward III. grants a yearly rent of £10 from his manor of Stanley in Staffordshire to his son William on his marriage with Emma daughter of Henry le Norrays of Speke. This will lead to a slight modification of the pedigree of Stanley of Hooton in Ormerod's "Cheshire" (ed. Helsby), ii. 415-6.

[885] CHESHIRE IN THE CALENDARS. III.

(See No. 882.)

The following notes are taken from the volume of Calendars of State Papers, "Domestic: 1591-1594."

4 Dec. 1591.—Lease to Hammett Charlston of the Hundred of Nantwich, for 21 years; rent £8. (p.137.)

5 Feb. 1592.—Commission to Sir Hugh Cholmley and four other gentlemen of Cheshire, to inquire after the death of William Massie, of Denfield. (p. 178.)

2 March, 1592. — Exemplification (at the request of Sir Hugh Cholmley) of a patent granted 37 Henry VIII. to Sir William Paget, then Secretary to the King, of the manor of Nantwich. (p. 199.)

9 August, 1593.—Indenture of apprenticeship, whereby John son of John Millington, late of Millington in Cheshire, deceased, binds himself to Oswald Mosley of Manchester, draper, for one year, and after that for eight years more, Mosley teaching him his trade, and finding him sufficient meat, drink, clothes, and lodging, and 6d. a year for his hire and wages, if lawfully demanded. (p. 367.)

31 Octr. 1594.—The Queen directs the sheriff and justices of Cheshire to keep 100 men well trained and furnished with arms, in addition to the 200 men ordered in the previous April, in readiness for speedy service in Ireland, if required. (p. 561.)

In May, 1593, the Earl of Derby, as Lord-Lieutenant, was ordered to find in Cheshire 138 able men, and 12 officers, for service in Ireland; the men were to sail from Chester or Liverpool, being provided with weapons and coats, for which an allowance of 4s. each would be made. (p. 352.) In April, 1594, another levy of 200 men was made. (p. 495.)

The following are some of the more interesting notes relating to the county taken from the next volume, entitled, "Domestic: 1595-1597."

19 July, 1595.—Foulke Aldersey, the mayor, writing from Chester to Lord Burghley, says: I send the examination of two boys, brought before me on suspicion of intentions to travel to France and Spain; what is further to be done with them?

The enclosed abstracts of the examinations (taken 2nd July) give the following particulars:—

(1) George, son of Thomas Huxley, husbandman, of Bunbury; is fifteen years of age and was born at Alpraham. His father is a Papist and has had all his goods taken from him for Papistry; he is a tenant to Mrs. Prestland of Prestland Greves. The son was brought up at a school in Bunbury and left three weeks since, intending to go to France to learn the French language, though his father had appointed he should go to London to be apprenticed to such person as his brother Thomas Huxley (a mercer in Cheapside) had provided, and gave him 20s. to pay expenses. He came to Chester to join a carrier to take him to London and met there Thomas Stevenson, who was known to his father, and was for some time in Chester Castle for recusancy; he advised the boy to go to France and promised if he would do so, and change his name, to place him better than he would be in London.

His fellow-prisoner, Thomas Cauze, came with him; to whom the examinee's father also gave 20s. towards their charges. Cauze had a letter in Latin

sewed up in his doublet by Stevenson, who conducted them to Neston, near the water side, but search having been made for them there he removed them to Brinston, paying all charges, and promised to convey them to France and from thence to Spain, and told Cauze to call himself Banester, so that he might not be known.

(2) Thomas Cauze is seventeen years of age; born in Drayton in Shropshire, son of William Cauze, who keeps a water mill within the liberties of Little Drayton, of Mr. Bulkley. His father is a recusant and has lost many of his goods thereby. He was sent by his father to go with Thomas Stevenson and enter into some house of learning in France; his father giving Stevenson £5. He went to George Huxley's father's house at Bunbury, when Huxley said his son should go too, talked with Stevenson about taking him and gave him some money to bear the charges. Next morning Stevenson went to Chester to agree for the passage over, and upon his return they left together. They lodged at Henry Primrose's house in Chester; next day went to Betson's house at Weston (?) and stayed a week. Stevenson agreed with a Frenchman there, laden with merchandise for France, for their passage at 10s. each, and after giving exanimates 40s., left them affirming he would come again, but never did so.

There was another boy named George Titley, who was to have accompanied them over, to whom Stevenson delivered 30s. of exanimates' money. Titley had been to France. They never saw him again; he went to Chester. He had about 33s. when apprehended. Purposed going to Spain to enter some college with Huxley. Has heard Stevenson reprehend the religion used in England as false, and he promised to help exanimates over the seas to learn the truth. Titley is twenty-two years of age (his dress described). They brought away no letters. He has taken the name of Banester, as having been his grandmother's name. The letter which was sewed in his doublet by Stevenson was to have been delivered to the chief of the university. (pp. 74, 75).

20 December, 1596.—Pass by William Moore, mayor of Liverpool, to last for 20 days only, for Hugh Davenport, late soldier in the band of Captain Henry Malby, to go to his abode at Calveley, his captain and lieutenant having assessed him on the town of Liverpool but left no payment for his diet. (p. 320).

[October] 1595.—Petition of William Tatton, George Leicester, John Daniell, George Spurstow, and John Hockenhall, five captains of trained soldiers in Cheshire, to the Council. They were long since appointed by Henry then Earl of Derby to the charge of a hundred men, and arms delivered for the same eight years past, which they have kept in good order without allowance. They request a commission to Sir John Savage and Sir Hugh Cholmondeley, deputy lieutenants, to gather an allowance for the keeping of the armour. Details

are given of the furniture appointed for the 70 calivers and 30 corslets required for each hundred men. (p. 119; see further on pp. 147, 247, and 325—from which it appears that their petition had no practical result). B.

(To be continued.)

SEPTEMBER 9, 1903.

NOTES

[887] THE SIEGE OF CHESTER.

(Continued from No. 853.)

St. Bridget's Ward.

Robt: Capper, 9 in family, 4 measures & a half of corne.

Mr. Aynsworth, 7 in family. No corne.

Richard Sneade, 9 in family. No corne.

Jane Plethin, 7 in family. No corne.

Thos: Warmingham, 9 in family. No corne.

Mr. Cowy (? Cooper), 9 in fam: and 2 lieftnants, 5 mes: & a peck of corne.

Widdow Wilkinson, 3 in family. No corne.

Edward Crouk & his sister. No corne.

Mrs. Hary, 8 in family, 2 mes: corne.

Mr. Savages, 18 souls and no provision.

Mrs. Jones & her grandchild, 1 mes: corne.

Richard Hawkshaw, 6 in family. No corne.

Thos: Bathoe, 5 in family. No corne.

Hugh Crump, 8 in family & a trooper. No corne.

There are six families in the almshouses which have no provision.

Morres Jenkin, 3 in family, 2 soldiers. No corne.

James Knowles, 8 in family, 2 mes: meal & corne.

Mr. Wells, 10 in family, 4 soldiers. No corne.

James Willson, 6 in family. No corne.

John Bridge, 14 in family, 3 mes: of corne in meal.

Mr. Charles Jones, 2 in family. No corne.

Mrs. Singleton, 9 in family. No provision.

Captaine Saeres, 5 in family. No corne.

Wm. Dickasse, 9 in family, 2 mes: of corne.

Mr. Wm. Jones, 6 in family, 5 soldiers. About 2 mes: of corne and 40 mes: of course beanes scarce fit to be used.

Widdow Lea, 7 in family. No provision.

Mr. Wm. Drinkwater, 14 in fam.: 6 soldiers, 4 mes: corne.

In Widdow Bolland's house are 29 souls & no corne.

Wm. Held, 8 in family. No corne.

Mr. Edwd. Williams, 8 in family, besides soldiers, 2 mes: corne.

George Halliwell, 2 in family. No provision.

Henry Messam, 3 in family. No provision.

John Ridley, 3 in family. No corne.

Richard Palin, 4 in family. No corne.

Richard Radley, 9 in family. No manner of provision.

Edward Perry, 3 in family. No corne.

John Lloyd, 10 in family. No corne, but 6 mes: in meal.

Randle Owton, 8 in family, 3 mes: in corne & meal.

Wm. Jackson, 8 in family. No corne.

Thomas Walker, 6 in family, 3 mes: in corne & meal.

Robt. Shone, 7 in family. No corne.

John Hilton, 13 in family, 4 mes: in meal & corne.

Raph Sharples, 10 in family. No provision.

George Massie, 8 in his house. No provision.

Wm. Dannatt, 4 in family. No provision.

Richard Wall, 4 in family. No provision.

George Morres, 7 in family. No provision.

Widdow Pemberton, 4 in family. No provision.

Widdow Morres, 6 in family. No provision.

John Morres, 2 in family. No provision.

Wm. Streete, 17 in family. No corne, but a little meal.

Widdow Cotgrave, 9 in her house. No corne.

In Raph Drinkwaters house there are 12 souls & no corne.

Mr. Freckelton, 6 in family. No corne.

Richard Harrison, 10 in family. No corne.

John Wade, 5 in family. No corne.

Tuder Hughes, 7 in family. No corne.

Wm. Mescocke, 8 in family, 2 mes: of corne.

Randle Dod, 10 in family. No corne.

Widdow Warrall, 6 in family. No corne.

Randle Higgenson, 6 in family. No corne.

Thomas Bennett and his family have no corne.

Thomas Edmondson, 5 in fam.; 1 mes: of corne.

Mr. Buckley, 4 in fam.; 1 mes: of corne.

Robt. Thornley, 4 in fam., 2 mes: in corne & meal.

G. P. G.

(To be continued.)

[888] NIXON'S CHESHIRE PROPHECY.

(See No. 802.)

One of the ancient sayings incorporated in the "Cheshire Prophecy" runs thus:

The Bear that hath been long tied to a Stake shall shake his chains,

That every man shall hear, and shall cause much debate.

The obvious reference to the ancient badge of the earls of Warwick—the bear and the ragged staff—has already been mentioned in the "Sheaf" (No. 553), and it was suggested that the particular earl intended was the great King-maker. Some "prophecy" of the kind seems to have been known to Shakespeare, who applies it without hesitation to the King-maker and his father—to the latter wrongly, as the badge was not his:

Call hither to the Stake my two brave Bears

That with the very shaking of their chains

They may astonish these fell-looking ours:

Bid Salisbury and Warwick come to me.

So cries the Duke of York, when at the meeting with Henry VI. and the Queen he asserts his claim to the crown ("Henry VI.," pt. 2, V. i.). Clifford answers and is answered in the same strain.

In recent numbers of the "Ancestor" several seals of Warwick have been printed, showing the bear and his chains very distinctly.

In another part of the "Prophecy" an old saying is quoted, with reference to the destruction of London:

Lincoln was, London is, and York shall be
The finest city of the three.

This received some attention in "Notes and Queries" for 1888, but strange to say none of its correspondents referred to Nixen. A correspondent wrote that Thomas Decker in his "Wonderful Year 1603" quoted what he termed a "worm-eaten" proverb—"Lincoln was, London is, and York shall be"—and asked for information. There were several replies. One stated that William Perkins (1618) in his "Fruitful Dialogue concerning the End of the World" gave as a "flying prophecy"—"Canterbury was, London is, and York shall be," with the marginal note, "In the north they say: 'Lincoln was.'" Another referred to Fuller's "Worthies" and the "Folk-lore Record" (i. 160, iii. 177) in which the second line was added—

Lincoln was, London is, and York shall be
The fairest city of the three.

A third said that in Hazlitt's "English Proverbs" (1882) the first line was given as from Clarke's "Paroemiologia" (1639), and the couplet was in Bromes's "Travels" (1700) according to the form last given. Yet another brought forward a similar Welsh proverb concerning Llanllwch, Carmarthen, and Abergwili.

A Sandford or Sandiford at Northampton had a bearing upon the battle at that place in 1460, when Henry VI. was defeated and captured by the Yorkists. This battle was fought on Thursday, July 10, and therefore does not fulfil the indication in Nixen:

A wolf from the east shall right eagerly come
On the south side of Sandford on a grey Monday morning.

The King had encamped "just outside Northampton Town in the meadows south of the Nen near the nunnery between Sandiford and Hardingstone." Treachery lost him the battle, for Lord Grey de Ruthyn changed sides and admitted the Yorkists into the entrenchments (see Oman's "Warwick the King-maker," p. 95). Nixen's next lines may have reference to Lord Grey:

Where groves shall grow upon a green,

Beside green grey they shall flee

Into rocks and many die ("dee"—to rhyme).

The wolf was a badge of Mortimer (and therefore at that time Yorkist) and of Mountjoy. In all such prophecies what is expected or desired is to be considered, rather than what actually happened.

J. B.

889] CHESHIRE IN THE CALENDARS. IV.

(See No. 886.)

The volume of Calendars of Elizabethan State Papers, "Domestic: 1598-1601," has the following paragraphs:—

9 Aug. 1599.—John Savage to Thomas Lake. "After my father's death I was appointed deputy-lieutenant of Cheshire, but have been omitted in late letters. Pray correct this omission on the part of some clerk of the Council." (p. 283.)

8 Oct. 1599.—Examination of William King, carpenter. He was born in Cheshire, and served as a volunteer in the English army in France under Captain De la Roche; was taken prisoner, carried to Nantes, kept two months, and then released and went to Dunkirk and squared timber for ships. He was wanted to serve aboard the King of Spain's ships, but excused himself on pretence of wanting to fetch his tools, and got away to England. Five ships have lately been built at Dunkirk, and two are building at Calais; there are fourteen sail ready at Dunkirk. The admiral is Spinola, an Italian. The Cardinal is levying the fifth part, both of men and goods, for the King's service. The Hollanders have presented the Infants with a very sumptuous coach, and wanted traffic with Spain as in times past, but have not yet had a reply. (p. 323.)

The volume "Domestic: 1601-1603" has several interesting pieces. In November, 1602, "an apparition was seen in Wales, near Chester, of an army on a mountain in battle array, which suddenly vanished." (p. 259.) In 1601 John Chamberlain sends the news of the day to Dudley Carleton at Paris. He mentions that "Hugh Beeston has had some mishap in Cheshire, first in burying his father, and then in quarrelling with one Lutton, a desperate cutler of that county, who was killed; but Beeston only acted in self-defence." (p. 115.)

In the portion of the same volume, containing "Addenda: 1547-1565," occurs mention (p. 427) of a grant of arms on 8 April, 24 Edward I. (?) from James Hedingly, Guienne King-at-Arms, to Peter Dodge of Stopworth, Cheshire; described as written in French (four pages).

About 1560 a petition for redress was sent in by Thomas Eccles and John Davis, for themselves and seven other of the Queen's tenants in Wervin and Croughton, to Lord Treasurer Winchester. The lease granted them by the abbot and convent of St. Werburgh having nearly expired, they paid heavy fines to Edward Plankney (who now claims the lordship) to retain their houses; in spite of which he has attempted to expel them and persuaded Lawrence Cross, whom they deputed to go to London to seek redress, not to proceed therein. (p. 508.)

B.

(To be continued.)

SEPTEMBER 16, 1903.

NOTES.

[890] HANDLEY PARISH RECORDS.

By the courtesy of Mr. J. N. Frith, of Rossett, I am able to give the following extracts from a parish book of Handley, near Chester, which contains entries extending from 1711 to 1763.

On the first page of the book, which is a long and narrow one, are the remarks:—

"November 9, 1711.

Received for this Book three shillings. p. Jo: Hodgson."

"This Booke was Bought for ye use of ye Township of Hanley: John Booth & William Seller Constables: 1711"

Then follows:—"An assessment for ye Township of Hanley, for ye trained Soldiers & New-cotes after ye Rate of a peny p. pound Nouemb' ye 8: 1711."

	£	s	d
Wid'w Dod [Sarah]	00	06	10
Tho: Edge	00	03	4
Elizabeth Edge [for 2 houses]	00	02	6
Fetterfewlands [or Feter folands]	00	01	8
Rich'd Lasley	00	03	2
Tho Liverpoole & Danes	00	01	10
Robt Wallworth	00	02	6
John Thomason	00	01	10
William Kellsall	00	01	8
William Seller	00	01	6
Peter Bell	00	00	10
Cockerill field [or Cockern field]	00	00	5
[Mr] Randle Bagnall	00	04	7
Rich'd Joynson	00	03	5
Charles Tunall [Tunna or Tonna]	00	02	8
Hugh Sands	00	01	7
Peter Bruen	00	03	0
Rob't Maralland	00	01	10
John Hitchins	00	00	4
Hitchins Tenement	00	00	10
Peter Duning	00	00	1
Randle Catherall	00	00	1
Mill Ground [or Mill Hill Ground]	00	00	5
Hugh Nicholls	00	03	2
John Hampton & Joynsons [Craft]	00	01	9
Mary Wilkinson Wid'w	00	01	8
Crosby's Tenement	00	00	8
Malkins field	00	00	5
	02	13	5

Ran: Bagnall }
 John Edge } Asses:
 Robt. Wallworth }

The total is undercast 2d. Information in parentheses in the above list has been obtained from subsequent assessments etc.

There follows:—"Decemb' ye 17. 1711. An assessment for ye Township of Hanley for ye Shirifs Tooth ye Quar'ly payment and other Accounts at a

Halfe penney p. Pound." The list here given is similar to that of the foregoing one, but the name of Randle Catherall does not appear, and there is an additional entry of:—

"The Tyths 00 01 7"

The assessors on this occasion were John Hampton, Rich'd Lasley, Ran: Bagnall, Hugh Nicholls, and the total amount was £1 9s. 5½d.

The Sheriffs Tooth assessment referred to, was to provide entertainment for the Sheriff at his County Courts.

"June 13. 1712. An assessment for ye Township of Hanley for ye Quarterly Paym't & Other Accounts at a Halfe penny p. Pound. The entries "Tho Liverpoole & Danes" and "John Thomason" are not shewn in this, and there is a fresh entry:—

Henry Deane for 2 Houses 00 02 0

The entry "John Edge for 2 Houses" appears in the place of Elizabeth Edge. In other respects this assessment is similar to the last one as to names, and totalled to £1 9s. 7½d. The assessors were Samuel Radley and Robert Marceland.

The following are some extracts from the Constables' payments, headed: "Nouemb' 9th 1711. John Booths & William Sellers Disbursements being Constables for ye Township of Hanley":—

Bought of Mr. Denton the Soulders

Coates 01 05 6

Bought of John Hitchins Lining &

Triming & Powder 00 19 11

pd. ye Soulders 9s. 10d.; pd. ye Shott

at Coateh 00 11 10

pd. for a Booke [evidently the one

from which these notes are taken] ... 00 03 0

Spent at bying ye Soulders Cloaths ... 00 00 5

A Buckle for ye Soulders belt 4d. } 00 00 4½

A flint ½d. }

For orders for ye Overseers of ye High

Ways 00 01 0

pd. Sheriffs Tooth 00 01 4

pd. Rich'd Griffith for Cleaning ye

Armes 00 02 6

Spent at Sessing 3 Leys at Rob't

Marclands 00 02 7

Spent at Sessing a Ley at coach 00 02 0

pd. a Warrant 00 05 4

Another att 00 12 3

Another att 00 08 4½

Another att 00 12 0

The total disbursements were £5 16s., and at the foot is a note:—"Decemb' 12. 1713. Then taken John Booths & Will Sellers Accounts being Constables for ye last year and Remanes due to them 3s. 6d."

"September ye 15. 1712. An Assessm't for ye poor att 4d. per pound thro' ye Towneship of Handly." A similar list to last assessment, but with Randle Catherall's name again appearing, and the name of Elizabeth Edge reappears in place of John Edge. The assessment totalled to £11 2s. 6d. and the assessors were Samuel Radley, Randle Bagnall, Jo. Hampton. There is a note appended to this:—

"pd from Mr. Hampton ye old overseer 5d."

Another section, headed: "The Accoonts of Robert Marceland overseer of ye poor for ye Townsh' of Handley for ye year of our Lord 1712," embraces items extending from 19 June 1712 to 4 May 1713, and contains record of payment of various sums to Widow Mary Crosbey of Handley, Sarah Stubbs, William Calley, Geo. Stubbs, & Jane Rollinson. The following entries respecting one of these are worth quoting fully:—

Aug't ye 30 pd. for 4 quarts and a

point of ale for Sarah Stubbs 00 01 06

Nov'r ye 30 for Candles peper and

Sugar 00 00 08-2

for a bittle of ale the same day 00 00 03

December ye 2 pd. for sweet biakits

for Sarah Stubbs funeral 00 02 03

ye 4 pd. for a Coffin for Sarah Stubbs 00 05 00

ye 4 pd. for suger genger and a cord ... 00 01 03-2

ye 4 for 3 gallons of ale and one of beer 00 06 00

pd. for ale for those y't sate up With

Her 2 nights 00 00 06

pd. ye parson His fees 00 00 06

pd. Peter Duning for Bread His fees

and tolling ye bell 00 05 02

pd. Mr. Parker His Bill for Sarah

Stubbs 01 07 09

pd. Dr. Lardin [apparently this also

has reference to Sarah Stubbs] 00 05 00

pd. Mr. Steenson for Physick for Sarah

Stubbs 00 08 00

As soon as Sarah Stubbs' name falls out of the accounts that of Geo. Stubbs appears.

The following are further extracts from these disbursements:—

"feb. ye 28 pd. John Hutchens for 2

leuers for Wm. Calley 00 00 02

Spent at sessing of ye poors ley 00 01 00

Spent when ye Town mett about

Widow Crosbeys and Mr. Port [h]is

busniss 00 01 00

Pd. Hugh Nickals for Coales Cared to

Wm. Calley 00 07 00

The total disbursements amounted to £11 10s. 11d. and on "May ye 14. 1713 Haveing perused and examin'd these acco'ts" Randle Bagnall, Jo: Hampton, R. Lasley, and H. Nickals "fd. Robert Marceland to be out of pocket 00 09 01."

J. H. E. BENNETT.

[891] THE LAPSE OF A CHESHIRE LIVING..

The following Note is an extract from the "Gentleman's Magazine," for the year 1819 (part II., p. 558).

The presentation of a valuable living in Cheshire is supposed to have recently lapsed to the University of Cambridge, under the following circumstances:—The death of the incumbent being declared by his physician to be fast approaching at Leamington, a person entered into a contract for the purchase of the next presentation for 6,000 pounds, which was executed about six hours before the decease of the

incumbent. This sale is objected to on two grounds: 1st, that the patron, being a Catholic, could not sell the next presentation attached to the advowson; and 2ndly, that, if he possessed such right, the conveyance was not executed in due time. The probability of this lapse has occasioned considerable interest in the University, the living being estimated at 1500 pounds per annum. Should such lapse be adjudged, the presentation will become elective in the Masters of Arts on the books of the University. Several candidates have already declared themselves.

W. H. BRADFORD.

[892] KATHERINE BRETTARGH. I.

The following account of the model Puritan woman is a supplement to that of her brother, the famous John Bruen, printed in the last volume of the "Sheaf." It is taken from the same volume (Samuel Clark's "Marrow of Ecclesiastical History"), but considerable omissions have been made. These omissions, however, do not materially affect the narrative, being ejaculations of prayer and praise and other expressions of religious feeling.

Katherine Brettargh was the youngest daughter of John Bruen, of Bruen Stapleford; she was born in 1579 or 1580, not long before her father's death, and was about twenty years younger than her brother John. Under his guardianship she received a strict Puritan training. She was married when about 20 years of age to William Brettargh of Brettargh Holt in Little Woolton, one of the smaller gentry of a district which was decidedly hostile to Protestantism. Under the influence of this marriage the husband adopted the most rigid form of Puritanism, and thus aroused the bitter dislike of his neighbours—not only of the Catholics proper, who had refused conformity to the Elizabethan statutes regulating religion, but to those called "Church Papists," i.e., those who conformed outwardly from time to time in order to avoid the ruinous fines and other consequences of recusancy, and to the great mass who were indifferent to religion. These no doubt put his conduct down to "cant" and "hypocrisy." A result was that his cattle were one night brutally maimed and killed by a number of his neighbours, prominent among them being Edward Norris, a younger son of the squire of Speke. The Bishop of Chester and other officials of the district inquired into the matter and endeavoured to secure the punishment of the offenders. Yet it will be observed that in her last moments Katherine Brettargh was deeply concerned lest her husband should renounce Protestantism.

The writer, who spells the name Bretterg, begins thus:—

Her Birth.—Katherine Bretterg was born in Cheshire, being the daughter of Master John Bruen of Bruen Stapleford. Her education before her marriage was such as became the profession of the Gospel, in godliness and purity of life and religion.

Scriptures studied.—She was studious of the Holy Scriptures from a child, and by reading thereof gained such knowledge that she was able to make good use of them as occasion was offered.

Her Character: Modesty.—She used the things of this world moderately and soberly, not affecting the vain pleasures and fashions that others too much delight in. She used not to get abroad with wandering Dina, but rather with Hannah she delighted to tread upon the dust of the sanctuary and to walk in the ways of Zion. &c.

Sabbaths Sanctified: A Soft Heart.—The Sabbath day was always dear and welcome to her, and though many times she went far for it yet she would not be without the ministry of the Word. And her heart was so tender and full of compassion that oftentimes she was perceived to hear sermons, read, pray, and meditate, with tears. She made conscience of all, even the least sin, and such as many accounted no sins. She never used to swear an oath, great or small; neither at any time broke forth into unseemly speeches, lying, jest, immodest words, &c. She used not the name or titles of God at any time without great reverence. Her private discourses were always well seasoned and proceeded from such a sanctified heart that they ministered grace to the hearers. Her daily exercise was to converse with God in reading, praying, singing, and meditating. All her delight was "in the saints and in those that were most excellent." The Lord's precepts were most precious to her, for from her childhood she feared God and walked before Him with an upright heart. She was not like many women, that are unable to render a reason of the faith and hope that is in them, but grew "in grace and in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus."

(To be continued.)

SEPTEMBER 23, 1903.

NOTES.

[893] TITHES AND LANDS AT DARESBUURY. I.

The following abstract of a letter addressed to the Lord Keeper is printed in the Calendar of State Papers:—"Domestic: Addenda, 1566-1579" (p. 375), Daresbury being misprinted Dewsbury. It is not clear who was the writer of the letter; perhaps it was Lord Buckhurst (Thomas Saekville, afterwards Earl of Dorset), who as a great man at Court writes in a very domineering style. John Daniell of Daresbury was afterwards (about 1600) in the service of the Earl of Essex and was involved in the troubles consequent on the conspiracy and execution of that nobleman in 1601. The date of the first letter would appear to be 1591, so that it is wrongly placed in the "Calendar." George Ireland, lord of Hale in Lancashire in his own right and of part of Crowton in Cheshire in right of his wife,

died in 1596. His sisters Margaret and Anne married John Aston, lord of Aston near Frodsham from 1563 to 1573, and his brother William Aston. Thomas Brooke was of the family of Brookes of Norton. Fuller particulars may be found in Ormerod's "Cheshire."

"I am informed that the Earl of Leicester ten years since ordered my servant John Daniell to permit George Ireland to enjoy certain tithes growing out of his lordship of Daresbury. Ireland has since granted the same to William Aston his brother-in-law, who made a lease thereof to my servant for twenty-one years. Nevertheless Aston and Ireland devised to defraud my servant both of his money and bargain; to accomplish which Aston surrendered his estate back to Ireland, who entered into possession and thereby caused Aston to forfeit his bond and so avoided the forfeitures. They further conspired together that the said Aston should hide himself in Ireland's house, meaning thereby not only to obtain possession of the tithes, but to defeat the lease, and take away the means to recover the penalties in the bond. Let the cause be heard before your lordship and the order meanwhile respited. I declined my servant's request to appeal to the Privy Council against extremities shown in the execution of the order and advised him to submit. You appointed my said servant to the charge of a hundred soldiers, the keeping of their armour, &c., which he has performed, both training the men and taking care of the armour four years at his own charge. I beg for him a recompence for the past and a yearly allowance for the service."

Endorsed are arguments in the suit between Ireland and Daniell in the Exchequer Court at Chester, respecting the tithes in Daresbury.

Later in the same volume (p. 487) is the bill of complaint (in 15 sheets) of Margaret widow of John Aston, of Cheshire, addressed to Robert Earl of Leicester, Chamberlain of the County palatine: "She lately exhibited a complaint that—whereas the manor of Kekewick, held by her late husband, descended to Thomas Aston his son and heir, and that Thomas had transferred it to her as part of her dowry six years before and she entered thereon—part of her writings having come into possession of John and Richard Daniell and John and Hugh Gryse, they are devising titles to Daresbury, chief parcel of the said manor, and with ten or twelve armed men on 17 October, 1574, forcibly took possession of the land and a quarry of freestone, dug and carried away a hundred great freestones, and continue to do the same. She presented a bill of complaint in the Exchequer at Chester, and had a decree from his lordship that she should have quiet possession until further orders; yet the said Richard Daniell and others on 10 June last forced themselves into the said ground, and finding some of her tenants with teams and wains for loading stones threatened to fight any who should attempt to take the stone; whereupon all left their wains

but one, and that wain they attacked and broke. They also destroyed fifty loads of turf, cut by the tenants. After proclamation in Daresbury Church, by order of the Commissioners appointed to oversee the building of Frodsham bridge, for all persons to repair with wains to the said waste ground, to lade stones for the bridge, as given therefor by John Aston in his lifetime, they assaulted persons carrying the stones, drove them away and indicted her and her tenants at the Middlewich Sessions for digging the turf and stones. She requests that they be ordered to molest her no further and to answer for their previous proceedings."

The matter seems to have dragged on for many years and to have become mixed up with other claims. In the volume, "Domestic: 1591—1594" are several paragraphs relating to it. On 12 August, 1590, John Ireland gave a bond in the sum of £10 for the payment by George Ireland to John Daniell of certain tithes in Daresbury. In 1591 (?) John Jones writes from Chester warning Daniell that the proclamation is gone forth against him (p. 153); and in June the same correspondent informs him that the Court will pass an order against him at Mr. Ireland's suit about the tithes, unless he can show cause to the contrary before 16th June (p. 353).

In the volume of "Addenda: 1596—1625":

25 Feb. 1592.—Thomas Lord Buckhurst to the Dean and Chapter of Christ Church, Oxford: My Lord Treasurer has written to you on behalf of the bearer John Daniell for passing to him a lease of certain tithes, parcel of the possessions of the monastery of Norton. Pray respect this, and as he is resident within the County palatine of Chester and cannot therefore sue in his own name forth of the county, he requests a letter of attorney to sue in your names in whatever court his counsel shall direct him. (p. 332.)

6 July, 1592.—The same to the same: You have heretofore granted the bearer John Daniell certain concealed tithes of Daresbury, which grant he offers to surrender and desires a new lease thereof, together with other tithes, parcel of the parsonage of Runcorn, which he thinks are detained from you under colour of a void lease, as he will prove upon his own charges. Pray renew his former lease and grant him such other tithes as he will disclose. And as he affirms that he can neither draw a good lease nor his counsel be satisfied in point of law without your instructions, deliver him a copy of the rental of the said parsonage and grant him a transcript of the former lease to Richard Brooke deceased, that his counsel may reserve the old rent and a third part in corn (according to statute) and also resolve on the validity of the lease made to Brooke.

(With two later notes by Oth. Nicholson, that this letter was shown to Barton Palmer and to William James, D.D., when examined as witnesses on behalf of John Daniell against Thomas Brooke plaintiff, in 1594 and 1595.) (p. 337.)

In "Domestic: 1591-1594" occurs—

7 March, 1593.—A letter to Sir Richard Shuttleworth, chief justice of the county palatine of Chester, stating that the Sheriff has (contrary to warrant) made execution on the money and goods of John Daniell. The writer (? Lord Buckhurst) begs a further letter, Daniell having submitted. (p. 325.)

In the volume already quoted ("Addenda: 1580-1625"):

3 Nov., 1593.—Thomas Lord Buckhurst writes from the Court to the Lord Keeper: I understand the title of the parsonage of Runcorn is depending in the Court of Exchequer between the bearer (John Daniell) and Thomas Brooke, who has long enjoyed the parsonage by colour of a void lease made to him in the name of the Dean with consent of the Chapter of Christ Church, Oxford, as may appear to you by a transcript of that lease under the Chapter seal. Such suit, after many rules and dilatory proceedings is now ready for trial, but Brooke, desirous to protract the cause and keep Daniell in long suit, seeks an injunction to stay proceedings upon pretence of equity for his better relief, which he says you are induced to grant. As there is a court of equity in the Exchequer, before the Chancellor of that Court, the Lord Chief Baron, &c., where he would find his remedy if any good cause of equity was found, I beg you (as I wish well to Daniell) to grant him your favour. (p. 357.)

(*To be continued.*)

[894] JOHN BRADFORD, MARTYR.

As there are numerous families bearing the name of Bradford apparently desirous to add to their distinctions a descent from the same family as that to which John Bradford the Martyr belonged, I will just say there is no positive proof extant of his ancestry or his descendants. My father, I have been told, laid claim to such a descent. The Devon Bradfords say they are descended from the martyr's brother Roger. Again I now see another family (in Cheshire) making the same claim.

John Bradford has a local interest, for he preached in Chester. Thus he says: "And thou city of West Chester, where I have truly taught and preached the word of God."

I will now proceed on my inquiry, whether his family were Cheshire or Lancashire, for he kept both counties near at heart. Blakeley or Blackley, an ancient chapelry of the parish and deanery of Manchester, i.e., in about the year 1510, the supposed year of his birth, claims him as a native. Bradford is (or was) a township on the eastern side of Manchester. One of the earliest memoirs of him known to exist, written in 1559, informs us that "he was born in Manchester, a notable town in Lancashire." (See "Writings of John Bradford," published by the Parker Society.) "In 1489 a tenement is referred to as being between others of John Bradford and Richard Platt; this John Bradford it is supposed might be the Martyr's

father" (from "Manchester Worthies," page 348). The martyr was of gentle birth and was well educated at the free grammar school in Manchester. In a letter to his mother he wished her "to send to him the foxes' fur in his father's gown" (which implies that he was of gentle birth). He was at that time a Fellow of Pembroke Hall. Among the appointments of Fellow Chaplains of the Collegiate Church, Manchester, were—temp. Richard III., Thomas Bradford and William Bradford; temp. Henry VII., William Bradford. It is thus evident that Lancashire has a good claim to being the place of the martyr's nativity.

John Bradford had three sisters, Ann, Elizabeth, and Margaret, and one brother, Roger, from whom, if married, the descent must come. Margaret Bradford married Roger Beeswick, a prominent man in Manchester all through the second half of the sixteenth century (he died in 1599); and one of their grandchildren was William Malone, a Jesuit of some note (see Earwaker's "Manchester Court Leet Records" ii. 156).

Amongst the places the martyr specially mentions in his letters from prison as having preached in, was Winsley (Wilmslow) in Cheshire. Now I have a copy of a certificate, of baptism in Mobberley Church, of "Rodger Bradford baptized March 1582." This would be about 27 years after John Bradford's death; and assuming that he was born in the year 1510, and his brother Roger somewhere near that date, the baptism just noted was about 70 years after the birth of Roger the Martyr's brother, and the infant, Roger of 1582, might possibly be the elder Roger's grandson.

I may mention that there were members of the Cheshire Bradfords in Over, and in Nether Alderley from Hugh de Bradford 1294, to Hugh Bradford 1549.

W. H. BRADFORD.

SEPTEMBER 30, 1908.

NOTES.

[895] THE CHESHIRE ARCHERS.

So many stories of the prowess of our ancestors have been exposed and denounced as mythical that it is gratifying to be able to prove any of them. The Cheshire archers appear to have played a considerable share in the wars in France in the time of Henry V., and it is noteworthy that while the archers of Cheshire, Lancashire and Wales are regularly mentioned as well known and distinct bodies of men, those from other parts of England are not so distinguished. Probably these last served with their immediate lords, while those from the two Palatine counties and the Principality were kept distinct.

The following extracts from the Norman Rolls of Henry V.'s time will be of interest in connection with the list of the men, for which we are indebted to the Rev. W. G. D. Fletcher of Shrewsbury.

On 27 July, 1419, the king gave a commission to Roger Fienles, knight, and Thomas Barneby to array the men of William Bourghier and Philip Leche, knights; also the archers of Lancashire and Cheshire in the garrisons of Dieppe, Eu, Arques, and Moun-beaux. From Norman Roll of 7 Henry V., printed in the Deputy Keeper's 42nd Report, p. 322.

On 10 February following William Stanley was appointed captain of the archers of the Hundreds of Nantwich and Northwich and in the county of Lancaster, formerly in the retinues of Robert Babthorpe and William Porter, knights. Ibid., p. 357.

On 6 May, 1420, commission was given to Roger Selvayn, knight, and William Morley to array the archers of Lancaster, Cheshire and Wales. On 12 June, to Gerard Urfflete and another to array the men of the Earl Marshal and of John Cornewail and Philip Leche, knights; also of the men at arms and archers of Lancashire and Cheshire in the retinue of Philip Leche. This last seems to have died soon afterwards, for on 3 November there is mention of "Philip Leche, knight, deceased," as also of "William Stanley, knight, deceased," who had been serving in France. Ibid., pp. 374, 389, 392. Other men at arms and archers of the two counties named were in the retinue of Sir William Porter.

In the following list of names it will be noticed that Sir Philip Leche and Sir William Stanley were living, so that its date must be earlier than 1420. In the Cholmondeley pedigree, however, it is stated that William Cholmondeley, probably the son here described as "mortuus," died in 10 Henry V., i.e., about two years later.

CENSUIENT LES NOMS de certains Archers a certains Chevaliers et Escuiers desous escrits jutarde assignez pour le darrein viage nostre Seigneur le Roy a chescun des queux archers sont duez et adereses xxvs. vjd. pour mesme la viage.

SAGITTARIJ ASSIGNATI PHILIPPO LECHÉ, CHEVALER.

Thomas Massy	Robertus Hancockson
Johannes Jonstone	Ricardus Wryght
Johannes Aldcroft	Thomas Worsley
Robertus Forster	Ricardus Moburley
Hamo de Boudon	Henricus Johnson
Thomas Hogekeynson	Willelmus le Mere
Ricardus de Golden	Ranulphus le Wode
Rogerus de Aston	Willelmus Norbury
Willelmus Aston	Ranulphus de Chelford
Johannes Juddeson	Rogerus Brandurhut
Thomas Juddeson	Johannes Chatton
Hugo Boude	Johannes Stepull
Hugo de Medewe	Johannes Herreson

SAGITTARIJ ASSIGNATI THOME GROSVENOUR, CHEVALER.

Ranulphus Sondebayche	Ranulphus Kilbery
Hamo Wynnynton	Thomas Dane
Johannes Lytteley	Ricardus Berynton

Willelmus Brydde	Ricardus Furnevale
Willelmus Croft	Thomas Warde
Ranulphus Yarwoode	Thomas Falous
Thomas Kenworthy	Henricus Gropenall
Thomas Stathom	Henricus Glaskyryon
Johannes Clyff	Thomas Aleyn

SAGITTARIJ ASSIGNATI RADULPHO DE BOSTOCK, CHEVALER.

Rogerus Croxton	Thomas Baylle
Nicholaus Brooke	Ricardus le Wolf
Johannes Dyconson	Willelmus Haynson
Willelmus Wyglond	

SAGITTARIJ ASSIGNATI JOHANNI MANLEY.

Thomas Barrowes	Hawell de Calvey
Johannes Alot	(quere non potest servire)
Johannes Pekurstall	Thomas de Belowe

SAGITTARIJ ASSIGNATI THOME DE DUTTON.

Johannes Lytellore	Thomas le Halyns
Rogerus Starky	Thomas Byttenot
Ricardus le Massy	

SAGITTARIJ ASSIGNATI ROBERTO DE DAVENPORT.

Thomas Benschawe	Johannes Hayward
Hugo Thorncroft	Hugo Diddesbere
Johannes Thornycroft	Thomas Hameon
Hugo Holynworth	Willelmus Knolles
Jacobus Staley	Johannes Thornycroft

SAGITTARIJ ASSIGNATI WILLELMO CHOLMOLÉ QUI MORTUUS ES.

Ricardus Ouerton	Willelmus Ketill
Johannes Massy	Johannes Ketill
Robertus Heth	Johannes Bulgor
Dauid Chetton	Johannes Brydd
Johannes de Crewe	Johannes Shawboy
Johannes Daywell	Johannes Kynnesman
Johannes Wordell	Willelmus de la Wode
Henricus Brydd	Hugo Brett

SAGITTARIJ ASSIGNATI PETRO [?] DE LYE.

Thomas del Hogh	Johannes de [?]
Johannes del Hogh	Thomas de Tatton
Thomas Taillor	Johannes de Elton
Hugo de Resendon [?]	Willelmus de [?]
Thomas le Flecher	Johannes Gardener

SAGITTARIJ ASSIGNATI WILLELMO STANLEY, CHEVALER.

Willelmus Salham	Johannes Belot
Janyn de Crowton	Johannes Gybon
Willelmus Bebynton	Johannes Hydde
Johannes Coly	Willelmus Martyn
Henricus Coly	Thomas Lowe
Richardus Walkden	Johannes Walkden
Edwardus Shrygley	

SAGITTARIJ ASSIGNATI JOHANNI DONNE.

Johannes Dedwode	Johannes Bendbowe
Johannes Wetenale	Clemens Cholton
(fecit le—quod infirmus est)	Nicholaus Stoke
Thomas Chomley del Wyche	Johannes Stoke
	Ricardus Fuson de Teuerton

Richardus de Bulkeley (obiit)	Robertus de Heddesley
David Brane	Hugo de Calverley
Willelmus de Chomley	Johannes de Kelsale
	Thomas Brydd

SAGITTARIJ ASSIGNATI WILLELMO STANLEY
CHIVALER JUNIORI.

Robertus Nesse	Johannes Cryor
Willelmus . . Becheton	Johannes Shooklach
Henricus Radecliff	Hugo Cresswell
Rogerus Broke	Ricardus Blakhurst
Rotherus Shawe	Ricardus Fysahar

SAGITTARIJ ASSIGNATI JOHANNI HONFORD.

Johannes Wedeway	Thomas Wolstalholm
Hugo Taylior	Johannes Benson
Thomas Warde	Richardus Hilton
Thomas Catthis	Petrus de Hydde
Johannes Wolstalholm	

SAGITTARIJ ASSIGNATI JOHANNI DE KYNGSELEY.

Nicholaus Vernon	Ricardus Pyper
Johannes de Cwesham	Thomas de Latham*
Johannes de Burton	Willelmus de Latham*
Johannes de Aiglem	Johannes de Latham*
Johannes de Flitte	Ricardus de Lardeyn*
Rogerus de Hutfeld	

SAGITARIJ ASSIGNATI JOHANNI SAUAGE CHEVALER.

Robertus de Lye	Willelmus de Sherte
Robertus Fleccher	Willelmus de Sherte junior
Willelmus Bolt	Thomas de Myddelhurst
Robertus de Runcorn	Johannes de Myddelhurst
Maykyn de Ashton	Johannes de Wermby...
Willelmus de Rydes	Johannes de Kelshalle

SAGITARIJ ASSIGNATI RADULPHO DE DAUENPORT.

Johannes de Bode [or Rode]	Willelmus Cooke
Thomas Boteler	Robertus de Arkelyde
Hugo Cryer	Thomas de Helee

SAGITTARIJ ASSIGNATI ROBERTO DE LYE.

Jacobus de Lye	Willelmus de Boller
Johannes de Ashton	Henricus Knolles
Thomas de Lawe	Philippus Hyne
Thomas de Marley	Robertus Vefre

OCTOBER 7, 1903.

NOTES.

[896] SOME ANCIENT DEEDS.

Among the various calendars issued under the direction of the Master of the Rolls is included "A Descriptive Catalogue of Ancient Deeds in the Public Record Office," of which three large volumes have been issued, each furnished with indexes of persons and places. No attempt has been made to

arrange the deeds, which are of various dates, so that these indexes are very useful. The following, from the third volume, will indicate the contents of the series :—

C 3682. Grant by Richard son of Hugh Payn of Chester to Philip de Eggerton of a plot of land with buildings and garden &c. in Chester adjoining the lane leading from the high street to the water of Dee, with a garden stretching from the lane leading to the church of St. John the Baptist. Dated at Nantwich, on the Thursday after St. Catherine the Virgin, 25 Edward (I.).

C 3653. Grant by Hugh Payn, citizen of Chester, to Henry de Lymme, of land with a garden adjoining in Foregate-street, Chester, extending from the high road to the field of Sir Robert de Hemigton, canon of the prebendal church of St. John, Chester; paying 3s. yearly. Witnesses :—Hugh de Bricchull, mayor of Chester; Nicholas Payn and Roger Donfoul, sheriffs of the same; and others (named). No date, but about 27-28 Edward I.

C 3659. Grant by Nicholas son of Andrew Lip-pard to Lucy his sister, of the land in St. Olave's-lane which was given to Roger the falconer in free marriage with her, by Hugh the grantor's brother, and of the third part of the grantor's land in the great street of Chester; paying to the earl (of Chester) $\frac{1}{4}$ d. yearly for the first-mentioned land as "Londgable," and $\frac{1}{4}$ d. to the grantor for the latter. Witnesses :—Robert, dean of Chester, and others (named). Of the time of Henry III.; the mention of a land gabel payable to the earl is interesting.

C 3649. Demise by Henry de Blackrode, citizen of Chester, to Henry de Podinton and his wife, of a messuage with land and a fishery in Haselwelle, for six years from Whit Sunday, 1317, paying 20s. yearly. If Henry de Podinton die within that term his wife is to give the grantor an ox or half a mark to secure the remainder of the term. The date, 1317, is implied in the deed. The value of an ox (6s. 8d.) may be noted.

C 3651. Grant by Ralph de Monte Alto, rector of the church of Bebintone, to Walter Sprot his servant, for his life, of land in Bebintone, between lands of the Abbot of Chester and of Patrick de Boctone, to be held of Ralph son of Daniel, paying $\frac{1}{4}$ d. yearly. Witnesses :—Philip de Baunville, William Launselin, and others (named). Without date, but of Henry III.'s time. This deed gives an earlier rector than the list in Helsby's Ormerod; one of the same name was rector of Neston about 1210.

C 3247. Grant by Hamo de Rydley, vicar of Neston, to Henry le Bruyn of Moreton in Wyrehall for his life of all the lands &c. which he had of the gift of Ellen, daughter of the said Henry, with remainder in tail to the said Ellen and in fee to James de Pule. Witnesses :—John de Pule, William de Stanley, knights, and others (named). Dated Wednesday, the feast of St. Peter ad

*Isti sunt roti . . . cum Phillipo Bromley.

Vinoula (1 Aug.), 9 Henry IV. Hamo de Rydley remained vicar of Neston till his death in 1466, so that he held office for nearly fifty years.

C 3671. Grant by William de Whitmore of Thurstanton to Ralph de Eggerton, esquire, of all his lands and tenements in Gronacre. Dated the Tuesday after Palm Sunday, 22 Henry VI.

[897] THE COTGRAVE FAMILY.

In the last volume of "Sheaf" an account of the various pedigrees of this family was given, with some notes from Ormerod's History and the Deputy Keeper's Reports. The following document may be given as a specimen of the very untrustworthy pedigrees put forth by the Elizabethan heralds; the great name of William Camden is certainly not honoured by its position here. It would appear to have been drawn up to please Cross of Charlinc'h and obtained by the Cotgreaves of Netherleigh, and to have formed the basis of the pedigree of this family as given in the first edition of Burke's "Commoners." It reads:—

Sir Ranulph Cotgreave, lord de Hargrave, Tarvin, and Tattenhall in the countie Palatine of Chester living in the reigns of Henry IV. and Henry V. married Elinor daughter of Sir Francis Gamvil de Mollington in the said countie and had issue—Ranulph his heir, who espoused Elinor daughter of—Trafford esquire de Bretton in the countie of Flint.

The aforesaid Sir Ranulph Cotgreave had further issue Elinor who wedded Sir William Crosse de Charleage [Charlinc'h] in the countie of Somerset and Sutton Cheshire and had issue—

William Crosse esquire de Charleage and Sutton his heire who wedded Isabel daughter of Robert de Holme Lord de Tranmere in the first named countie and had issue—

John Crosse esquire de Charleage and Sutton who married Constance daughter of William Boteler or Butler esquire de Warrington in the countie of Lancaster and had issue—

John Crosse esquire de Charleage and Sutton who espoused Usula daughter of Thomas Wentworth esquire de Broughton in the countie of Flint, and had issue—

Sir William Crosse de Charleage and Sutton, who married Angharad daughter of Matthew Ellis esquire de Overlegh near Chester.

Definitions of armorial bearings connected with the family of Crosse, as depicted in the Cotgreave pedigree:

1st Shield. Quarterly of twelve: (1) Quarterly gules and or, in the first and fourth quarters a cross-crozelet argent, for Crosse; (2) Argent, a canton sable, for Sutton; (3) Azure, a chief and three chevronels in base or, for Fitz Hugh; (4) Or, on a fesse azure three garbs of the first, for Vernon; (5) Gules, a saltire argent, for Neville; (6) Gules, a cross fleury or, for Latimer; (7) Argent, a saltire

gules; on a chief of the second three escallop shells of the first, for Talboys; (8) Or, a lion rampant, double quewed, sable, for Welles; (9) Per pale or and azure, a cross engrailed counterchanged, for Pole; (10) Uarier [? Vaire] azure and argent, a fesse fretty gules, for Marmion; (11) Argent, a cross engrailed gules, for Gournay; (12) Azure, a lion rampant argent, for Montalt. Impaling—Gules, a fesse indented ermine between three bugle horns or, stringed argent, for Cotgreave.

2nd Shield. Crosse, with the said quarterings, impaling—Barry of six, or and azure; in dexter chief point a canton argent charged with a rose gules seeded and barbed proper, for Holme.

3rd Shield. Crosse, with the same quarterings, impaling—Argent, three covered cups in bend, between two bendlets engrailed sable, for Boteler or Butler.

4th Shield. Crosse, with the aforesaid quarterings, impaling—Sable, a chevron between three leopard's heads or, for Wentworth.

5th Shield. Crosse, with the above quarterings, impaling—Ermine, a lion rampant sable, for Ellis.

The aforesaid Sir William Crosse de Charleage and Sutton, was descended from the very ancient family of the Crosse of Crosse Hall in the countie of Lancaster, quartered the ensigns of the above ancient families in right of his mother Maude, daughter and coheire of Sir William Sutton of Sutton and Elton in the countie Palatine of Chester, and was living temp. Henry V., and was slain whilst fighting under that monarch at the battel of Agincourt A.D. 1415.

This is to certify that the above was compiled by me from records in the possession of the ancient family of the Cotgreaves de Hargrave, Tarvin and Tattenhall in the countie palatine of Chester.

(Signed) WILLIAM CAMDEN.

August 16th A.D. 1598.

The aforesaid was extracted from a pedigree, in my possession, of the Cotgreaves de Hargrave &c. in the county of Chester, which family my father the late Sir John Cotgreave of Netherlegh House near Chester (through females) represented. Witness my hand and seal this 9th day of July 1849.

(Signed) ELLEN COTGREAVE.

The seal shews the crest of the Cotgreaves—A demi-peacock with wings expanded, issuing from a ducal coronet.

It would be interesting to see these "records in the possession of the ancient family of the Cotgreaves," if they still exist, and to discover what they really prove.

The following notes from the different reports of the Deputy Keeper of the Records are rather fuller than appeared in the articles above referred to, and may be useful for reference. They do not pretend to be exhaustive.

37th Report.

William de Cotgrave occurs in 1415 (p. 204) and 1418 (p. 103).

Robert son of Randle de Cotgrave in 1424 (p. 47). Then Robert de Cotgrave, perhaps the same person, is mentioned in 1434 (p. 167), 1438 (p. 32), 1439 (p. 33), 1440 (p. 31), 1442 (p. 33), 1443 (pp. 167, 213), 1444 (pp. 137, 398).

Richard de Cotgrave next appears; there were certainly two of the name, for on one occasion they were recognitors for persons on opposite sides in a dispute. Richard is named in 1465 (pp. 777, 260, 312), 1466 (pp. 777, 746), 1469 (pp. 727, 728 twice, 792), 1470 (p. 728), 1472 (pp. 659, 692), 1475 (p. 693), 1476 (p. 173).

Robert and Thomas occur together in 1472 (p. 748), and Robert alone in the same year (pp. 260, 765), and 1475 (p. 687); Richard and Robert together in 1473 (p. 659), 1476 (p. 260) and 1480 (p. 693).

Richard alone in 1479 (p. 159), 1480 (p. 706), 1486 (p. 455), 1488 (p. 189), 1489 (pp. 62, 96, 294), 1490 (pp. 352, 657), and 1492 (p. 294). His name does not occur after this year.

Robert occurs alone in 1480 (pp. 313, 728), 1484 (p. 167), 1489 (p. 728) and 1490 (pp. 314, 728). In this year Richard and Robert are named together, but not always in the same order (pp. 108, 298, 550). Robert is alone again in 1491 (p. 143—described as "of Christleton"—and p. 251) and in 1502 (p. 459). In the last-named year John and Robert are together (p. 108).

39th Report.

In 1519 Robert Cotgrave of Christleton (p. 40); in 1566 (p. 259) Ralph and Alice, who had lands in Cotton; and Robert Cotgrave of Chester (p. 14).

OCTOBER 14, 1903.

NOTES.

[898] DEAN NUTTER AS A MONEY-LENDER.

The following letter, accidentally preserved, is interesting as an indication that the Very Rev. John Nutter, B.D., Dean of Chester (1589 to 1602), and rector of Bebington, Sefton, and Aughton, was also a money-lender. At least one might suppose so, from the would-be borrower's offer of a "pawn" and even a "bill" for a loan of 20s. It is, however, but fair to point out that there is not the least hint of interest.

Right wor:ull my dutie remembered, S'r beinge bolde to trouble yo'r wor: w'th these fewe lynes, am to Crave yo'r wor: good favore so muche as to lend me twentie shillings vppon a sufficient pawne awhtyle vntill the yeare doe amend & then God willinge yo'r wor: should haue the same agayne &

daly bound to pray for yo'r wor: this yeare hathe sore pynched me by reason of my Charge I have a talte yonge man to my sonne w'oh ys Chargable vnto me that I can not place as yett but trustinge by yo'r wor: good helpe I shall the soner be able to place hym thus with my daly prayer to God for yo'r wor: I humbly take my leave, June the xxixth 1591

Yo'r wor: to com'and

JOHN DEANE

Yo'r wor: shall haue a bill of my hand besyde the pawne if youe please.

To the Right Worshipfull

Mr. John Nutter Deane

of the Cathedrall

Church of Chester

these be d'd.

At the back of this letter are some notes respecting the marriage settlement of Andrew son of Richard Maghull of Maghull and Anne his wife daughter of Thomas Halsall of Melling. Dean Nutter, seems to have been one of the witnesses of the agreement, and may have drawn it up.

[899] OLD CHESHIRE HIGHWAYS. IV.

(See No. 883.)

The road from York to Chester in 1775 passed through Tadcaster, Leeds and Rochdale to Manchester; hence by Eccles and Warrington to Chester, the portion within the county being given as—

	m. f.
Warrington (post town).....	86 4
London road.....	87 4
R. to Low Walton (Cheshire).....	88 0
High Walton.....	88 4
Daresbury.....	90 6
Stockham.....	92 0
Haulton.....	93 0
Sutton.....	94 0
Frodsham (post town).....	96 0
Trafford.....	102 0
CHESTER.....	107 0

The miles are reckoned from York. There are no notes on this route.

The maps of the 1690 Ogilby give much fuller details. The Mersey is crossed (after passing through Warrington) at 86½ miles; at 87½, where the London road goes straight on (see No. 867), a sharp turn must be made to the right. Grapnoe is passed on the left and by and by Lower Walton is reached. Here a little brook is crossed by a "stone bridge," close to which is the 88th mile stone. On the left Walton hall is seen. A mile further on Higher Walton is passed and then Fenners brook is crossed, and soon Holly hedg is reached. On the left Walton (perhaps the hall) is marked. At 90½ Thurshaugh Brook is crossed; then Daresbury is passed through, and after 91 "a heath" borders the right side of the road. Norton is seen some distance

off on the same side, and a road from Dutton hall joins the highway just before Stockham (92). Near the end of the next mile Haulton Castle stands a little way to the right; soon afterwards, by the road side, is the Saracens Head Inn. Rook Savage is shown to the right. At 94 Sutton is reached, and beyond it on the left is Aston hall. Soon afterwards (at 95) "a bridge" takes the traveller across the Wever, and by and by Frodsham is gained; a windmill stands at the nearer end of the town, and the Castle at the further end (96), both on the left side. Here a road to the right leads away to the mill. Netherton is passed through, and then another road to the right leads to the Marsh. At 97 Gods Croft House is marked about half a mile to the right and Wood houses about the same distance on the left, a little beyond the latter being Aulmeley, cross roads serving to communicate with the highway. At 98½ Helsby Tor rises on the left hand, the village lying to the right. At Hapsford bridge (99½) another brook is crossed; at 100 a road branches off to Thornton on the right, and just ahead, on the other side Dunham super montem is shown, two roads leading up to it. Between 101 and 102 Morley hall appears on the left and Wimble Trafford on the right. At 102 a road (to the right) leads to Elton and then Bridg Trafford is passed through; a mill standing at the far side of the stream on the traveller's left. At 103 a road branches off to Pickton about a mile to the right, and soon afterwards another, on the other side, to Mickle Trafford. At 104 a path leads to the left, and then, on the same side, Howl is shown, and further on is Howl hesth. About 105 are several small cross roads, one or two going to Newton, some way to the right. Then on the same side, but close to the road, come a mill and Cosbrook Hall; and then soon after the 106th mile Chester is entered by the East gate.

The road from Chester to Cardiff may be taken as a continuation of the above. The portion which concerns our present purpose is given very briefly in 1775:

	m. f.
To Pulford	5 0
Merford (Flint)	7 4
Wrexham (Denbigh)	11 4

The earlier map shows that the road, after crossing the Dee, proceeds almost due south to Wrexham. The road to Hawarden and Holyhead leads off to the right, as already described (see No. 831); at 3 another road on the same side goes to Camerton (Kinnerton). Pulford is reached at 5; here are cross-roads, that on the left leading to "Burfield." Shortly afterwards the Flintshire boundary is crossed; roads branching off hereabouts on the right to Burton Green (two) and on the left to Holt. Between 6 and 7 is Rossett, the church being placed on the right side of the road. Then on the other side a road leads off to Barrow, and after passing Merford another leads to Holt Castle. At 8 the

river Tagidog is reached and crossed and Denbighshire is entered. Here roads lead (left) to Holt and Wrexham, while Gresford with its church and its pound appear on the right. On the other side, about 9½ is seen Pentiocken House, and roads are just afterwards marked as leading "To the mountain" on the right. On the left, after 10, is Acton; afterwards, on the other side, a road from Chester joins; at 11 are cross roads, that on the right leading to Harwood, the opposite one being only a "by way." Soon afterwards a road to Stansted (to the right) is marked, and Wrexham is entered.

The only other Cheshire road is a portion of that from Manchester to Derby by way of Stockport. In 1775 this is given as a continuation of the road from London to Derby, as far as Manchester, thus

	m. f.
Shawcross	164 0
Dialley Deyne (Cheshire)	169 0
Hesselgrave	171 2
Heaton	173 0
Stockport (post town)	175 0
Grimlow	180 0
Manchester (Lancs.)	182 0

In 1690, however, the route is a distinct one, and the miles are measured from Manchester. At 6 the Mersey is reached, and on the other side is Stockport. Here a road on the right turns off to Chester. On the other side, some distance away stands Protwood Hall. On the same side at the end of the town is the church. Between 7 and 8 Swetnams stands by the left side of the road and "a sicamore tree" (a little further on) by the right side. Just after 8 (on the left) is Miles end hall, and then "a moor. At 9 Brewers Green is reached, and Beesmore stands on the left; further on, there is "an Inne" by the road. Between 10 and 11 there is a wood on the right side, the hamlet of Hesselgrove standing here. At 11½ another wood appears on the right with Lime Hall a good distance away, and there are cross roads, Ho lane being the name of the left-hand one. At 12½ a hill is mounted, after which Dysley Deyn is reached, the church standing at the right side of the road, and just beyond it "an Inne" (13); a church standing some distance away. Between this place and the boundary several more hills have to be surmounted one after the other. One of these (at 14) is called Longside Hill. About a mile on the left is "Mr. Jodrela," and further on is Erdley Hall. Between 15 and 16 is Wheley lane Head. At 16½ the river Gort is crossed by "a stone bridge," Taxhal standing some distance away on the right. After Derbyshire is entered, the route lies through Shawcross, a road to the left branching off from the bridge to Chapel en le Frith (2 m.)

(To be continued.)

[900] REV. T. CRANE'S LETTERS.

I send for the "Sheaf" copies of five short letters from the late Revd. T. Crane. Three of them are to the Lord Bishop of Bangor, and two to the

Rev. Dr. Marlow, Vice-Chancellor of Oxford and all of them relate to Mr. Crane's examination and criticism of Virgil as in use at Oxford in the year 1801.

W. H. BRADFORD.

(1)

My Lord,—I send the Virgil by to-day's coach. I hope it will contribute to improve the next edition. I object to Heyne's affected manner of spelling. That mode ought to be followed which has been in use in Oxford during the last century. I do not approve the division of the lines by decades. I think the eye would be benefitted by the figures being placed by fives as in the Dauphin edition. My manuscript upon nice inspection appears to descend from that Virgil which was corrected by Varius and Tuca; as the 22 exceptional lines, Lib. 2, are omitted in the Æneis. I have the honour to be, &c.

May 12, 1801.

Lord Bishop of Bangor, Oxford.

(2)

My Lord,—On the thirteenth of May, I returned by the coach the Oxford Virgil with annotations, and with various readings from my manuscript. I give your Lordship the trouble of this letter to enquire whether you received the volumes safe.

July 23, 1801.

Lord Bishop of Bangor, Bangor.

(3)

My Lord,—I have received to-day a very polite letter dated at Oxford from the Vice-Chancellor: to which I enclose an answer, in hope your Lordship will be so good as to frank it. I am very much mortified by the offer of a present of books; which, though valuable, I have entirely refused: because a present of that sort for a work of genius is degrading, and like paying a mechanic for his labour. If the University had sent me a Bachelor's Degree in Law it might have been of some service to me, if I live; and the expense to them in stamps would not have been one third as much as the value of their intended present: and this I could have accepted without a blush; but I do not care to accept anything but a degree.

August 1, 1801.

Lord Bishop of Bangor, Bangor.

(4)

Reverend Sir,—I am happy to hear that the Virgil has received the approbation of you and the Delegates. I beg the intended present may not be sent, for when I undertook to collate Virgil, it was expressly on condition that I should not receive any reward. I have the honour to be, with great respect, Reverend Sir, your most obedient humble servant.

T. CRANE.

August 1st, 1801.

The Reverend Doctor Marlow,
Vice-Chancellor of Oxford.

(5)

Reverend Sir,—I have placed in my cedar bookcase, which contains my best books, the elegant copies of Virgil and Cicero, which I received from Oxford.

September 8th, 1801.

OCTOBER 21, 1908.

NOTES.

[961] SIEGE OF CHESTER. IV.

(Continued from No. 887.)

The following is the list of families in the

EASTGATE WARD.

"In the Eastgate Ward there is about 160 od familys in wh: there is about 900 p'sons or there. abouts beaydes 150 souldiers or thereabouts of wh: familys there is about 100 familys that have noe corne and the corne that is, is about 112 measures."

Mr. Blease, 6 in family, 5 souldiers, 8 measures of corne.

Will: Mosley & lightborde, 5 in fam.: noe corne.

Robert Emanson, 8 in fam.; 2 soldiers, 3 mes: corne.

Rich: Taylor, 9 in fam.; 1½ mes: corne.

James Tyrer, 4 in fam.; 1 mes: corne.

Randell Bridg. 13 in fam.; 2 soldiers, 1 mes: corne.

Mr. Will: Benet, 11 in fam.; 4 soldiers, 4 mes: corne.

Mr. Randell Hunnte, 2 in fam.; noe corne.

Mr. Will: Willding, 4 in fam.; 2 soldiers, noe corne.

Mr. William Taylor, 5 in fam.; 1 soldier, 2 mes: corne.

Sir Thos: Dellacy, 6 in fam.; 3 soldiers, 3½ mes: corne.

Widdow Geaton, 2 in fam.; 3 soldiers, ½ mes: corne.

Widd: Owens, 5 in fam.; 2 soldiers, 1 mes: corne.

Mr. Joseph Bruen, 6 in fam, 2 soldiers, 2 mes: corne.

Thos: Evans, 4 in fam.; 2 soldiers, 1 mes: corne.

Jane Evans & sister, 2 in fam.; noe corne.

John Halle, 6 in fam.; noe corne.

Leonard Atkinsonn, 3 in fam.; noe corne.

Thos: Taylor, 2 in fam.; noe corne.

Henry Haslo, 6 in fam.; 1 soldier, noe corne.

John Owen, 5 in fam.; 1 soldier, noe corne.

Widd: Blease and sonne, 2 in fam.; noe corne.

Daniell Greatbache, 12 in fam.; 4 soldiers, 3 mes: corne.

Thomas Parnell, 8 in fam.; 2 soldiers, 1 mes: corne, 2 mes: meale.

Mr. Hawkins, 5 in fam.; noe corne.

Richard Smith, 7 in fam.; 2 soldiers, 1 mes: corne.

Mr. Hallwod, 11 in fam.; 3 soldiers, 1 mes: corne

Mr. Fezacerley, 4 in fam.; 2 soldiers, noe corne.

Thomas Leay, 3 in fam.; noe corne.

Rich: Trafford, 3 in fam.; 1 soldier, noe corne.

Thos: Reberts, 3 in fam.; noe corne.

John Joynsonn, 5 in fam.; noe corne.

Richard Tyrer, 4 in fam.; 2 soldiers, 2 mes: corne.

Sam: Ince, 5 in fam.; 2 soldiers, 1 mes: corne.

Mr. Poole, 6 in fam.; ½ mes: corne.

Widd: Benet, 6 in fam.; 2 soldiers, 1 mes: corne.

Richard Jonson, 8 in fam.; 3 soldiers, 1 mes: corne.

- Raph Picke with others, 10 in fam.; noe corne.
 Thos: Hove, 9 in fam.; 2 soldiers, noe corne.
 Arther Willsonn, 11 in fam.; noe corne.
 George Meacock, 8 in fam.; 1 soldier, 2 mes: corne.
 Widd: Hankey & sonne, 10 in fam.; noe corne.
 Rich: Markey, 6 in fam.; noe corne.
 Rich: Bowker, 7 in fam.; noe corne.
 Widd: Tapley, 3 in fam.; noe corne.
 Thos: Easkinn, 7 in fam.; noe corne.
 Widd: Wamsley, 3 in fam.; noe corne.
 Janne Flecher, 1 in fam.; noe corne.
 William Machell, 9 in fam.; noe corne.
 Thos: Carter, 7 in fam.; noe corne.
 David Johnes, 7 in fam.; noe corne.
 James Ridley, 5 in fam.; noe corne.
 Rich: Griffith, 2 in fam.; noe corne.
 Widd: Joynson, 4 in fam.; noe corne.
 William Danny, 9 in fam.; noe corne.
 Mr. Edward Aldersey, 6 in fam.; 1 soldier, 2 mes: corne.
 Robert Fletcher, 7 in fam.; noe corne.
 Edward Hove, 11 in fam.; noe corne.
 Rich: Firmlo, 7 in fam.; 1 soldier, 2 mes: corne.
 Mr. Thos: Aldersey, 3 in fam.; 1 soldier, 2 mes: corne.
 Mr. Thos: Wright, 6 in fam.; 2 soldiers, 1 mes: corne.
 Rich: Kentman, 4 in fam.; 3 soldiers, 6 mes: corne.
 Michael Inglefeld, 2 in fam.; $\frac{1}{2}$ mes: corne.
 Rich: Streete & others, 17 in fam.; noe corne.
 John Preece, 5 in fam.; noe corne.
 Widd: Dove, 1 in fam.; noe corne.
 John Hansonn, 5 in fam.; noe corne.
 Henery Cood, 5 in fam.; 1 soldier, noe corne.
 Widd: Smith, 6 in fam.; noe corne.
 John Bashford, 6 in fam.; noe corne.
 Alderman Aldersey, 10 in fam.; 4 soldiers, 6 mes: corne.
 Thos: Heath, 7 in fam.; 3 soldiers, 2 mes: corne.
 John Cowes, 4 in fam.; 5 soldiers, 3 mes: corne.
 Mr. Rich: Littler, 15 in fam.; noe corne.
 Mrs. Sallsbery, 16 in fam.; 8 soldiers, 3 mes: corne.
 Peeter Rowe, 4 in fam.; 2 mes: corne.
 Thos: Darwall, 8 in fam.; 1 mes: corne.
 John Boyddell, 5 in fam.; noe corne.
 Widd: Cowper, 8 in fam.; 2 soldiers, 3 mes: corne.
 (Name missing) 5 in fam.; 2 soldiers, noe corne.
 Bart: Godfrey, 7 in fam.; 2 soldiers, 2 mes: corne.
 Colonell Wayt, 5 in fam.; 1 mes: corne.
 John Mallbone, 4 in fam.; 1 soldier, noe corne.
 Sam: Roberts & others, 13 in fam.; noe corne.
 Widd: Yocker, 1 in fam.; 1 soldier, noe corne.
 Mr. Fittonn, 6 in fam.; noe corne.
 John Garfeld, 2 in fam.; noe corne.
 Aplinn Welch, 7 in fam.; noe corne.
 Rich: Dennsonn, 3 in fam.; noe corne.
 Robert Nicholer, 4 in fam.; 1 soldier, noe corne.
 Thos: Fisher, 4 in fam.; noe corne.
 Mr. Russell, 10 in fam.; 4 soldiers, 2 mes: corne.
 Widd: Carter, 9 in fam.; 2 mes: corne.
 Alexander Jones & others, 23 in fam, noe corne
 Mr. Maxsey, 10 in fam.; noe corne.
- Mr. Probin, 5 in fam.; noe corne.
 William Hillton, 10 in fam.; 2 soldiers, noe corne.
 Widd: Weate, 6 in fam.; 1 mes: corne.
 Mrs. Wall & Mr. Fittonn, 6 in fam.; 1 mes: corne.
 Mrs. Owens, 2 in fam.; 1 soldier, noe corne.
 Widd: Pemberton, 12 in fam.; 2 soldiers, 1 mes: corne.
 Widd: Willson, 8 in fam.; noe corne.
 John Hicksonn, 3 in fam.; noe corne.
 Mr. Hatton, 9 in fam.; noe corne.
 Thomas Garner, 8 in fam.; 2 soldiers, 4 mes: corne.
 Mrs. Morgell, 7 in fam.; noe corne.
 William Crosby, 3 in fam.; 2 soldiers, noe corne.
 Samsonn Sheley, 4 in fam.; 1 soldier, 2 mes: corne.
 Mrs. Ince, 3 in fam, 2 mes: corne.
 Mrs. Ratcliffe, 2 in fam.; 3 soldiers, 1 mes: corne, 2 mes: meale.
 Mr. Mastersonn, 5 in fam.; noe corne.
 Lady Barlo, 5 in fam.; noe corne.
 Captinne Persall, 3 in fam.; noe corne.
 John Fleming, 5 in fam.; noe corne.
 Raph Nicksonn, 3 in fam.; noe corne.
 Mr. John Aldersey, 3 in fam.; 3 soldiers, 4 mes: corne.
 Widd: Thorpe, 10 in fam.; 2 soldiers, 3 mes: corne.
 Widd: Poole & sonne, 9 in fam.; 3 soldiers, noe corne.
 Thos. Pooleford, 5 in fam.; noe corne.
 Mrs. Crosse, 16 in fam.; 4 soldiere, 6 mes: corne.
 John Thrope, 5 in fam.; 2 mes: meale.
 Widd: Levy, 3 in fam.; 1 soldier, 2 mes: meale.
 William Terey, 4 in fam.; noe corne.
 (Several names missing here.)
 Daniell Buttlr
 Mr. Church, 5 in fam.; noe corne.
 William Brame, 6 in fam.; noe corne.
 Henery Newp't, 3 in fam.; noe corne.
 Thos: Jonnes, 2 in family. No corne.
 William Jonnes, 6 in fam.; no corne.
 Widdow Stringer, 9 in fam.; no corne.
 Henery Glassop, 4 in fam.; no corne.
 Thos: Jonnes, 7 in fam.; 3 soldiers, no corne.
 Thos: Warnecham, 11 in fam.; 1 soldier, 1 mesure of corne.
 Thos: Gilbert, 6 in fam.; 3 soldiers, 1 mes: corne.
 William Smalshawe, 2 in fam.; no corne.
 (Several names missing.)
 Rich: Priese, 3 in fam.; 4 soldiers, no corne.
 Widd: Williams, 3 in fam.; no corne.
 Rich: Tottey, 9 in fam.; 2 soldiers, no corne.
 Widd: Bryan, 6 in fam.; 1 soldier, 1 mes: corne.
 Mr. Browne, 5 in fam.; 2 soldiers, 2 mes: meale.
 John Wade, 5 in fam.; 1 mes: corne, 2 mes: meale.
 Thos: Hallwood, 5 in fam.; 1 mes: corne.
 Widd: Wiggen & Mr. Rellshawe, 3 in fam.; 7 soldiers, 4 mes: corne.
 Thos: Bradley, 4 in fam.; 1 soldier, 1 mes: corne.
 Rich. Weanne, 6 in fam.; no corne.
 Mr. Rich: Haggard, 3 in fam.; no corne.
 (Several names missing.)
 Thos: Jocker, 1 in fam.; no corne.
 Widd: Powell, 3 in fam.; no corne.

Cristopher Hallwod, 2 in fam.; no corne.
 Widd: Berchley, 2 in fam.; 1 soldier, no corne.
 William Fleete, 2 in fam.; no corne.
 Thos: Cornell, 3 in fam.; no corne.
 Widd: Cottrell, 3 in fam.; no corne.

(End of names in this ward.)

G. P. G.

(To be continued.)

[902] TWO MACCLESFIELD DEEDS.

The following relating to the town of Macclesfield may be of interest. They are from Harl MS. 2042.

(1) Roger de Swettenham of Somerford to Alice his daughter, wife of William Slegh. Grant of all his tenement in Cheestergate, between that of William Wylot on one side and that of Richard Burelles on the other. Witnesses: Richard de Rowe, mayor of Macclesfield; Adam de Kingslegh; John de Rosendale. Given at Macclesfield on Monday before St. Barnabas, 10 Richard II.

(2) John Blagge of Macclesfield to Margaret his wife. Grant of land in Chester street, between lands of the same John on each side; with remainder to his son Thomas; also a burgage in the same street, with all buildings and gardens upon it, between land of William Willot on one side and land lately of Henry Tailiour on the other, paying 2s. yearly to John Davenport of Whelstrogh; also another plot of land (called "Vernon's ground") with two houses built thereon in Cheestergate, with remainder to John's son Randle. Witnesses: John Savage, esquire; James Legh, then mayor of Macclesfield; Reynold Shrigley; &c. Given at Macclesfield on St. Chad's day, 31 Henry VI.

OCTOBER 28, 1903.

NOTES.

[903] TITHES AND LAND AT DARESBUY. II.

(See No. 893.)

In another volume of the Calendars of State Papers ("Domestic: 1595-97") is printed a statement of the case of Thomas Brooke v. John Daniell (about 1596). The plaintiff pretends that his father died possessed of a lease of the rectory of Runcorn made by the Dean and Chapter of Christ Church, Oxford, which came to him as executor; and that he was so possessed until the defendant procured another lease from the said Dean and Chapter for twenty-one years of the tithes of certain townships parcel of the rectory of Runcorn, under pretence that the same were concealed from them and no rent paid, whereas they would never have leased the same to the defendant if they had known it had been conveyed to the plaintiff as parcel of Runcorn rectory. The defendant pretends that he was an

earnest suitor to the Dean and Chapter to obtain a lease of their tithe barn in Preston and of all their tithe corn in Preston, Halton, Astmore, Sutton and other places named near Daresbury, which tithes were parcel of the rectory of Runcorn and then possessed under a void lease. The point in question was whether the defendant, before he procured the lease from the Dean and Chapter, acquainted them that the said tithes were parcel of the rectory of Runcorn and were contained in the plaintiff's lease; because if so, the Dean and Chapter would not have granted the lease to the defendant. Some of the Chapter depose that neither the rectory of Runcorn nor the plaintiff nor his lease was ever named in the defendant's suit in obtaining his lease. The pleadings and evidence on both sides have been preserved and many notes, some in the handwriting of John Daniell and some in that of Lord Keeper Puckering. (p. 154.)

There is also a letter from John Daniell to his master John Daniell of Daresbury Hall, at Court. He writes that "Master Jeffry had shown me great unkindness and committed me to prison and kept me there a month for £20, which I should have received at London and also for £32 14s. 3d. for a yoke of oxen and some corn, which I promised to pay for; meantime he used me hardly, took all that I had, and the clothes off my back, so that I was driven to borrow some to wear in prison or else I had been starved. I have left only £9, and my clothes and tools worth 20 nobles. I beg help. Richard has meat and drink continually at the hall, and between them they will make away with my goods; they spin the finest wool to make stockings and other clothes, and when Master Jeffrey was at Manchester, he had bacon and cheese brought from the hall. Pray examine Margaret Harper; she knows all about it." (p. 560.)

About the same time articles were exhibited against Henry Sankey, curate at Daresbury, as being riotous and profligate, a gambler, drunkard, &c. (p. 155.)

In the volume "Domestic: 1598-1601" (p. 42) is recorded the judgment in the Court of Chester, before Sir Richard Shuttleworth and Henry Townshend, justices, that an inquiry be made as to the stealing of four black bullocks (value £10) from Lawrence Jackson by Hamlet Grigg of Daresbury, husbandman, and Thomas Heyward, labourer, and of the reception of the thieves, knowing them to be such, by Robert Grice of Runcorn. Four months afterwards (7 Aug. 1598) Grigg was pardoned. This case was very likely part of the same series of actions concerning the tithes.

Lastly in the volume "Domestic: 1601-1603" is another reference:

August (?), 1601. An unknown correspondent writes to the Countess of Essex: Thanks for your favour last year to Brooke, my lord's agent; but as some of his witnesses could not then appear I beg a

day for hearing of him and his adversary Daniell, before Michaelmas term, when a perfect examination of witnesses may avail to clear the controversy. (p. 91.)

In the "Descriptive Catalogue of Ancient Deeds" are printed the following abstracts of documents which have a bearing on the dispute.

A 5635. Agreement between John Daniell of Daresbury, esquire, and the Dean and Chapter of Christ Church, Oxford, witnessing that whereas the said Dean and Chapter have demised to the said Daniell for twenty-one years, the tithe of corn and grain in Daresbury, Halton, Astmoore, Sutton, Aston thereby, Aston Grange, Halton near Daresbury, Over Walton, Nether Walton, Kekewich, Moore, and Preston, the tithe of corn and grain, grass, hay, pig and goose of Thelwall, and the tithe of hay &c. of Moore, Sutton and Kekewich; the said Daniell agrees that the said demise shall not charge the said Dean and Chapter with any action of covenant, &c., and the said Dean and Chapter agree not to do anything prejudicial to the said Daniell's estate in the premises. Dated 14 July, 23 Elizabeth (1581)

A 5639 is a demise for 21 years by the Dean and Chapter of various tithes in the parish of Runcorn to Sir Randle Brereton of Malpas and John Egerton of Oulton; dated 10 July, 36 Elizabeth (1594).

A 5617. Recognisance by William Ravenscrofte of Lincoln's Inn, esquire, to the Queen for 100 marks. Dated Westminster, 24 August, 40 Elizabeth (1598).

The condition of the above recognisance witnessed that whereas in a suit between John Ireland esquire plaintiff and John Daniell esquire defendant, it was ordered that the defendant should pay certain sums to the above-named Mr. Ravenscrofte to the plaintiff's use, part for tithe corn of the demesne lands in Daresbury and part for costs recovered by the plaintiff's father against the defendant, if the plaintiff shall abide by the order of the Court of Chancery upon a new bill to be exhibited by the said defendant against the plaintiff then the above recognisance shall be void.

On the back are the names of Thomas Ireland of Bernard's Inn, and Robert Griffith of St. Dunstan's in the West, scrivener.

[904] KATHERINE BRETTARGH. II.
(See No 892.)

Her Marriage.—When she was about twenty years old she was married to Master William Bretterg of Bretterghold in Lancashire near Liverpool, who was a young gentleman that embraced religion sincerely and suffered much for it at the hands of Papists.

Popish Malice.—This gracious couple lived two years together in such mutual joy and comfort as well becomed the children of God. In which time she had one daughter by him. Their habitation

was in the midst of ignorant and brutish Papists, who were always doing some wrong and injury to them, yet her knowledge, patience, mildness, and constancy for the truth much edified and built up her husband in his most holy faith and encouraged him with more patience to bear all the wrongs and indignities that were daily offered to him.

He had his horses and cattle divers times killed in the night in his grounds by such malicious Papists as hated him for his religion's sake, which exceedingly conducted to his loss and hindrance, being most of the stock that he had. Yet did she not only bear this great affliction with admirable patience, but even rejoiced and praised God, submitting to His holy and wise providence therein. She would often say: It is good that such things should be, but woe be to those that do them. . . . And in the midst of such vexatious practices she would often say: The mercies of God are infinite, who doth not only by His word but by His justice also make us fit for His kingdom. Little do our enemies know what good by these things they do unto us and what ruin they bring to their own kingdom, while they thus set forth the wickedness thereof.

Her Proneness to forgive.—She used often to pray that God would forgive them who had thus wronged them, and send them repentance for it. She used to call upon her husband to do the like and to bless them that cursed him; and lest her husband should fail in this duty she daily prayed to God to sanctify her husband's thoughts and direct his heart aright, only to seek God's glory, without seeking revenge or satisfying his own affections, so careful was she to prevent sin both in herself and others.

Charity and Piety.—Her meekness, humility and unspotted carriage was such as that she forced some that were adversaries to her religion yet to speak well of her. She had a good report of all that knew her for her holy and sincere life. She was very pitiful and bountiful to the poor, neglecting no opportunity of doing good where she could. She constantly kept her times of praying, reading and meditating; she would by no means be absent from family duties; she used private duties, not only in her closet but abroad in her garden, orchard, &c.

Idleness dangerous.—She tasked herself to the reading of eight chapters a day at least out of the sacred Scriptures, and such time as she saw idly or evilly spent she used to call "the time of temptation."

She spent much time also in reading good books, judicious expositors, and the "Book of Martyrs," and was many times so affected in reading of the torments which Christians were put to, &c., that she would weep very bitterly for the same.

Zeal.—She was so zealous for God's glory and loved the truth so entirely that she would often argue against Popery but never open her mouth to plead for Baal. Sin was so hateful to her that she would grieve for it, both in herself and others.

Once as she was riding to church with her husband he was angry with his man, whereupon she said to him: Alas! husband, I fear your heart is not right towards God, that can be thus angry for a trifle; and weeping she said further: You must pray against your passions and always be sure your anger is for God. Else how dare you appear before His minister and offer up your prayers in the public congregation before God?

Mercy.—And another time a tenant of her husband's being behind with his rent, she desired him to bear with him a quarter of a year longer; and then when he brought it with tears she said to her husband: I fear you do not do well to take it of him though it be your right, for I doubt he is not well able to pay it; and then you oppress the poor.

She was so blameless in her whole course that the common enemies of religion, the Papists, had nothing to say against her; and among all the godly that knew her she was highly prized for her modest, holy, and humble carriage.

(*To be continued.*)

NOVEMBER 4, 1903.

NOTES.

[905] THE CHESHIRE BRADFORDS.

Some twenty years ago, among other inquirers as to my knowledge of this family was a Mr. Bradford living near London. At first I took no notice, but afterwards becoming interested, he and I obtained much information on the subject, he from the British Museum, Somerset House, &c., and I from the local Histories of Chester and Cheshire, with registers from several parish churches in the County and in the City of Chester. To save future searchers who may be on a similar track I submit the result of our labours for insertion in "Sheaf." This family is known from records to have been associated with the City and County of Chester for above 600 years. Their coat of arms was, and is—Sable, a cross engrailed argent (Cheshire and Devonshire); see Burke's "Encyclopædia of Heraldry." The Devon family were a branch of the old Cheshire stock. These arms are illustrated in King's "Vale Royal" (1656). In the corner of the first plate in this work is the inscription "Nobis. simo viro Petro Venables, Baroni de Kinderton, qui suis sumptibus insignia gentilitia totius Comitatus Cestrie tipis aeneis sic publicari curavit." It may perhaps be inferred from this that the Baron of Kinderton wished to rebuke certain people who were using arms without authority.

The first recorded member of the family is Henry de Bradford, whose ancestors had lived at their manor in Cheshire some generations before the period he is first noticed. But now for a further relation of facts from various authorities.

1275. Henricus de Bradford in the reign of King Edward (2 Jan., 3 Edw. I.) ceded his Manor in Bradeford in De la Mara Forest (Delamere) at the request of the King for the purpose of conferring it on the abbey of St. Mary, Vale Royal. In lieu thereof, together with Robert, his son, the King, by royal mandate through Reginald de Grey, Justice of Chester, granted him the serjeancy of the Eastgate, in the City of Chester, with the issues belonging thereto, with the houses and buildings above and below. And in addition, Bruardeshalgh, with 215 acres of land in Marleston and Lache with the right of pasture on Saltenev Marsh. To the bailiwick of the Eastgate, under the Earl of Chester, there was also to be paid by the heirs of Richard de Pulford, 3 marks of rent. For this, Henry de Bradford was to pay 1d. annually. Harl: MSS. 2074-2-6, and 2090. See also Hist: of Chester, by Ormerod, Hemingway, Canon Morris, and others.

1272-1307. Robert de Bradford, a witness; Cheshire Charters. Harl: MSS. 2099, p. 361 and 371.

1294. Hugh de Bradford, Over Alderley, Cheshire, was on an inquisition after the death of Jordan de Tyderington and on that after the death of Geoffrey de Chedle in the same year. See Ear-waker's "East Cheshire."

1301. Jordan de Bradford, entered as Constable of Flint. Harl: MS. 2099, p. 384.

1301. William de Bradford (Query: Son of Jordan) occurs in the same charter as a witness and landowner in Flint and Colehill.

1302. Jordan de Bradford, Constable of Chester Castle, and Sheriff of Flint, Constable of Flint and Mayor of the Borough. Deputy Keeper's 31st Report (Welsh Records). He was appointed Constable of Flint on the Saturday next before the feast of St. Andrew, 30 Edw. I. Flint Plea Rolls. While Jordan de Bradford was Constable of Flint Castle, the castle, suffered from a tempest; and from a roll relating to the works of castles in the Record Office, amongst others is the following temp. Edw: I., 32: "Paid to Jordan de Bradford, Constable of Flint castle, for four Louvers (windows, or lights) bought by him for the same; Chamberlain's account, Flint Plea Rolls. From the work of H. Taylor, F.S.A., Chester, on "Flint." From the same work, Mr. Taylor, Chester, has given copies of deeds to which Jordan de Bradford was a witness and, also, an illustration of his seal, which has a long-legged bird—probably the Cornish chough or the long (or red) shank common on Dee side—surrounded with this inscription:—S' JORDAN DE BRADFORD.

1312. Jordan de Bradford citizen of Chester is mentioned; also his son William. Dep. Keeper's 36th Report.

1327. Robert de Bradford, 20 Edw: III, was Keeper of the Castle and town of Hope and of the lands of Hopedale. The same was farmer of the manor of Hope. *Ibid.*

1337. Mariota de Bradford, daughter of Hugh de Bradford, gave up her claim of land in Over Alderley, which was her father's, to Robert le Grosvenor, in this year. See Earwaker's "East Cheshire."

1345-6. Robert de Bradford, also

1345-6. Alexander de Bradford. Dep. Keeper's 36th Report (Recognizance Rolls).

John de Bradford, and

Robert de Bradford. These two names are mentioned in the claim of Robert de Bradford, i.e. to the rights granted "Henrico de Bradford, et Roberto filio, avo ipsius Roberti, et de ipso Roberto descend : " (i.e., that this Robert, the claimant, was the grandson of Robert, the son of Henry the first recipient and that he was legally descended through his father John) "cuidam Johanni filio et heredi &c.; de Johanne descend : jus, &c., ipso Roberto filio et heredi &c." (and was his son and heir.) See claim of Robert de Bradford, in Canon Morris' "Hist. of Chester, during the Plantagenet and Tudor Times."

1346. Robert de Bradford owned lands on the southern margin of the city of Chester's territory in 1355: See the Black Prince's Charter of the boundaries of the city of Chester.

1346. Robert de Bradford. Lease granted to him of the Custody of the Castle and town of Hope, and lands of Hopedale for 3 years, at £68 13s. 4d. yearly. Dep. Keeper's 31st and 36th Reports.

1347. Robert and Ellen de Bradford to Richard de Ochlegh, parson of the church of St. Mary on the Hill, Chester, Recognizance of £6 5s. 5d. Dep. Keeper's 36th Report.

1350-9. Agnes de Bradford was the second wife of Sir John de Davenport, and was married between the dates given. See Earwaker's "East Cheshire."

1351. Roger Bradford, 25 Edw. III, farmer of the pleas and perquisites of the town of Flint for 6 years at £6 yearly. Dep. Keeper's 31st Report.

1377-8. Thomas Bradford, Mayor of Chester. He was son of Robert de Bradford. See Hists: of Chester; Hemingway, and others. There is thus a succession of five generations established: Henry de Bradford; Robert, his son and heir; John, son of Robert; Robert, son of John; and Thomas, son of Robert, Mayor in 1377.

1398. Richard and Roger de Bradford appointed as yeomen of livery of the Crown, with 6d. a day during pleasure. Dep. Keeper's 36th Report.

1428. Thomas Bradford, Sheriff of Chester. See Hists: of Chester.

1454. Thomas Bradford, tenant of the Abbot of Combermere. An extract from a book, contains the following relating to him :—"To all the sons of holy mother Church, &c. Know ye that we granted and let to farm, unto Thomas Bradford of Wich Malbanke a parlour (unam parlioram) situated in the same place, at the north end of a certain street called Ratonrowe, which extends from the graveyard of the church to the beast market (forum

animalium) of the same town, with four houses attached to it, and all other easements now belonging to them To have and to hold for forty years next, at 16s. 4d. of silver, at the four terms of the year, &c. Given at Combermere aforesaid on the feast of Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary (15th August), 1454." From the Register of the lands and tenements appertaining to the Monastery of Combermere, in Nantwich.

1529. Henry Bradford, Mayor of Chester, see Hemingway's Hist: of Chester.

1540. Cicely Bradford, daughter of Elizabeth de Bradford, became relict of George Baskervyle, of Old Withington, this year.

1549. Hugh Bradford, one, with other witnesses of an inventory taken of church property (Nether Alderley) this year. See Earwaker's East Cheshire, vol: II.

I shall now give the names of the heads of the families of the old Cheshire stock; from Church Registers; from the Probate Court; Chester, and from other authentic sources, which will be an index to others desirous of following the track which my coadjutor and I have marked out.

Withington.

1568. Katherine Bradford, m to John Lamba. From the Prestbury ch Register.

Byrtels.

1574. Edward Bradford, m to Ann Johnson. Prest: ch Register.

Marton.

1578. John Bradford, m to Alice Handforde. Prest: Registry.

1582. Rodger Bradford, bapt: March. Mobberley ch Register. W. H. BRADFORD.

(To be continued.)

[906] TWO ANCIENT CHARTERS.

The following charters from Harl. MS. 2074 are mentioned in Ormerod's history of the county (Helsby's ed. ii. 445 and 555; ii. 114), but seem worth printing more at length. The first, by Randle de Gernons (earl 1129-55) must have been considered of special importance, so many notable witnesses having been present. William de Romara was the earl's half-brother, and his son William Meschin (junior) is also a witness. Spinleman and others were witnesses to other charters printed in Ormerod. Unfortunately the reading of the names is not very trustworthy. The second, of about King John's time, is interesting for the service required.

(B 15).

Randle, Earl of Chester, to his Constable, Steward, and all—his barons and men and friends French and English and Welsh, greeting. Know that I have given and granted to Alan Silvester, my man and servant, Storeton (Stortuna) and Puddington (Vndioa—?Puditō) in fee and heredity to him and his heirs for his service, &c.

Witnesses: William de Romara, William de Percy, Richard de Hay, William the Constable, William the Monk, Robert Grensae (?), Robert de Trevers, Serlo the Hunter, William Meschin de Romara, Geoffrey the Dispenser, Berengar the Falconer, Roger de Verdun, Spinleman the Chamberlain, Adam de Praers, Hugh son of Anscheth, Robert son of Walter, William the Butler, John the Clerk who made this charter at Chester by the Earl's command.

(B 64).

Sciart, &c. I Roger de Lascy Constable of Chester have given, &c., to Geoffrey reeve of Weaverham and his heirs all my land in that vill to be held from me and my heirs free and quit from all services The said Geoffrey and his heirs shall find for me and my heirs a fit lodging, fire and water in the said vill.

Witnesses: Adam de Hatton then Seneschal; Hugh de Dutton; Geoffrey . . . de Aston; Richard Stark; Roger the Hunter; Antrop de Mulneton; Hugh Tine illi; Richard son of Roger; Hugh de Neestun; Henry the Little; Robert the Clerk.

QUERY.

[907] PORTMANTEAU, A CURIOUS WORD.

Among the goods of George Audley, attorney of Nantwich, deceased in 1775, which were sold by auction by Jacob Capper on 15th May, 1776, occurs the following:—"A very strong able Horse for a Portmanteau or Post-chaise." Can anyone give a later instance of the word Portmanteau used in the sense here indicated?

JAMES HALL.

Nantwich.

NOVEMBER 11, 1903.

NOTES.

[908] AN OLD CHESTER RENTAL.

The rental of Thomas Norris of Speke, compiled about 1450-60, has been given in the "Sheaf" for his lands at Caldby in Wirral. The following is the portion which relates to Chester, where, as will be seen, he had considerable possessions derived from his ancestors the Erneys (Hernes) family who held some of them at least in the time of Henry III.

Northgate street and St. Werburgh's churchyard do not require explanation. Gerard's lane is now Crook street; Berne (Barn) lane is King street—this was then quite rural, with a dovehouse and gardens. St. Chad's lane was a continuation of Parson's lane (now Princess street) to the westward; St. Chad's Chapel stood in or close to it.

St. Anne's was at the east end of St. John's Church. Its fraternity had property in Foregate street (see No. 801.)

Claverton lane is now Duke street, but where were the Hill houses?

The "Yorles Yee" has been noticed in the "Sheaf" under the more commonplace spelling of Earl's Eye.

Some of the names in the Newton and Chester fields part require elucidation. The Jousting croft was on the ground between Frodsham street and Foregate street; the "Jousting headland" perhaps came up to it.

RENTALE THOME NORRES de West Chester, Chester fyldes, Neuton fyldes, Clauerton, Hondbryge.

Northgate street.

Richard Locker, house and three gardens . . 30s.
William Ley, house and garden 13s.
Hamnet Ledsham, house in fee farm 5s.
Robert Notyrulle, chief rent of a mese-place 6s. 8d.
William Byrkedale, land in his garden between his house and St. Werburgh's churchyard 3s. 4d.
Harre Barbour, garden 12d.
and for chief rent in the "butter schoppes" . . 18s.
Thomas Monkysfeld, three gardens upon Garards lane westward; Davyd Forrer and Robert Rogerson on the south and Thomas Norres on the north 4s.
Robert Walker, garden by Garards lane and Trinity lane 12d.
Sir William Leyalton, garden between Garards lane on the west and St. Werburgh's monastery on the east 12d.
John Masse, five mese-places with five gardens thereto, in fee farm, between Berne lane and the nuns —
John Masse, a barn with a "duffhouse" and three gardens between Cholmeley on the south and Berne lane on the other side . . 13s. 4d.
Sir William Leyalton, garden in the croft between Jenkyn Richardson and St. Chad lane 8d.

Parson's lane

Richard Gerrard, chief rent of two places with the gardens (formerly Thomas Wett-nale's) 5s

Handbridge.

Thomas Bethell, two places, two barns, and two gardens and two lands in Honde brygge and Clauerton fyldes 20s.

St. John lane.

John Wodhey, two mese-places and two gardens in fee farm between the dean of St. John's on the south and Thomas Norres on the north 8s.
Roger Hernes, house and garden in fee farm 2s.

Foregate street.

William Andyrton, house and garden between St. Anne on the west and Raynes-croft on the east, 24s.

Eastgate street.

Richard Lancaster, one messuage in fee farm for the term of his life and his wife's 33s. 4d.

Richard Bower, a place; chief rent 17s.

Bridge street

Thomas Acton holds the Bridge gate and pays for the one half by year 6s. 8d.

Four houses (Hill houses) and four gardens, 20s.

A mese place in Claverton lane 22s.

Bartholomew Leyalton, a mese-place by Commonhall lane 5s.

The same has a toft in fee farm "in brede" between Robert Gylle and Richard Calcot 3s. 4d.

Cuppin lane beside St. Martin's.

Richard Taylor, a place called Aystges 4s.

Roger Holyton, a mese-place and garden, 4s.

James Hurdylton, for the house of Thomas

Hurell and for chief rent in Handbridge 3s. 6d.

"For the errabull lond callt the Yorles Yee lyng in Hondbrygge and Clauerton fylde" 43s. 4d.

Newton fields.

Divers tenants of land and houses, 30s.

HIC INCIPIUNT Terre Thome Norres in campis de Neuton et Chester Fyld.

1 land along the stiway.

1 land on the west side of the styway.

1 land at Mieldegrene, shooting on the "crosse. haddelond" and the abbot's on both sides.

25 hallands lying together

1 land called the "Hoke hadelond," between the abbot's land and Winnyton's

1 land in Parche croft, with the abbot's land on both sides.

2 lands on Braddewai londess . . . at the styway lands, between the abbot's land and the Chawntrel's.

3 hallands in the Puttes, between the abbot's land and Chawntrel's, with the abbot's on the south end and the Wynnynton's on the north end.

4 hallands in Fregrewes

1 land in Fregrewes

2 hallands in Chester field, the abbot's land on both sides.

3 lands in Chester field, with the abbot's land on both sides, and shooting upon the brook and upon the "hede haddelonde"

1 long hadland (headland) lying at the Clelondes yndes

6 hallands, shooting upon the chief hadland

1 halland at the "northe ynde" of the said hadland

4 pykes "lyinge at the Clelondes yendes ychon mo'r than other schotinge northe and sowthe; William de Hatton apon that on syde, the Chawntrel apon the other syde."

3 lands and a pyke on the brook, between the abbot's lands

2 hallands on the sperthis

1 "grote londess," shooting on the "Justynge haddelond," with the abbot's land on both sides.

1 hadland at the west end of the said Jousting hadland.

[909] CHESHIRE IN THE CALENDARS. V.

(See No. 889).

Several calendars of Papal documents relating to England have been issued under the direction of the Master of the Rolls. The following entries relating to Cheshire are taken from the first volume of the "Calendar of entries in the Papal Registers" (Papal Letters: 1198—1304), edited by Mr. W. H. Bliss.

Chester, St. Mary's (p. 345).—Dispensation, on the petition of O., cardinal of St. Adrian's, to William son of Mussus Count of Lavanis, to hold besides the rectories of St. Mary in the Castle, Chester, and St. Wells, in the dioceses of Coventry and Exeter, one other benefice with cure of souls. By Alexander IV., in March, 1257. (This is fifty years earlier than the first rector in Ormerod's list, i. 339; but Mr. Earwaker found that a Richard de Coton was rector about 1200.)

Astbury (p. 575).—Dispensation to Reynold (son of John de Grey), rector of Astebiri, 20 years of age and not in holy orders, to retain that benefice and to accept others to the value of £100 according to the common and ancient taxation of the realm. By Boniface VIII., April, 1298. (Not among the rectors in Ormerod iii., 26; apparently the bishop had presented some one else.)

Davenham (p. 529).—Dispensation to Master Robert de Redwellis to retain the church of Davenham and the archdeaconry of Chester, which has no house of residence. By Nicholas IV., March, 1291. (He held both till his death in 1315; Ormerod, iii. 240.)

Middlewich (p. 453).—Dispensation to Henry de Wodestok, papal chaplain, the Queen's chancellor, . . . who on resigning Cumbe (dio. Lincoln) obtained the churches of Wolstanton, Middlewich, and Woolton in the dioceses of Coventry and Lichfield and Lincoln, &c. By John XXI., March, 1277. (This is earlier than the first rector in Ormerod, iii. 185.)

Stoke (p. 546).—Mandate to the Bishop of Norwich, on behalf of Robert de Hulmo, priest, papal chaplain, rector of Croxton, one the King's clerks, who before the Council of Lyons obtained the church of Stoke in Wirral, and held it together with Croxton, to receive his resignation of Stoke, and then induct and defend him in possession of the same, granting him a dispensation to retain both churches, a portion of the fruits of Stoke being given to that church. By Nicholas IV., December, 1291. (Robert de Hulme held it till his death in 1316; Ormerod ii., 388.)

West Kirby and Plemstow (p. 532).—Dispensation to Master Robert de Thorp, subdeacon, who has held the churches of Rokeby, Pleymundestowe, West Kirkeby in Wirral, and Tywe in the dioceses of Lichfield and Lincoln, without papal dispensation and without being ordained priest within a year, to retain the same and on resigning any to accept others; a fit portion of the fruits received being applied to the said churches. By Nicholas IV., March, 1291. (Not in Ormerod's list, ii. 487; Simon de Radeswell was appointed in 1301.)

There are other entries of interest relating to the abbeys of Stanlow and Vale Royal, as also to earls and constables of Chester.

(To be continued.)

QUERY.

[910] THE OLD CITY GAOL.

Was not this Gaol a public institution? I am unable to find any reference to it in Mr. Fenwick's "History of Chester." Is there no record of the Governors, their names and years of office? Hemingway (in his "History," published in 1831, vol. ii., page 184) gives the names of the Chaplain and the Governor and other particulars in that year, but beyond this there is no further reference to the names of Governors. Can any reader of the "Sheaf" furnish a list, with the year and duration of Governorship?

JOHN E. HASWELL.

Oct. 19, 1903.

REPLY.

[911] MOULSON FAMILY.

(See No. 577.)

Your correspondent (3rd S., iv. 15) is in error in assuming the identity of Alderman Sir Thomas Moulson with Thomas Moulson esq. They were probably uncle and nephew. Sir Thomas was buried at St. Christopher le Stocks, London. He had no surviving children and apparently no near relations of the same surname except a brother John and a nephew Thomas who was probably the Thomas Moulson esq. mentioned by your correspondent. The wills of Sir Thomas and his lady have been printed in full abstract in H. F. Waters' *Genealogical gleanings in England* pp. 658-660. The younger Thomas also died without issue (cf. Irvine's *Lancashire and Cheshire wills* Rec. Soc. 30, p. 136). The French family of Moulson was probably only remotely connected with the Lord Mayor.

E. A.

NOVEMBER 18, 1903.

NOTES.

[912] CHESHIRE GENTRY IN 1745.

When Randle Wilbraham, of Nantwich, on the 10 Decr., 1714, had completed his term of office as High Sheriff, he wrote in his journal that he "was much comforted"; as, indeed, he might well have been, for the maintaining of the dignity of his shrievalty had cost him no less than £303, a sum equal to three or four times that amount in these days. (See Hall's "History of Nantwich," pp. 214-5 for the detailed charges).

Thirty years after, in order to reduce the expense borne by the sheriff year by year in keeping up the customary procession, &c., at the incoming of the Judges to Chester assizes, a fund was raised by an Association of Cheshire gentlemen eligible for the office, who contributed thereto five guineas each, and subscribed their names to twenty-one Articles, or Rules agreed upon in April, 1745. A full abstract of those Articles appeared in the "Cheshire Sheaf" for May, 1879 (vol. i., 218-9); but the names of the subscribers were not given. That omission is here supplied from a printed sheet before me recording the names of the first 117 gentlemen who joined the Association between the 6 April and 1 Novr. of that year. The names are given "in the order of their subscribing the same," commencing with the then High Sheriff, Thomas Hall, of the Hermitage, Esq., and ending with Sir William Duckenfield Daniel, Baronet; but, in view of rendering the names more conspicuous, and more convenient for reference, I have arranged them in alphabetical order as follows:—

THE NAMES of those Gentlemen, who have subscribed the Articles for Regulating and Reducing the Expenses attending the Office of Sheriff, of the County Palatine of Chester.

A.D. 1745.

Aislabie, John, of Astle, Esq.
Aislabie, William, of Haslington, Esq.
Alsager, John, of Alsager, Esq.
Arderne, Richard, of Harden, Esq.
Asheton, Thomas, Junior, of Ashley, Esq.
Barrow, Ralph, of Northwich, Esq.
Barry, The Hon. Richard, of Marbury.
Baekervyle, John, of Withington, Esq.
Bayley, James, of Stapeley, Esq.
Bayley, William, of Wistaston, Esq.
Booth, Thomas, of Twemlowe, Esq.
Bretland, Tobias, of Thorncliffe, Esq.
Brooke, Peter, Junior, of Mere, Esq.
Brooke, Sir Richard, Baronet [of Norton].
Chetwode, Sir Philip Touchet, Baronet.
Cholmondeley, Charles, of Vale-Royal, Esq.
Cholmondeley, Thomas, of Sutton, Esq.

Clowes, Robert, Junior, of Langley, Esq.
 Corbett, William, of Dernhall, Esq.
 Cotton, Lynch Salusbury, of Newall, Esq.
 Cowper, William, of Claverton, Esq.
 Crewe, Charles, of Barthomley, Esq.
 Crewe, John, Junior, Esq.
 Croxton, James, of Guilden-Sutton, Esq.
 Cunliffe, Foster, of Upton, Esq.
 Daniel, Sir William Duckenfield, Baronet.
 Davenport, Davies, of Woodford, Esq.
 Davenport, John, of Stockport, Esq.
 Davenport, Sir Peter, Kt.
 Davenport, Richard, of Davenport, Esq.
 Dod, Thomas, of Edge, Esq.
 Doe, Thomas, of Saughall, Esq.
 Drake, William, of Malpas, Esq.
 Eaton, George, of Over-Whitley, Esq.
 Egerton, John, of Broxton, Esq.
 Egerton, Philip, of Oulton, Esq.
 Egerton, Samuel, of Tatton, Esq.
 Elcocke, Francis, of Poole, Esq.
 Farrell, William, of Broxton, Esq.
 Fletcher, Charles, of Wigland, Esq.
 Foulkes, Robert, of Boughton, Esq.
 Frodsham, Peter, of Elton, Esq.
 Glegg, William, of Gayton, Esq.
 Glover, Samuel, of Budworth, Esq.
 Green, Edward, of Pooton [Poulton], Esq.
 Grosvenor, Sir Robert, Baronet.
 Hall, Thomas, of Hermitage, Esq.; High Sheriff.
 Hardware, Henry, of Bromborough, Esq.
 Harpur, Sir Henry, Baronet.
 Harrison, Samuel, of Cranage, Esq.
 Haworth, Henry, of Hulmwalfield, Esq.
 Heath, Robert, of Tushingham, Esq.
 Holford, Alexander, of Davenham, Esq.
 Holte, Sir Lister, Baronet [of Brereton].
 Houghton, John, of Baguley, Esq.
 Hunt, George, of Mollington, Esq.
 Hyde, George, of Frodsham, Esq.
 Jarvis, John, of Bradwell, Esq.
 Jervis, Samuel, of Burwardsley, Esq.
 Jesson, Pudsey, of the Lowe, Esq.
 Jones, John, of Churton, Esq.
 Kirkes, Thomas, of Trafford, Esq.
 Lant, Robert, of Lutton, Esq.
 Lawton, Robert, of Lawton, Esq.
 Leche, John, of Carden, Esq.
 Legh, Charles, of Adlington, Esq.
 Legh, George, of High Legh, Esq.
 Legh, George, of Oughtrington, Esq.
 Legh, Peter, of Lyme, Esq.
 Leigh, Peter, of Booths, Esq.
 Leycester, Ralph, of Toft, Esq.
 Lowndes, Richard, of Hassall, Esq.
 Maddock, Thomas, of Tattenhall, Esq.
 Mainwaring, Charles, of Marlston, Esq.
 Manwaring, Roger, of Kermingham, Esq.
 Massey, John Stanley, of Puddington, Esq.
 Massie, Richard, of Coddington, Esq.

Meredith, William, of Henbury, Esq.
 Morgan, Edward, of Bach, Esq.
 Mostyn, Sir Thomas, Baronet.
 Needham, The Hon. John, of Newton, Esq.
 Patten, Thomas, of Buer-ton, Esq.
 Paynter, John, of Kinnerton, Esq.
 Pimlott, John, of Marple, Esq.
 Powys, Edward, of Moreton, Esq.
 Powys, Thomas, of Dodleston, Esq.
 Price, Francis, of Birkenhead, Esq.
 Ravenscroft, Thomas, of Leftwich, Esq.
 Shakerley, Peter, of Somerford, Esq.
 Slaughter, Thomas, of Aston-Parks [Newton], Esq.
 Sneyd, Ralph, of Willaston, Esq.
 Stanley, Sir Rowland, Baronet.
 Stanley, William, of Fellows, Esq.
 Starkey, John, of Wrenbury, Esq.
 Swettenham, Philip, of Somerford Booths, Esq.
 Swettenham, Thomas, Junior, of Swettenham, Esq.
 Tatton, Thomas, of Withenshawe, Esq.
 Thornicroft, Henshaw, of Thornicroft, Esq.
 Vernon, George Venables, of Kinderton, Esq.
 Vernon, Ralph, of Warmingham, Esq.
 Vyner, Robert, of Bidston, Esq.
 Wade, Peter, of Wallerscote, Esq.
 Walley, Robert, of Saughton, Esq.
 Warburton, Hugh, of Winnington, Esq.
 Warburton, Sir Peter, Baronet [of Arley].
 Warburton, Philip Henry, of Hefferson-Grange, Esq.
 Werden, Sir John, Baronet.
 Wettenhall, Edward, of Nantwich, Esq.
 Wettenhall, Nathaniel, of Hankylow, Esq.
 Whitmore, Joseph, of Thurstaston, Esq.
 Whittingham, Joseph, of Weaver-Bank, Esq.
 Wilbraham, Richard, of Rode, Esq.
 Wilbraham, Roger, of Dorfold, Esq.
 Wilbraham, Roger, of Nantwich, Esq.
 Wright, Edward, of Stretton, Esq.
 Wright, Henry Offley, of Mobberley, Esq.
 Wright, William, of Mottram, Esq.

The main interest to us now in the above list is that it gives the names of so many contemporary County gentlemen. According to Article XI., "Any person qualified to serve [as Sheriff] who did not subscribe before the 1 Novr. next [i.e. in 1745] might be admitted on payment of ten guineas." New members from time to time joined the Association, and down to April, 1778, the number had increased to 205.

JAMES HALL.

Nantwich.

[1913] CHESHIRE IN THE CALENDARS. VI.
 (See No. 909).

In the second volume of Papal Letters (1305-1342) printed in the Rolls Series of Calendars of the Papal Registers are many points of interest to Cheshire people. Among others are the provisions to benefices; there are several cases in which a favoured clerk is to be presented to a benefice by the Abbot and convent of St. Werburgh's. Many

of the dispensations are for illegitimacy; for instance, the Bishop of Lichfield (Maroh, 1336) was ordered to grant a dispensation to Ralph [? son] of Roger de Tabley, the son of a priest, so that he might be ordained and hold a benefice (p. 522). A more interesting case is that of Jordan de Macclesfield, subdeacon (p. 39). He was rector of Mottram in Longdendale, and the bishop had licensed him to spend seven years in his studies. Clement V. (May, 1308) gave him a dispensation for three years to study canon and civil law without being obliged to take higher orders. In 1315 the bishop compelled Jordan to resign (Earwaker's "East Cheshire," ii.)

The following dispensations of pluralists contain information as to certain of the rectors of churches; one or two canons of St. John's, Chester, were also dispensed:

Chester, St. Mary's.—It appears that Alan de Retford, rector from 1327 to 1335, was provided by John XXII., at the request of Edward III. (he being one of the king's clerks), to a canonry at Chichester in 1331 (p. 330), and to another at Salisbury in the next year (p. 386), this time at the request of Queen Isabella, he being now one of her clerks.

Christleton.—Gilbert de Roubury, canon of Auckland, one of the king's clerks and of the Earl of Lincoln's household; permitted (at the request of the king and the earl) to retain fruits received from nine benefices (including Christleton), with permission, on resigning the others, to retain Staindrop, Shitlington, and Hendon, and the Canonry of Auckland (p. 3). This was in January, 1306; but in June, 1307, he received a dispensation (at the king's request) to hold the other benefices also (p. 25). In July, 1318, however, Walter de Askeby was (at the bishop of Lichfield's request) appointed by papal provision to the rectory of Christleton, value 18 marks, void by the cession of Gilbert de Roubury, who held it as a pluralist without papal dispensation (pp. 175, 182). The previous dispensation was probably for a limited period, and had lapsed without renewal.

Denwall Hospital.—Master Simon de Shirley had when 14 obtained the church of St. Gregory, Burham, "in commendam"; at 22, was ordained subdeacon and instituted, holding it for many years without being ordained priest. Then he obtained the secular priory of Denwall, to which the rectory of Burton was annexed (value 40 marks), and a canonry at St. Mary's, Stafford. In July, 1310, he was confirmed in these benefices; to give 20 marks to them within two years (p. 70). In May, 1318, William de Steeping (dio. Linc.) was warden or master of the Hospital (value £10), and then received the rectory of Hatfield (p. 172), and the church of Totteridge (p. 177).

Grappenhall.—In August, 1307, William de Rudyard, treasurer of St. Patrick's, Dublin, had a dispensation to hold, also the church of Grappenhall (value 10 marks) and on resigning it to accept nother (p. 26).

Plemstow.—John de Ashby was rector in July, 1333, and (at the king's request) was provided to a canonry at St. John's, Chester (p. 376).

Stockport.—Richard de Vernon, rector in January, 1320, was provided to a canonry at Lichfield (p. 196).

Swettenham.—Clement V. granted (January, 1307) a dispensation to William, rector of this church (value 6 marks), to retain it, provided he is ordained priest in due course; with remission of revenues hitherto unlawfully received (p. 22).

Tattenhall.—The same people in December, 1316, gave a dispensation to John de Kynardsey, rector of Tattenhall (value £16) and of Burton Overy (value £10 10s. 4d.) to retain both (p. 88).

Warmingham.—Clement V. also (August, 1305) granted to Master John de Havering, papal chaplain, son of John de Havering, Seneschal of Gascony, provision to a canonry of Salisbury, with remission of fruits received from the church of Warmingham and the archdeaconry of Dublin (p. 2). In the following January he granted a dispensation to hold other benefices, including a yearly pension of 100s. received from the Prior of the Hospitallers (p. 15).

(To be continued.)

NOVEMBER 25, 1903.

NOTES.

[914] THE CHESHIRE BRADFORDS. II.

(Continued from No. 905.)

Chelforde.

1586. Richarde Bradford m. to Marg: Baskervyle. From the Prestbury church Register.

Byrtles.

1586. Edward Bradford, buried. Ibid. Wythinton.

1591. Margare Bradford, m. to William Wright. Ibid.

Birtels.

1591. Agnes Bradford, buried. Ibid. Macclesfield.

1592. Henry Bradford, m. to Ann Stocks. Ibid. Congleton.

1593. John Bradford. Index to Cheshire Wills. Shurlach.

1595. Margaret Bradford. Ibid. Chelleforde.

1598. Ellen Bradford, m. to Edward Davenport. Prestbury Reg:

Hulme Wallfield.

1603. Humphery Bradford. Index to Cheshire Wills.

Old Withington.

1609. Richard Bradford. Ibid.

- Shipbrook.
1613. Richard Bradford. Ibid.
Chelford.
1614. Homfray Bradford, m. to Jone Hollenshed.
Prestbury Reg:
Astle.
1615. Roger Bradford, m. to Anne Foxley. Ibid.
Byrtles.
1615. Ann Bradford, buried. Ibid.
Chelford.
1616. Elizabeth Bradford, buried. Ibid.
Macclesfield.
1619. Henerie Bradford, m. to Margerie Yonge.
Ibid.
Spotland.
1620. Robert Bradford. Index to Cheshire Wills.
Bradford.
1624. Thomas Bradford. Ibid.
1625. Ellen Bradford, m. to Samsone Stapleton.
1625. William Bradford, m. to Marie Motter-
shed. Both from the Prest: Reg:
Chelford.
1629. Humfray Bradford, buried. Ibid.
1629. William Bradford, buried. Ibid.
Nether Alderley.
1629. John Bradford. Index to Cheshire Wills.
1632. Ranulphum Bradford Et Dorotheam
Horobbin (marriage). Rosthorne Reg:
Kingsley.
1637. Bradford (Widow) owned a seat in Frod-
sham church. Frodsham Church Roll; "Sheaf"
(838.)
Wilmslow.
Thomas Bradford, buried at Prestbury.
Prestbury Reg:
Wybunbury.
1645. John Bradford, held land there under Sir
Thomas Smith. "Sheaf" (101.)
Davenham.
1668. William Bradford (son of Robert Bradford)
proceeded B.A. from Brasenose College. Foster's
"Alumni Oxonienses."
Shipbrook.
1674. George Bradford of the Middle Temple,
6th son of George Bradford of Shipbrook.
Mobberley.
1683. John Bradford, buried. Mobberley Reg:
Kingsley.
1691. Thomas Bradford. Index to Cheshire
Wills.
Macclesfield.
1694. Francis Bradford. Ibid.
Frodsham.
1697. Sarah Bradford, m. to Thomas Woodward,
both of Frodsham.
Frodsham.
1697. Thomas Bradford, m. to Sarah Bostock, of
Tarvin. Both marriages at St. Oswald's, Chester.
"Sheaf" (548).
Tarvin.
1699. Thomas Bradford. Index to Cheshire
Wills.
- Shipbrook.
1701. Richard Bradford. Ibid.
Piggot Hills.
1703. John Bradford. Ibid.
Old Withington.
1703. John Bradford, buried at Chelford. Prest.
bury Reg.
Leftwich.
1706. Thomas Bradford. Index to Cheshire
Wills.
Leftwich.
1709. Peter Bradford. Ibid.
Wilmslow.
1709. Josiah Bradford, son of William Bradford
of Chorley, Wilmslow ph., born. Mobberley Reg:
Davenham.
1710. Catherine Bradford. Index to Cheshire
Wills.
Wilmslow.
1712. Thomas Bradford, son of William Brad-
ford of Chorley, Wilmslow, bapt. Mobberley Reg:
Wilmslow.
1713. William Bradford of Chorley, buried. Ibid.
Capesthorpe.
1716. Josiah Bradford, buried at Chelford.
Prestbury Reg:
Old Withington.
1716. Martha Bradford buried. Ibid.
Capesthorpe.
1717. John Bradford, m. to Ellinor Foden. Ibid.
Old Withington.
1719. Joseph Bradford son of John Bradford,
buried at Prestbury. Ibid.
Siddington.
1720. Rebecca Bradford, m. to Samuel Dean.
Prestbury Reg:
Capesthorpe.
1722. Rebecca Bradford, m. to Thomas Good-
fellow. Ibid.
Old Withington.
1725. John Bradford, jun., m. to Martha Foden.
Ibid.
Old Withington.
1726. John Bradford, son of John Bradford and
Martha his wife, bapt: at Chelford. Ibid.
Prestbury parish.
1727. John Bradford, m. to Ellen Yates; at
Chelford. Ibid.
Old Withington.
1728. John Bradford, senior, buried at Chelford.
Ibid.
Old Withington.
1729. John Bradford. Index to Cheshire Wills.
Lower Alderley.
1731. John Bradford. Ibid.
Old Withington.
1733. Samuel Bradford son of John Bradfor ,
bapt: at Chelford. Prestbury Reg:
Old Withington.
1739. John Bradford, buried at Chelford. Ibi ,
Old Withington.
1740. John Bradford. Index to Cheshire Wills.

Kingsley.

1740. Thomas Bradford. Index to Cheshire Wills.

Having reached my own immediate branch of these Cheshire families I shall now abridge the items as much as possible, and carry over, without intervening dates, from 1740 to 1903, i.e., about 163 years.

Mere-town.

1740. John Bradford, and Mary his wife. Roesthorpe Reg.

Mere-town.

Thomas Bradford, his son. Ibid.

Mere-town.

John Bradford, his son. Roesthorpe Reg. (He left Mere for Chester, and became a citizen of that city).

Chester.

Thomas Bradford, his son (baptized in Chester), became Incumbent of Threapwood near Malpas.

Saughall.

William H. Bradford, his son (bapt. in Chester). Freeman, of the city of Chester, and freeborn, in that city.

Birmingham.

F. Leopold Bradford, his son (Registered in Chester).

Birmingham.

Neville E. Bradford, his (infant) son (Registered in Kids Grove, Staffordshire).

1903. Norman S. Bradford, infant brother of Neville (Registered in Birmingham).

It may appear bombastic to have gone so far into this subject. But it must be remembered how families separate, until, in course of time, people are not aware of the family they really belong to. I shall be glad if my notes prove figurative "guide posts" directing inquirers in their researches.

W. H. BRADFORD.

P.S.—It would not be right to omit mention of the old Cheshire family of the Bradfords, of Grappenhall, near Warrington, but having no copy of their registers, I could not give details. There were also (in 1874) Thomas Bradford, Abbey Farm, Chelford, and others.

W. H. B.

[915] CHESHIRE IN THE CALENDARS. VII.

(See No. 913).

The third volume of Papal Letters (1342-62) issued under the authority of the Master of the Rolls contains a number of indulgences and privileges granted to individuals, of which the following may be quoted as a sample: To Roger de Shipbrook and Margaret his wife, of the diocese of Lichfield, indult (1355) to choose a confessor, who shall give them (being penitent) plenary remission at the hour of death; with the usual safeguards (p. 554). Similar indults were granted in 1344 to Robert de Ashton, rector of Ashton-on-Mersey (p. 159); in 1351 to Helewise, prioress of Chester (p. 442); and to Alice de

Winterton and Agnes de Durton, nuns of Chester, in 1353 (p. 504); also to William (de Bebington), abbot of St. Werburgh's, and three of his monks—John de Wenlock, Adam de Stanwick, and John de Worcester, in 1344 (p. 158). The last-named was made a papal chaplain in 1348 (p. 284). Of a somewhat different kind was the indult to Abbot William (1344) to use mitre, ring, and other episcopal ornaments, and give solemn benediction at suitable times, provided no bishop or apostolic legate is present (p. 175). After this abbot's death a mandate was issued (in 1352) to the bishops of Hereford and St. Asaph to inform themselves touching the election of Richard de Seynesbury, monk of Chester, to be abbot of the same; to rehabilitate him and receive his oath of fealty, he having been blessed by order of the Metropolitan Court of Canterbury when hindered at London from prosecuting his journey to obtain confirmation of his election from the pope (p. 468). St. Werburgh's had lost by inundation of the sea 30 carucates of land in Bromborough, Eastham, Whitby and Ince, of the yearly value of £100, and the manors of Brocton, Issard, and the church of Holywell in Wales, by reason of the wars between the kings of England and princes of Wales. They obtained in 1340 from the bishop and chapter of Worcester appropriation of the church of Campden, to compensate them; and in 1345 this was confirmed by Clement VI. (p. 166).

Several canons of St. John's are mentioned. In 1343 Robert de Watford, who had Holy Trinity Church, Chester (value £8 13s. 4d.), was provided to a canonry in Chichester, to be held with it (p. 132). The archdeacons of Chester seem to have been appointed by the pope himself; after the death (1342) of Richard Havering, who was also precentor of Hereford, and held other benefices, Peter Gomez, cardinal bishop of the Sabines, was provided to the archdeaconry (p. 74); he died in 1348, and William de Navesby was appointed in the same way (p. 277); this last had several other benefices.

The following also occur among the dispensations to pluralists:

Burton and Denwall Hospital.—Nicholas de Hethe, holding these, was provided to a canonry at Chichester in 1343 (p. 128), but was required to resign them two years later when provided to the church of Hodnet, dio. London (p. 184). He was, however, still holding them, with his other benefices, when in 1349 he was provided to canonries at Salisbury and Hereford reserved to the pope (pp. 293, 319). A few years later he resigned Burton and Denwall, and Innocent VI. in 1353 confirmed the provision made by Clement VI. in the previous year, by which John de Charnes succeeded to them, resigning Coddington (p. 484).

Grappenhall.—Roger de Shipbrook, rector, was provided by Clement VI. in 1348 to a canonry at Salisbury (p. 318); the following pope made him a notary in 1355 (p. 549).

Malpas.—Edmund le Boteler, M.A., rector of a moiety, and having a prebend in the king's free chapel of St. Mary, Shrewsbury, was provided to a canonry at Lincoln in 1347 (p. 244); in 1350 he was also canon of Salisbury (pp. 393, 414).

In 1355 Humphrey de Charlton (son of Sir John de O., knight), M.A., Lic. Theol., was directed to resign the moiety of Malpas which he held with canonries of Hereford, Exeter and Tattenhall and a portion in Ledbury, on his being provided to a canonry at York (p. 566).

Middlewich.—John de Laysthorpe, rector, was in 1344 provided to a canonry at Lichfield (p. 101), and a further dispensation was granted in 1349 (p. 306).

Northenden.—In 1342 William de Hawkelegh was provided to this church by Clement VI.; it was void by the resignation of Roger de Moclowe (p. 53).

Stockport.—This Roger de Moclowe, D.C.L., had become rector of Stockport; he was canon of Lichfield, and the pope granted him further "the expectation of a dignity in the church of Lichfield" (pp. 76 and 92).

(To be continued.)

DECEMBER 2, 1903.

NOTES.

[916] SOME BURLAND NOTES.

The following extracts from the note-book of a former Assistant Overseer of the township of Burland in the Parish of Aston, Nantwich, will be read with interest. The quaint spelling shows the local pronunciation very clearly.

1831. "A Receipt for the Rumitis. Sperets of Wine and Camfer Gos Lard and Extracted Led mix together rouh on pain."

1831. To the exspence of Mr. Starky Coteg (Cottage) to a new gate and poses (posts) taken up the ould poses and puting down the new poses for the laborur 1s. 0
for hangin the gate 1s. 0
To new hook and Reparen the Thimbels ... 1s. 0
To a quirt of ale for bringin it down 8d.

Bought of Mr. Morress Nantwich May 31 New Milk in Can 4s. 0

Nantwich Sep. 18 Bought of Mr. Morris a woot (oat) Ridle price two and 9 Paid January 5 1833.

Had of Thomas Ravenscroft Ed Grow (Eddish) by Chassh (cash) 14s. 0
Cabbach by Chassh 4s. 0
Termets Settled by Me 4s. 0

£1 2s. 0

1832. My son Born at one Clock in the morning. Paid to Mr. Bererd of Wrenbury for the Labor of My son only the sum of One pound one for his attendance two nights and one day June 5 1833.

Sould at Nantwich Sep. 4th 1834 a in Calf Cow to Jo. Chesworth of Burford for the sum of £9.

Settled at the same time.

1833. Bought of Thomas Ravenscroft 7 Hundert (cwt.) of Hay at 3s. per Hundert.

Paid at the same time £1 1s. 0d.

At Nantwich March 22 1834 My wife left as Edward Tomkisons 6 shillings for Joseph Latham the overseer of Burland. Remenes to him more three hapenes (1½d.)

At Diferent times had of Mr. Sameull Boffey 3 thrave of Baton (Straw) at 2s. Seteld as I had them.

1834 May 15. Bought of ould Mr. Morrey of Stonley-green 6 Hundert of hay at 3 shillings per hundert. Paid at the same time by me J.P. 18 shillings.

Paid at Nantwich for Notices for the township of Burland 4 shillings and 5 shillings to Mr. Scragg for Making out the sessment for 1833-1834.

Revod. of Wm. Heath one bag of Bran and one score before at 1s. & 3d. per score 6 score ... 7s. 6d.

Paid on a Count 4s. to His Wife October 12. Seteld this Bill with his son William and the Bill in My Dresser drore (drawer).

1835 10 January. Revod. 6 Hundert of hay and had tow Hundert 5 Days before of Wm. Pemberton Makes 800 at 4s. and 6d. per Hundert. Paid at the same time For Both Makes £1 16s. J.P.
Revod. tow Hundert of Hay More... 9s.

£2 5s.

George Foxley Due to me 2s. 7½d. My Det is 4 shillings and 7d. hapenny and I a Low him 2 shillings for Goen to Aulem (Audlem) for Taters (potatoes) for the Witch he promised to go for one shilling and I give him one shilling for Tole gate and one pint of ale. Remens to me 2 pence out makes 2s. 9½d.

1834. Seteld.

1835. Bought of James Feb 9 10 Meshers of Taters for 12 shillings. Paid at the same time.

1835. Had of Mr. Timis Acton April 23 4 hundert and 3 quarter of Hay at 4s. 6d. per hundert. Paid Miss Timis Sunday Morning May 3 in the presents of Richard Forsters Dawter in his house £1 1s. by J.P.

May 9. Had of John Timis 5 hundert and quarter of hay at 4s. 6d. Seteld June 21 and at the same time 4 shillings for some ofell hay Makes £1 7s. 6d. Returned me 6 pence paid by J.P.

J. W.

[917] THE SIEGE OF CHESTER. V.

(Continued from No. 901.)

ST. MARTIN'S WARD.

Mr. Bryan Pressions, 3 in fam., 2 soldiers, 2 mes: wheate & rye, 3 pecks wheate, ½ mes: beanes.

Mr. Bellen, 4 in fam., 1 mes: & 1 peck beanes.

Ralf Byrd, 6 in fam, 1 soldier, 1 mes: wheat & rye.

Richard Dennall, 5 in fam.; 3 pecks corne.

Widdow Jonson, 4 in fam.; no corne.

Widd: Eaton, 2 in fam.; no corne.
 Mr. Chanaler, 12 in fam.; 3 pecks corne.
 Widd: Becke herself, 1 peck corne.
 Barnard Knee, 4 in fam.; no corne.
 Widd: Knee, 3 in fam.; 3 pecks corne.
 Thomas Knee, 3 in fam.; 1 mes: corne.
 Richard Orrenge, 3 in fam.; no corne.
 Widd: Gondicar, 3 in fam.; $\frac{1}{2}$ mes: corne.
 Widd: Dawson, 6 in fam.; 1 soldier, 3 pks. corne.
 Robert Hughes, 2 in fam.; 1 pk. corne.
 Thomas Maddocke, 5 in fam.; no corne.
 Mr. Higginsan, 6 in fam.; 5 soldiers, 1 mes: wheate, 2 mes: beanes.
 Richard Shroppe, 6 in fam.; no corne.
 John Scoefeald, 4 in fam.; no corne.
 Widd: Man, 4 in fam.; 1 pk. corne.
 William Glegge, 3 in fam.; 1 pk. corne.
 Stephen Styles, 2 in fam.; no corne.
 Ralph Richardson, 3 in fam.; no corne.
 John Tournier, 3 in fam.; $\frac{1}{2}$ mes: corne.
 Widd: Williams, 3 in fam.; no corne.
 George Baxter, 6 in fam.; $\frac{1}{2}$ mes: corne, 1 pk. beanes.
 Patrick Lagley, 4 in fam.; 1 pk. corne, 1 pk. beanes.
 Myles Machell, 3 in fam.; $\frac{1}{2}$ mes: corne.
 Robert Dawson, 4 in fam.; 1 mes: corne.
 Edward Roberts, 4 in fam.; $\frac{1}{2}$ mes: corne.
 William Aston, 4 in fam.; no corne.
 William Slacke, 4 in fam.; no corne.
 Peeter Sneede, 6 in fam.; 1 soldier, 1 pk. beanes.
 William Cosmeken, 4 in fam.; 1 mes: corne.
 Thomas Agewa, 4 in fam.; no corne.
 Davy Edwards, 5 in fam.; no corne.
 Richard Tilston, 3 in fam.; no corne.
 William Goane, 6 in fam.; no corne.
 John Daves, 4 in fam.; no corne.
 Richard Knee, 5 in fam.; 1 mes: corne.
 Timothy Buckeley, 5 in fam.; 3 pks. corne.
 William Mort, 3 in fam.; 1 pk. corne.
 Robert Sparkea, 3 in fam.; 1 pk. corne.
 Randle Walker, 2 in fam.; 1 pk. corne.
 George Prickett, 4 in fam.; no corne.
 John Simson, 3 in fam.; no corne.
 Robert Smith, 6 in fam.; 1 mes: corne.
 John Martin, 5 in fam.; no corne.
 Thomas Coates, 4 in fam.; no corne.
 Widdow Pillington, 3 in fam.; no corne.
 Phillip Orton, 3 in fam.; 1 pk. corne.
 Edward Eavans, 7 in fam.; no corne.
 Ralph Boufe, 3 in fam.; 1 pk. corne.
 Henry Monkefield, 2 in fam.;
 John Oufe, 4 in fam.; no corne.
 William Warmingham, 2 in fam.; 1 pk. corne.
 Thomas Harvey, 4 in fam.; 1 pk. corne.
 George Cotton, 4 in fam.; no corne.
 Geamer Hughes, 2 in fam.; no corne.
 Katherin Powell, 2 in fam.; no corne.
 Robert Williams, 4 in fam.; 1 pk. corne.
 Robert Soonley, 6 in fam.; 1 mes: corne.
 Robert Millner, 4 in fam.; no corne.

Jane Catteraw, 3 in fam., 2 soldiers, 1 mes: rye
 $\frac{1}{2}$ mes: wheate.
 Peeter Starkey, 4 in fam.; no corne.
 Ann Elles, 6 in fam.; $1\frac{1}{2}$ mes: corne.
 John Pleabin, 6 in fam.; no corne.
 William Round, 6 in fam.; $1\frac{1}{2}$ mes: corne.
 John Trollocke, 3 in fam.; no corne.
 Nicolas Browne, 5 in fam.; $\frac{1}{2}$ mes: beanes.
 Edward Leeine, 7 in fam.; 1 mes: corne.
 William Hughes, 6 in fam.; $\frac{1}{2}$ mes: corne.
 Thomas Presse, 4 in fam.; no corne.
 Addam Cane, 7 in fam.; 1 mes: corne.
 William Keyley, 6 in fam.; no corne.
 Clemon Pemberton, 7 in fam.; no corne.
 Frances Knowles, 6 in fam.; no corne.
 Sir Thomas Smith, 17 in fam.; 6 soldiers, 4 mes: corne.
 Captane Hurlston, 14 in fam.; 2 soldiers, 4 mes: corne.
 Mr. Johnson, Minister, 4 in family, $\frac{1}{2}$ mes: corne.
 Edward Fisher, 2 in fam., & 2 soldiers, $\frac{1}{2}$ mes: beanes.
 Mr. Harvy, 10 in fam.; 2 soldiers, 2 mes: wheate & rye, $\frac{1}{2}$ mes: beanes.
 Sir Hugh Causely, 13 in fam.; 4 soldiers, no corne.
 Andrew Parry, 4 in fam.; noe corne.
 Mr. William Ince, 2 in fam.; 3 solds.; 4 mes: wheate, 2 mes: rye.
 William Richardson, 8 in fam.; 3 solds.; 1 mes: barley, 1 peck fitches.
 John Sutton, 3 in fam.; 1 mes: wheate & rye.
 Randle Gravener, 5 in fam.; noe corne.
 Silvanus Witter, 6 in fam.; 2 solds.; 2 mes: wheate & rye.
 Mr. Owen Hughes, 8 in fam.; 2 solds.; noe corne.
 Widdow Tottie, 3 in fam.; noe corne.
 Sherrife Tattnell, 8 in fam.; 2 solds.; noe corne.
 Henry Hatton, 4 in fam.; 3 solds., 2 mes: barley, 1 mes: beanes.
 Henry Bennett, 7 in fam.; 4 solds., 5 mes: wheate & rye.
 Widdow Linicar, 4 in fam.; 1 soldier, 1 mes: wheate, $\frac{1}{2}$ mes: fitches.
 John Foxe, himself & 2 children, noe corne.
 Widdow Cooke, 5 in fam.; 1 peck fitches.
 William Ince, 7 in fam.; 2 solds., $1\frac{1}{2}$ mes: wheat & rye.
 Dorathy Welch, 4 in fam.; noe corne.
 William Flecher, 7 in fam.; 1 soldier, noe corne.
 My Lord Kilmory, 16 in fam.; 4 solds., noe corne.
 John Scellarne, 3 in fam.; 2 solds., $\frac{1}{2}$ mes: wheate.
 George Dinnocke, 11 in fam.; noe corne.
 Mrs. Edwards, 5 in fam.; and Sir E. Edward Varnall & his man, 5 mes: wheate & rye, $1\frac{1}{2}$ mes: beanes & fitches.
 Widdow Dumall, 8 in fam.; 1 soldier, $1\frac{1}{2}$ mes: corne.
 Mr. John Johnson, 4 in fam.; 4 solds., 3 mes: corne.

G. P. G.

(To be continued.)

[918] CHESHIRE IN THE CALENDARS. VIII.

(See No. 915).

The fourth volume of Papal Letters in the Calendars issued under the direction of the Master of the Rolls embraces the period 1362—1404. The following are among the matters of local interest contained in it:

Chester.—The affairs of St. Werburgh's are several times regulated. In 1368 Urban V. ordered the bishop of Lichfield (if he found the facts to be as stated) to compel Richard de Seynesbury, monk of St. Werburgh's [late abbot], to return to the monastery and to the obedience of Abbot Thomas [de Newport]. The said Richard, at the apostolic see, when abbot of the said monastery, of his own accord ceded his rule to the said Thomas, to whom papal provision was made thereof, and then (under pretext of having a personal exemption from the apostolic see) refused obedience to Abbot Thomas and left the monastery (p. 70). Six years later Gregory XI. wrote a general request for safe-conduct for the ex-abbot in his journey to England and return to the Roman court (p. 196). Other decrees relate to the privileges of the monastery. Urban V. in 1363 revoked letters of exemption granted by Clement VI. at the instance of William [de Bebington], monk and abbot, who had acted without the knowledge and consent of the convent and of Edward, Prince of Wales, the founder. This revocation was at the request of Abbot Thomas [de Newport] and the monks (p. 88). This decree was revoked by Boniface IX. in 1392; Abbot Thomas had mentioned the many inconveniences and losses that had befallen the monastery on account of the exemption, but had not mentioned the payment of 10 marks every three years to the apostolic camera. The decree of Clement VI. was therefore revived; the monastery to be exempt from the authority of archbishop, bishop and archdeacon, and the ten marks to be paid. The pope further granted or renewed to the abbot an indulgence whereby he could not be suspended, &c., nor the goods of the abbot or monastery be sequestered by any official (p. 452). The same pope confirmed (or newly granted) appropriations of the churches of Astbury, Aston, and Weston-on-Trent (p. 532). There are other Chester references.

Astbury.—Nicholas de Rishton, Lic. Civ. Law, provided to this church (but not in possession); to be canon of Lichfield; holds other preferments, as Warfield, dio. Salisbury; dated 1389 (p. 345). Nicholas resigned on being provided by Boniface IX. to a canonry at Lincoln in 1391, and Thomas de Beckingham, B. Can. Law, was provided to Astbury (value 160 marks); Thomas was rector of Bishopbourne, and held canonries in Salisbury, Lincoln, and Abergwilli (pp. 419, 421).

Cheadle.—John Dutton, B.C.L., rector in 1389, to be canon of Lichfield, retaining Cheadle, and the free chapel of Barrow (p. 346); he was afterwards provided to a canonry at St. John's, Chester (p. 417).

Brereton.—Indult to Geoffrey Brereton, rector, to hold for life two benefices; dated 1396 (p. 546).

Bunbury.—Urban V. (1368) commands the Bishop of Bath and Wells to give (after due examination) to Walter de Walsham, rector of Bunbury, the canonry of Shaftesbury, previously reserved by the pope; Walsham is to resign his canonry of Wells (p. 73.)

Malpas.—Mandate (1369) to the archdeacon of Nottingham (on the petition of William de Nottingham) to excommunicate Alexander Sperman, rector of All Saints', Oxford, and John Kidington, rector of the second portion of Malpas, who had falsely asserted that Williams was charged with theft and other crimes. The chancellor of the university had given an unjust sentence against him, and he thereupon appealed to the pope. The said rector, hearing of this, laid hands on him and beat him, and afterwards boasted that if they could catch him they would keep him in prison (p. 81).

Plemstow.—There is an account of the appropriation of this church to St. John's, Chester, on p. 533.

The following example of a marriage dispensation is of interest. According to the Arderne pedigree in Ormerod (ii. 86) Hugh de Arderne married, as his second wife, Cecily, daughter of Randle de Hyde; his first wife was Agnes, daughter of Robert de Hulme.

By Boniface IX. April, 1392.—To the Bishop of Lichfield. Mandate to grant dispensation in respect of the marriage of Hugh de Arderne and Cecily. Lately it was set forth to Urban VI. that they married, Hugh being ignorant of the existence of an impediment and Cecily knowing thereof, and that at length it came to Hugh's knowledge that he and Cecily's former husband (John de Honford) were related in the fourth degree, that Cecily and Agnes, Hugh's former wife, were related in the same, and likewise Hugh and Cecily. Urban VI. ordered the bishop to absolve Cecily from sentence of excommunication incurred by her and to grant dispensation to remain in the marriage so contracted, declaring past and future offspring legitimate. As the recent petition of Hugh and Cecily to the present pope contained that Hugh and John were related in the third degree of kindred, whereby the above mandate is void, it is now renewed (p. 432).

In the pedigree of Hondford, the widow of John de Hondford is called Ellen, and is said to have married afterwards Richard de Macey of Sale. (Ormerod, iii. 644).

DECEMBER 9, 1903.

NOTES.

[919] APPRENTICES FOR VIRGINIA.

The following note is from the Chester Corporation Records and is contained in the "Mayor's Book" labelled "1697-8."

Servants bound apprentices for Virginia to William Ford of Dublin on board the Expedition of Dublin Sept. 21 1698.

Isabell Mollinex of Wigan in the County of Lancaster spr. (spinster).

Martha Weatherby, Alice Rigby, Margaret Banks Alice Crosse; all of Wigan aforesd. sprs. for 4 years.

Wm. Plant of Alderley in the County of Chester yem. (1 yeoman) for 7 yrs.

Wm. Cock of Overton in the County of Chester chapman for 4 yrs.

Josiah Jackson of Sommerford in the County of Chester for 5 yrs.

William Granlees of Stookport in the same County for 6 years.

I came across a further list in a fragment of a "mayor's book" preserved at the Chester Town Hall. It reads:

The names of servts. bound apprentices to Virginia to William Handcock Master of the Ship Dolphin of Chester. Feb. 18 1711.

Benjamin Morris son of Thomas Morris of the City of Chester shoemaker for seven years.

William Clark son of Andrew Clark of the same City yeoman for 7 yrs.

Charles Darwell son of Richard Darwell late of the same City glover for 7 years.

John Bromhall shoemaker son of John Bromhall of Namptwich in the county of Chester Laborer for five years.

It would be interesting to know what became of these apprentices—whether they returned to England after their term of service was over or not.

J. H. E. B.

[920] RELIGION IN CHESHIRE IN 1580.

The following "note of the disposition of the gentlemen of Cheshire, how they are affected in religion" is copied from the original in the Record Office, London. Its date is about 1579, for Thomas Grosvenor of Eaton died in November of that year, while George Massey of Puddington succeeded to his estates in June 1579. A somewhat later date, however, is suggested by Thomas Smith of Hough who did not succeed his father till 1582. It will be observed that there were only three convicted "recusants" in Cheshire—all in Wirral; but those reputed as "cold" were mostly hostile to the newly established religion and in the next generation declared themselves, e.g. the Stanleys of Hooton; it is therefore interesting to find the famous John Bruen's father described as "Cold, very!" and to think of "what might have been" had the son not gone up to Oxford just when he did. The kind of men Queen Elizabeth really desired were "obedient subjects" like Sir Randle Brereton and Sir Hugh Cholmondeley, men who kept to themselves any religious convictions they might have and practised outwardly such rites as the

wisdom of the reigning monarch deemed suitable. The residences (in parentheses) have been added to the original manuscript, where they have been ascertained.

MACLESFELDE HUND:

Edward Fiton, Knight (Gawsworth).

Peter Leighe, Knight (Lyne). Neutr:

Thomas Leigh, Esqr. (Adlington). Neutr:

Willm. Tatton, Esqr. (Withenshaw). Could.

John Warren, Esqr. (Poynton). A good professor.

Thomas Standley, Esqr. (Alderley). Could.

Richard Sutton, Esqr. (Sutton). Neutr:

Willm. Duckinfeilde, Esqr. (Duckinfield). Well affected].

Randle Davenport, Esqr. (Henbury). Well.

Rauffe Arderne, Esqr. (Alvanley and Harden in Bredbury). Well.

Xpofer (Christopher) Davenport, Esqr. (Woodford). Neutr:

Phillipe Wortha, Esqr. (Titherington). Infant.

John Leighe, Esqr. (Ridge). Neutr:

Roger Downes, Esqr. (Shrigley). Could.

Thomas Fiton, gent: (Siddington). Well.

Robert Hyde, Esqr. (Norbury). Well.

Summa 16.

WIRRAL HUND:

Sr. Rowland Stanley, Knt: (Hooton). Could.

John Poole, Esqr. (Poole). Simple.

George Massie, Esqr. (Puddington). Could.

John Whitmore, Esqr. (Thurstaston). Recusant.

Peter Boulde (Upton). Could.

John Hocknell (Prenton). Recusant.

Thomas Bunburie, Esqr. (Stanney). Well aff.

Will'm. Houghe (Thornton Hough). Recusant.

Mr. Nuttor, p'son of Bebington.

Summa 8.

NORWICH HUND:

Will'm. Brereton, Esqr. (Brereton). Cold.

Thomas Venables, Esqr. (Kinderton). Cold.

John Davenport, Esqr. (Davenport). Well.

Henrie Manwaringe, Esqr. (Kermincham). Well.

Will'm. Liversinge, Esqr. (Wheelock). Well.

Charles Manwaringe, Esqr. (Croxtan). Well.

Jeffrey Shakerley, Esqr. (Hulme). Cold.

John Moreton, Esqr. (Little Moreton). Weak.

John Lawton, Esqr. (Church Lawton). Well.

Gilbert Domvile, gent. Well.

Randle Rode, Esqr. (Odd Rode). Cold.

Edward Cotton, gent. (Cotton, near Sandbach). Well.

Parson of Astburie.

Thomas Wynnington, Esqr. (Hermitage in Cranage). Weak.

Summa 14.

EDISBURIE HUND:

Rauffe Done, Esqr. (Utkinton). Well aff.

John Bryne, Esqr. (Bruen Stapleford). Could very.

John Egerton, Esqr. (Oulton). Well aff.

George Spurstowe, Esqr. (Spurstow). Well aff.

John Starkie, Esqr. (Oulton Lowe). Ignoramus.
John Hocknell, Esqr. (Hockenhull). Juvenis
(about 8).

Summa 6.

BUCKLOWE HUND.

John Savage, Knight (Clifton). Could.
Peter Warburton, Esqr. (Arley). Well given.
Thomas Aston, Esqr. (Aston). Neutr:
Richard Brereton, Esqr. (Tatton). Could.
Will'm. Leicester, Esqr. (Toft). Well.
John Leigh, Esqr. (Booths). No accompt.
Peter Leicester, Esqr. (Nether Tabley). Neutr:
John Meyre, Esqr. (Mere). Well aff.
Thomas Leigh, Esqr. (East Hall). A worldlinge.
Richard Leigh, Esqr. (West Hall). Well given.
Peter Warburton, Senior. Well given.
Will'm. Marburie, Esqr. (Marbury). Well aff.
George Brereton, Esqr. (Ashley). Could.
Edward Leigh, Esqr. (Baguley). No accompt.
Thomas Starkie, Esqr. (Stretton). Could.
John Domville, Esqr. (Lymm). Well given.
Will'm Arderne, gent. (Timperley). Neutr:
Thomas Tuchett, Esqr. (Nether Whitley). Could.
Thomas Brooke, ar: (Norton). Well aff.

Summa 19.

NAMPWICH HUND:

Thomas Smith (Hatherton). Well.
Thomas Wilbram, Esqr. (Woodhey). Cold.
Richard Cotton, Esqr. (Combermere). Weak.
Henrie Delves, Esqr. (Doddington). Weak.
Richard Mynshull, Esqr. (Church Minshull).
Weak.
Thomas Hulse, Esqr. (Norbury). Weak.
Henrie Roppe, Esqr. (Stapeley). Weak.
Thomas Vernon, Esqr. (Haslington).
John Griffin, Esqr. (Bartherton).
Robt: Fulhurst, Esqr. (Crewe). Neutr:
Randell Maynwaring ar: (Over Peover and
Baddiley). Professor.

Summa 11.

BROXTON HUND:

Sr. Randle Breton, knight (Shooklach). An
obedient subject.
Hughe Cholmondeley, knight (Cholmondeley).
No man knoweth but obedient.
George Calveley, knight (Lea). Well aff.
John Massie, Esqr. (Coddington). Could.
Will'm Chauntrell, Esqr. (Bache). Well aff.
David Massie, gent. (Broxtton). Well aff.
Richard Massie, gent. (Grafton). Usury.
Rauffe Calveley, gent. Worldlinge.
Thomas Grovenor ar: (Eaton). Well aff.

Summa 9.

G. P. G.

[921] OLD CHESHIRE WEATHER-PROVERBS. I.

"See moche do they loue to expresse themselves
in merrie rimes that manie Cheshire men be verie
'jingling Jimmies'" remarks an old writer, whose
words—predicated of a county which was par

excellence the home of Miracle Plays and Christmas
"Mysteries" and the like—may not have been ill-
chosen.

I do not know that Cheshire weather-proverbs
and meteorological fancies can be termed "merrie
rimes," but some of the more ancient specimens are
exceedingly quaint. Having collected a number
such from traditional and MS. sources, I venture to
think some of them may prove of interest to readers
of "The Cheshire Sheaf." And, towards the con-
clusion of a year of such abnormal and erratic
weather as we have experienced during 1903, their
introduction into this local antiquity column will
scarcely be inappropriate. None, so far as I can
ascertain, have ever before been printed, and—in
those from MS. sources—I have in one or two
instances slightly modernised the spelling.

The movements of birds have always been held of
importance in weather-forecasting, and local lines
anent them tell us that

"When Seafowles east to Peakland flie,
Winds will howl and Heavens will drie;
But when they steer them to the See,
Up! and out-a-door with mee!"

the term "Peakland" being synonymous with
Derbyshire, I need hardly say.

More or less peculiar to the valley of the Weaver
was the curious rhyme running

'When in Spring or in Sommer,
Ye Frogs 'Parlyment' holde,
In a-daye-and-a-night's turn
Cometh Rayn and eke Colde:—"

in which, by "frogs holding their parliament" is
meant the unusual croaking which they often make
before a change of weather.

The old saying to the effect that

"If there's ice in November as bears a duck,
There'll be nothing all winter but sludge and muck;"
is, doubtless, mere fancy, but the little local pro-
vincialisms of "as" for "that," and "all winter"
instead of "all the winter"—each so entirely
Cheshirean—mark it as Cheshire fancy, anyhow.

Scarce fancy, however, seems the couplet which
says

"Dee's Valley mild till close of year

Means three months cold in store, I fear!"

since it has received abundant verification in recent
winters. It is, indeed, but a local adaptation of
the widespread adage "When days begin to lengthen
the cold begins to strengthen"—a saying common to
almost every English county.

ALFRED MOORE.

Northbourne, Kent.

(To be continued.)

[922] THE NUNS OF CHESTER.

The volume of Calendars of Patent Rolls lately
issued, dealing with the first year of Henry IV.
gives an abstract of a number of charters relating to

the prioress and nuns of St. Mary's, Chester (pp. 296-304). It is from an *Inspecimus* and confirmation (dated 12 May, 1400) of the following:—

1. Letters patent of 7 Richard II., confirming—

(A) Charter of Edward Prince of Wales (27 Edward III.), comprising twenty-two charters granted by the old earls of Chester and others. No. 15 is from John called the Noble, citizen of Chester, and Eva Dobeldai his wife, granting to the nuns in free alms the lands late of Ameria the wife of German Dobelday (several plots near the East gate—described); on the day of their anniversary each nun to have 12d. in silver, the rest to go to the fabric of the church. The first witness is the mayor, Richard the Clerk.

(B) Charter of the Same (27 Edward III.), confirming fourteen charters, granting lands in Chester and neighbourhood and in Nantwich.

(C) Charter of the same (32 Edward III.).

2. A charter of Randle, Earl of Chester and Lincoln, about the advowson of Budworth chapel.

3-11. Letters patent of various dates from 36 Edward III. to 15 Richard II.

DECEMBER 16, 1908.

NOTES.

[923] CHESHIRE HIGHWAYS AND TOWNS. V.

(See No. 899.)

The following occur among Ogilby's descriptions of the roads as they were near the end of the 17th century:—

Nantwich is "a large and well-built town with a fair church. Great quantities of white salt here made; and the springs, as those at Middlewich and Northwich, lie on the banks of a fresh-water stream. It has a good market on Saturday for corn and cattle."

Tarporley is "a good thoroughfare town of above four furlongs."

Chester has two notices. (1) "Chester, alias West-Chester from its western situation, anciently called Deva from the Dee river and *Caer Legion* by the Britons. 'Tis a place of great antiquity of a quadrangular form. The walls, excluding its large suburbs, about two miles in compass, with four gates towards the four cardinal points; defended by a strong castle, in which is the stately shire-hall, where all causes belonging to the county palatine are determined. It contains ten parish churches, besides the Cathedral. . . . It has a fair water house by the bridge, and the principal streets adorned with piazzas. Maintains great intercourse with Ireland, this and Holyhead being the principal places of taking shipping for Dublin. 'Tis a city and county governed by a mayor, two sheriffs, twenty-four aldermen, a recorder, town-clerk, &c. ;

sends burgesses to parliament; and has two markets, on Wednesday and Saturday. There's also a great fair at Michaelmas, well furnished and frequented by the tradesmen of London and Dublin."

(2) "On Dee or Deva river, over which it has a fair large stone bridge, sustained by seven arches. At each end of the said bridge is a gate, the chief of which is called Water Gate, where vessels of considerable burden did formerly arrive; but since the choking up of the channel it will scarce bear small boats, so that the ships come no further than New-Kay, about six miles distant. Besides its four gates it has three posterns, and on the wall several watch towers and battlements for the placing of ordnance. . . . Not far from hence is the famous forest of Delamore, in which Edelfeld the renowned Mercian Lady built a small city, long since ruined; the place is now called by the inhabitants the Chamber in the Forest."

Sandbach is "noted for its good ale"; Holmes Chapel is "a thoroughfare, with one inn"; Congleton, "an ancient corporation." Frodsham is "an indifferent good town, with a castle, and a market on Wednesdays." "Stokfort alias Stopford" has "a considerable market for corn, &c., on Fridays."

Holywell is "a small town or village; so called from St. Winefride's well, lying somewhat lower on the north-east side of it; a place still much resorted to by those who for their health's sake come to bathe there, as heretofore by pilgrims paying their devotions to the Christian Virgin Winefride. . . . The spring is cold, and has a fair chapel built over it upon pillars, on the windows of which is portrayed the history of St. Winefride; it gushes forth in that quantity and with so great impetuosity that it soon turns a mill, and empties itself into the sea about 1½ miles below. The moss growing in the well, of a sweet scent, is taken for St. Winefride's hair."

[924] OLD CHESHIRE WEATHER-PROVERBS. II.

(Continued from No. 921.)

In Cheshire, as elsewhere, the moon and the weather have always been closely associated. And although—to quote the words of a meteorological expert—"the idea that the weather is dependent on the moon's phases finds favour with the uneducated only; since any appreciable connection has been repeatedly disproved," may be true enough, the popular belief remains and is likely to survive for centuries. Most old Cheshire folk pinned their faith to such proverbs as

"When hoo fulls at ye Midnight, or soone after that,

In ye Sommer, great heat:

In ye Winter hard frost:

When hoo tulls at ye Middy, or soone after that,

Winter cries 'O ye rain!'

Sommer says 'Cheshire's lost!'

which is given in the old Cheshire "Household-Book" of 1675-85, on which I wrote several articles

in the "Courant" in the year 1899. The dialect-word "hoo," I may be allowed to tell non-Cheshire readers, is a direct survival of the feminine of the Old English personal pronoun "he, heo, hit"—he, she, it—and is an older and more correct form than the modern "she" of which it is the equivalent.

I need scarcely mention the singular but widespread fancy that the moon which was "born" on a Saturday brought bad weather and disaster—

"Saturday's moon,

If but once in seven years

Is once too soon!"—

since it can scarcely be termed local. In an East Cheshire rhyme, however, relative not to the time of the moon's change but to her appearance (which is necessarily dependent on the state of our own atmosphere) there is truth. It tell us

"If the new moon holds a ring like a shield,

Be never afraid to reap your field;"

and there is a companion couplet running

"When the moon at full shews a ring around,

You'll soon be treading on sodden ground;"

the former referring to the "earth-shine" and presaging fair weather, the latter to the halo and foretelling foul.

Kingsley's "Ode to the East Wind" must meet with scant approval in Cheshire, one thinks, since several ancient local sayings are in disparagement of airs from that quarter. The rhyme running

"A Winde from Sandbach in ye Easte,

Blows good to neether Man nor Beaste:"

is an example; while a yet more antiquated jingle quaintly assures us that

"From Lincolne's Flats and Darby's Dales,

Ye Winde doth blowe then thousand Ails,"

or evils. And there is still current in some parts of Cheshire a saying that "Ground ploughed when the wind blows from Derbyshire only grows half a crop." There is also a widely-spread prejudice—if prejudice?—against sowing any seed when the wind is easterly. Doubtless it is a belief handed down from hoar antiquity, and closely resembling the "Flato Boreanta, semen ne jacio," of the Latin author—a sentence penned while Chester was the *Deva* of her Roman masters. There is yet another old saying I have unearthed which tells us that

When England blows on Wales, nobody's the better."

It is singular, by the way, that a county like Cheshire, comparatively protected against easterly winds, should so vilify them in her local weather-lore.

ALFRED MOORE.

Northbourne, Kent.

(To be continued.)

[925] CHESHIRE SCHOOLS AND MASTERS.

In Mr. R. F. Scott's recently issued volume of "Admissions to St. John's College, Cambridge," for the period 1715 to 1767 there are the following notices of Cheshire schools and schoolmasters:—

Audlem, Mr. Evans; sent Thomas Pulford in 1716 and Timothy Shaw in 1737.

Backford, Mr. Robert Denson; sent Thomas Denson and Robert Nield, 1743; and Samuel Griffith, 1753.

Chester, Mr. Henchman; Mr. Lancaster (1741); numerous entries.

Congleton, Mr. Malbon; sent Samuel Hall in 1725.

Davenham, Mr. Eaton; sent Robert Markham in 1745.

Lymm, Mr. Spencer; sent Joseph Haslehurst in 1723, and John Robinson in 1726.

Macclesfield, Mr. Denham; sent John Simcock in 1717, John Houghton in 1728—Mr. Allen; Charles Bostock in 1728—Mr. Atkinson; John Atherton (of Liverpool) in 1756, and Thomas Potts (of Ormskirk) in 1758. For the second and last no master's name is given.

Tarvin, Mr. Thomason; sent William Jones in 1725, and William Massey in 1744. Robert Markham had been taught here before going to Davenham.

[926] THE SIEGE OF CHESTER. VI.

(See No. 917.)

NORTHGATE WARD.

Lord Cholmondeley, 22 in family, 7 bushels barley, 25 mes: oats, 2 bushels beans.

Nicholas Ince, Alderman, 7 in fam.; Captain Chambers and Mr. Curvin & there men, 6 bus: of rye and wheate.

In the house next to his 19 subberd people, 3 soldiers.

Widow Bickerton, 15 in fam.; 6 bus: wheat, 3 bus: beans.

Sir Wm. Massie, 10 in fam:

Mr. Henrie Bridgman, 4 in fam.; 1 mes: wheate.

Mr. Thomas Humphrey, 15 in fam.; 10 b: rye.

Mr. Starkey Burrowes.

Mrs. Richardson, 6 in fam.; Capt: Mosten, an ancient [i.e., ensign] and 2 men, 2 b: of blent [i.e., mixed] corne.

Richard Cooke, 5 in fam.; 1 soldier, 1 b: of blent corne.

Thomas Williams, 4 in fam:

Randle Turner.

Widow Ince, 3 in fam.; A Quatr: Master, an ancient.

William Street, 5 in fam.; Capt. Whitmore, 4 b: of blent corne.

Richard Rathburne, 3 in fam:

Widow Johnes, 5 in fam:

William Downes, 2 in fam:

John Pick, 5 in fam.; 3 subberd people.

Grace Richardson, 3 in fam.; 10 subberd people, 1 soldier.

William Caterall, 2 in fam.; 4 sub: people.

Thomas Bennett, 3 in fam.; 14 subberd men and women.

Francis Holland, 7 in fam:

Richard Deane, 4 in fam.; 1 soldier, 20 b: of wheate.

Peeter Welchman, 6 in fam.; 5 subberd people.

William Caterall, 3 in fam.; 3 subberd men and women.

Thomas Right, 6 in fam.; 3 b: of wheate & rye.

Thomas Ben, 6 in fam:

Widow Crichley, 8 in fam.; Major Lord, 2 b: of wheate.

Mrs. Gibson, 4 in fam:

Thomas Lealand, 7 in fam:

Mrs. Mallorie, 8 in fam.; 9 subberd people.

Mr. Clarke.

Mr. Beedle.

Mr. Charles Johnes.

Christopher Pie.

Widow Hughes.

Mr. Bartleys house, 14 subberd people.

BARNELANE

Arthur Barker.

Widow Pearson.

Widow Banester.

Thomas Cauloot.

Elizabeth Davies.

Thomas Hevell.

Nicholas Meacock.

George Hill.

Widow Hughes.

Widow Johnes &

William Marshe.

Widow Inglefeild

Widow Axen.

Widow Hughes.

John Meridith.

Roger Suthers.

John Lloyd, 3 b: of blent corne.

John Kenion &

Widow Starkie

Alexander Lankton

Davie Archie &

John Powell.

Widow Archie.

Thomas Starkie.

Widow Johnes.

Thomas Ersdale.

William Trollock.

George Pricket.

John Powell.

Thomas Williams.

John Smalley.

John Addis.

Thomas Harrison.

Raph Ashton.

Gwen Harrison.

Jane Gudd.

Peeter Smith.

Thomas Tealor.

Em. Robinson.

Edward Henshaw.

Ellis

Hughe Dod

PARSON LANE.

Thomas Prenton

Richard Wood.

William Bennett.

Richard Collie &

Widow Gravenor.

William Hopley.

William Booth.

George Robins.

William Machell.

Thomas Burohenhead.

Widow Hand.

Widow Watt.

John Walker.

Widow Woods.

John Pradragh &

his sonne in law.

John Fletcher.

Raph Minshall.

Rain Welchman &

2 sonnes in law.

Widow Harvie.

Widow Roberts.

William Simson.

Widow Huson.

Richard Willson.

Davie Hughes.

Arthur Bennett.

William Tealor.

Howell Davie.

IN THE CROFTS.

Richard Davenport.

Widow Radley.

Widow Blundell.

William Sturney.

Hughe Humston.

William

Richard Morgan.

John

Myles Pearson.

Charles Lounge.

Peeter Lorum.

William Cawdey.

Peeter Meridith.

IN THE CROFTS—Continued.

Richard Gastoyne.

John Watt.

Richard Pemberton.

Richard Den.

Thomas Kelie.

Margarett

Edward

Widow Hughes.

Widow Lea.

Thomas Quirke.

G. P. G.

(To be continued.)

DECEMBER 23, 1903.

NOTES.

[927] OLD CHESHIRE WEATHER-PROVERBS. III.

(Continued from No. 924.)

I have been told of a forgotten couplet running

"Malpas ales and Malpas gales,

Cheer the farmer, fill his pails:"

which I give on mere "hearsay authority." It strikes one as remarkable, since the Malpas of to-day can scarcely be accounted "celebrated" for brewing. But the "meaning of Malpas gales" is clear enough, being the soft south-westerns which blow over Cheshire from that quarter till one "may almost hear the pastures grow" as an old Whitchurch farmer used to say. There is a sound of spring about the couplet, while the following—composed more than a hundred years ago by a poetical member of the Leche family—has an autumnal ring:—

"He who looks along the Dee,

Be he wise, will surely see—

If the far-off's clear as glass

Rain will shortly come to pass;

But if there's September haze

He'll the next day surely praise;

And, if warm at night, and mellow,

Five days' sunshine follows, yellow:

Bright and fine each hour will be,

Full a week, beside the Dee;"

while autumnal also is the ancient saw which sings

"Whan Gossamer-thread is a-shinin' and flyin',

On Oathe you may saye that ye Aire is a-dryin'."

The old Mid-Cheshire folk in the Tarporley-Northwich district had two infallible indications of coming rain—when there were many black slugs upon the grass, and when a peacock or a guinea-fowl screeched loudly. And "when ye Bells of Cheshire Minster be heard twice over, to each severall Bell hys owne proper Answer again, looke for Rayne and Storm," it was said; by which was meant when each bell in the Cathedral peal gave a clear and distinct echo, I suppose. In the old Cheshire "Household Book" already mentioned is this couplet

"Whenever Chester chimes att Congleton do sound,
A flood, like verie Noah's, will wash away ye ground:"

which may indeed be when the city's bells are heard almost thirty miles distant! Under certain atmospheric conditions, however, sound plays strange pranks, and one wonders if by any chance "Chester chimes" can ever be heard "att Congleton." Some reader, perhaps, may tell us.

That a thunderstorm about Christmastide presaged a severe winter, but with a fruitful year to follow, was a firmly-rooted ancient Cheshire belief; a survival, it is probable, from times long before the Norman Conquest, when December—called "halig-monath" or holy month—was held to furnish a kind of key-note to the whole winter. But be that as it may, most Cheshire Weather-Propverbs represent beliefs of early date, and are of peculiar interest as being purely local. Space precludes the giving of more at present from the very considerable number I have collected, but the few now for the first time printed may not be unwelcome as illustrative of county meteorological lore.

ALFRED MOORE.

Northbourne, Kent.

[928] KATHERINE BRETTAGH. III.

(See No. 904.)

Her Sickness.—Thus she continued with her husband about two years, and then it pleased God that she fell sick of a fever, which was so violent that it made her sometimes to talk idly, and by Satan's subtlety, that watches his opportunity, she began to fall into an heavy conflict of spirit.

Temptation.—First she began to find some little infirmity and weakness of faith more than ordinary, but through God's mercy she soon overcame it. Shortly after Satan assaulted her in a more violent manner, by after a day or two God delivered her, sending her peace and comfort and conscience which increased more and more in her to her death.

In the beginning of her conflict the severity of God's justice and the greatness of her sins came into her mind, which much afflicted her, whereof she often complained. Then she accused herself of pride, that she had delighted in herself and her beauty too much. Then she thought that she had no faith, but was an hypocrite and one that had not embraced religion so sincerely, nor glorified God so carefully, especially with her tongue, nor loved Him so fervently as she should have done. . . . She wished that she had never been born, or that she had been made any other creature rather than a woman; oft times she cried out: Woe, woe, woe! a weak, a woeful, a wretched, a forsaken woman, &c., with tears continually trickling from her eyes. . . .

These fits, though grievous to herself and discomfortable to her friends, yet they were neither long nor continual, but in the midst of them she would give good evidences of her faith, striving and fighting against her temptations, and by prayer begging strength of God against them. Oft she would with

a cheerful countenance entreat her friends not to faint nor to give her over, but constantly to pray and to help her against the tempter. . . .

Joy unspeakable.—But the day before her death she was wholly released and filled with abundance of inward consolations; and from the beginning that her comforts appeared she would very cheerfully join with the company in prayer and singing of psalms.

One day her brother, holy Master John Bruen, coming to visit her, he said: Sister, be not dismayed at your troubles; remember what the Apostle saith, "That judgment must begin at the house of God." To whom she answered: True it is; and "if it begin at us, and the righteous shall scarcely be saved, where shall the sinners and ungodly appear?"

At another time, calling her husband to her, she said: Oh, husband, beware of popery; keep yourself holy before the Lord; yield not to the abominations of the wicked, lest they rejoice, and so you dishonour God and destroy your own soul. Let my little child be brought up in the true fear of God, &c.; so shall I meet her in heaven, whom I must now leave behind me on earth. . . .

The day before her death the Lord discovered Himself more plentifully to her; from which time to her death she was freed from Satan's temptations. She laid aside all thoughts of the world, husband, child, or anything else. She lay with a cheerful countenance, as one ravished in her spirit. Her tongue overflowed with the praises of God. . . . And thus she continued for five hours' space, praising the Lord with a cheerful and heavenly countenance, testifying such inward joy, from a comfortable feeling of God's mercies in her soul, using such sweet sentences and sugared phrases of divine eloquence as was most admirable. . . . Then she sang, with as sweet a voice as ever she did in her life, the third Psalm, concluding thus:

The Lord, the God of Israel,

Be blest for evermore

Let all the people say Amen!

Praise ye the Lord therefore.

Then she said: Oh, praise the Lord, for He hath filled me with joy and gladness of heart! A Christian friend, seeing her exceeding joys, prayed for the continuance of them to the end; whereupon she said: Oh, the joys, the joys, the joys that I feel in my soul! Then a godly minister (Mr. William Harron) coming to her she said to him: My soul hath been compassed about with terrors of death but blessed, blessed, blessed be the Lord my God, who hath not left me comfortless. . . .

On the Sabbath evening her strength and speech beginning to fail her, she said: "My warfare is accomplished, and mine iniquities are pardoned. Lord, whom have I in heaven but Thee? and I have none on earth but Thee. My flesh faileth and my heart also, but God is the strength of my heart and

my portion for ever. He that preserveth Jacob and defendeth His Israel He is my God and will guide me unto death, &c." And with that she presently fell asleep in the Lord, passing away in peace without any motion of body at all, May ult, anno Christi 1601, and of her age 22.

Collected out of her Life and Death, printed with two excellent sermons, preached on her funeral by two eminent and godly divines.

The above has been taken, as stated, from the Marrow of Ecclesiastical History, by Samuel Clark, pastor of St. Bennet Fink (3rd ed. 1675). The book was dedicated to Philip Lord Wharton and to Lady Ann Wharton his pious and virtuous consort.

[929] SIEGE OF CHESTER. VII.

(Continued from No. 926.)

ST. MICHAEL'S WARD.

William Thorpe, 3 in family, 1 peck of corne.
John Looker, 7 in fam.; 2 soldiers, 1 mes: corne.
Mr. Watson, 6 in fam.; 1 mes: corne.
John Sproston, 3 in fam.; 3 soldiers, no corne.
Widdow Strete removes to brother Wm. Streeter.
Wm. Jones, 4 in fam.; 3 soldiers, 2 mes: corne.
Robt: Cadock, 2 in fam.; 1 sol.; 2 mes: pees, 3 mes: weate.

Richard Edwards, 2 in fam.; $\frac{1}{2}$ mes:
Katherine Edwards, 2 in fam.; 1 peck } 1 soldier.
Wm. Williamson, 2 in fam.; 1 peck

Inmate at Williamsons bath nothinge wch desyreth a passe to ye out towne.

Raph Daves, 1 in fam.; nothinge.

Rich: Pemberton, 2 in fam.; nothinge.

Henry Edwards, 7 in fam.; 1 mes: corne.

Ed: Gryffeth, 2 in fam.; nothinge.

Richard Holding, 2 in fam.; 1 peck corne.

Thomas Moreton, 2 in fam.; 3 solds.; 1 peck mele.

Wm. Phillipps, 5 in fam.; 2 pecks corne.

Robt: Murry, 4 in fam.; $\frac{1}{2}$ mes: corne.

Rich: Dunbabin, 5 in fam.; $\frac{1}{2}$ mes: in bred.

Widdow Brock, 5 in fam.; 1 mes: corne.

Robert Jones, 9 in fam.; 6 soldiers, 1 mes: in bread.

Mr. Leigh, 7 in fam.; $2\frac{1}{2}$ mes: corne.

Sir Richard Grosvenor, 21 in fam.; 18 mes: weate and mele.

Mr. Gerrad Jones, 9 in fam.; L: Col: and man; 1 mes: 3 pecks corne.

Mr. James Bad, 2 in fam.; 2 solds.; 2 pecks corne.

Richard Lord, 3 in fam.; 1 peck corne.

Randle Minshull, 6 in fam.; $1\frac{1}{2}$ mes: in corne and bread.

Mrs. Bannir, 10 in fam.; 2 mes: corne.

Arthur Wally, 5 in fam.; 3 mes: corne & meale, 1 Captaine.

L: wife, the corn I am to have from my father in law [100 pecks]?

Mr. Wm. Parnel, 5 in fam.; 3 mes: corne & meale, 1 captaine, 3 soldiers.

Major Thorpe, 12 in fam.; no soldiers, 20 mes: corne & meale.

Christopher Walker, 4 in fam.; 1 sold.; 1 mes:

Wm. Bromfield, 4 in fam:

Widdow Kempe, 4 in fam.; 2 solds.; 3 mes: meale.

Thos: Begson [?], 6 in fam.; 1 pecke corne.

John Bromfield, 4 in fam:

Thos: Casse, 7 in fam:

Widdow Taylor, 2 in fam:

Wm: 3 in fam.; 2 solds.; 3 pecks in meale and bread.

Thos: Fletcher, 3 in fam.; 2 solds.; 1 mes: 1 peck of meale.

Richard Hollywel, 6 in fam.; $\frac{1}{2}$ mes:

Wm. Bagily, 5 in fam.; 1 mes: in bread.

James Crompton, 3 in fam.; 2 solds.; 1 mes: 1 peck meal & bread.

Wm. Bennet, 5 in fam.; $1\frac{1}{2}$ pecks meale.

Robt: Outerhead, 7 in fam.; 1 peck corne.

Thos: Wartton, 1 in fam:

Joane Srigley, 3 in fam:

Widdow Lynicar, 1 in fam:

John Elebanck, 4 in fam.; $1\frac{1}{2}$ pecks corne.

Wm. Robinson, 1 in fam:

Robt: Radford, 3 in fam.; 1 soldr.; $1\frac{1}{2}$ pecks meale and bread.

Roger Hancock, 2 in fam.; 1 peck meale.

Widdow Dicas, 2 in fam.; 1 peck corne.

Thos: Vemes, 6 in fam.; 3 solds.; 5 pecks meale 4 of weate.

James Massey, 3 in fam.; 1 peck in bread.

Elin Calcott, widdow } 3 in fam.; 3 mes: meale and
Rich: Foxly } corne.

Widdow Williams, 3 in fam:

Widdow Shurlock, 6 in fam.; 1 peck meale.

Isabel Bromal, 7 in fam:

Evan Lewis, 6 in fam.; 1 mes: meale & bread.

Thos. Haukshaw, junr., 3 in fam:

Hugh Worhill, 4 in fam.; 3 pecks meale.

Wm. Taylor, 2 in fam.; 1 mes: meale.

Rich: Taylor, 5 in fam.; 1 soldier, 3 pecks in meale & bread.

G. P. G.

DECEMBER 30, 1903.

NOTES.

[930] JOHN DANIELL AND LORD ESSEX.

Queen Elizabeth's favourite the Earl of Essex after his failure in Ireland in 1599 was recalled in disgrace, tried, and dismissed from all his offices. Believing this punishment to be the work of private enemies he formed a plot to force himself into the Queen's presence and violently expel his opponents from office. The plot failed, and he was executed on 25 February, 1601, it being held treason to compel the sovereign by force to change his policy. His ruin involved very serious consequences to John Danell of Daresbury, whose experiments in the farming of tithes have already been noticed in the "Sheaf."

His "confession"—for so it may be called, considering the comments he makes—gives an outline of his part in the matter. It is taken from the "Calendar of State Papers: Domestic, 1601-1603," issued from the Record Office (pp. 57-59). The notes in square brackets [] are marginal notes in his writing. The date is June, 1601.

"The information on his own confession was that twelve months since, when the late Earl of Essex was confined to the Lord Keeper's house for very heinous misdemeanours his countess [for fear her house should be searched] gave a casket of letters sent her by her husband before and after their marriage [containing matters of disloyalty and contempt against her Majesty's person] to Jane, the wife of the prisoner Daniell, who had been the countess's gentlewoman; which casket she was to keep until it was asked for. Daniell, finding the casket under his bed, secretly opened it [this excuseth my wife] and took out twenty or thirty letters, intending to make gain thereof. [No such purpose, but wishing to discover and reveal matters of state, from which he was prevented by some that escaped unpunished.] He took them to Peter Bales, a scrivener, to make copies and counterfeits of them [this he did in order to read them better; there were thirty, and only six brought to Bales], pretending he had been sent by the countess; and while Bales was making the copies, the prisoner dictated, blamed Bales for not imitating the earl's hand better [done by great pains and Bales' help in reading them], and corrupted some of them by adding and forging matter in his reading [the words 'the Queen's commandment, &c.' were then shown, to be resolved if they were matters of state].

"Subsequently the countess sent for the casket and missing many of the letters she went to Daniell's house [a month before Bales knew of the letters], and being greatly perplexed lest the earl might conceive some dislike against her for carelessly suffering his long and passionate love letters to be divulged and spread abroad [the letters of secrecy were kept most secretly, which was my overthrow] she questioned the prisoner and his wife about them, who denied having them [the letters were not denied but detained for matters of state] and the prisoner used very discourteous speeches [no such matters nor speeches spoken on neither part] and seemed offended with his wife for keeping the casket without his privacy; but they being informed by the countess that the letters were neither of importance nor dangerous to the state nor to any particular person [both which was then unknown, and therefore he desired to be truly resolved], but that the loss thereof troubled her for the before-mentioned reasons, the prisoner pretended he would use his utmost endeavours to find them, and shortly after wrote the countess [she first wrote to his wife and sent divers messages] confessing that he had them and that as they might greatly concern her lord it behoved her to be careful to

regain them; but that he had become very much impoverished and decayed of late, and had only about £3,000 during his service with the earl, and that upon some honourable consideration of his necessity he would restore them [she offered £1,000 before he demanded £3,000].

"The countess sent one of her servants [Sir Edward Dyer and Mr. Lyle] to have the letters returned, and to assure the prisoner that she would relieve his wants to the best of her ability, but he demanded £3,000, otherwise he would not deliver them. The countess then herself treated with him, but he would not part with them unless she paid him £1,720 [Sir Edward Dyer made the contract at the countess's request], he alleging that if he carried them to Lord Cobham and Sir Walter Raleigh they would give him £3,000 for them [no such words]. Not having so much money, and dreading what might arise between her and her husband she was forced to sell her jewels [sold before; borrowed the money of Lingley, Crumpton, Sir E. Dyer, and Peter Vanderlure], and having made up the £1,720 she paid it to the prisoner and received her letters; but the prisoner, thinking his treacherous and bad practices might subsequently come to light, demanded a general release from the countess and her husband [a release was offered before any money paid], so as to prevent any danger that might ensue."*

"All this plainly appeared to the Court"—the Star Chamber—"both by the prisoner's writing [not a word of my handwriting about the release], and his confession [no word confessed, but I could have discovered good matter if duly dealt with], and he was unable to defend or extenuate his offence [because it lay in matter of proof, and I was denied both counsel and proof]. The Court asked if there was any truth in his speeches touching Lord Cobham and Sir Walter Raleigh, when he acknowledged them also to be false and slanderous [never reported nor spoken by me], and that they never offered him money; and it also appeared that he had very lately written a letter to the countess containing very scandalous matter and impeaching her of some supposed unkindness towards the late earl [she knows this to be most true]. The Attorney general observed on Daniell's treachery, being a servant to the late earl [no servant of two years before, but retired upon just cause of discontent and inconstant dealing, both by the earl and countess], and the time it was committed against so honourable and virtuous a lady, in her sorrow for her husband's fall, that it greatly aggravated the offence.

*In the volume "Domestic, 1598-1601," there occurs:

7 April, 1600.—Release by Robert, Earl of Essex, Earl Marshal of England, to John Daniell of Daresbury and Jane his wife, for their good and faithful service, of all actions, suits, debts, and accounts, up to the present date. (p. 418.)

"It also appeared that at the time of the late earl's arraignment he pretended that the aforesaid letters had been forged and counterfeited by his adversaries [the earl's letters were truly written, and not counterfeited, but imitated for the Queen's service, from which he was withdrawn by the Countess and her friends], whereas it now appears to have been done by his servant the prisoner, and therefore the imputation which the late earl endeavoured to lay upon others was most unjust [he had no better pretext to cover his treasons, which at his death he confessed to be false imputations, as appeareth by Mr. Barlow's sermon; which proveth that Daniell was made an instrument to excuse others] and ought to have been imposed upon the prisoner, on whom the Attorney general prayed for some extraordinary and exemplary punishment [my unjust deserts in seeking to discover the truth, and meaning to reveal the same to her Majesty].

"The Court, considering the heinousness of the offences, adjudged the prisoner to pay a fine of £3,000 to her Majesty and be committed to the Fleet prison for life. The Court also pitying the great wrong and injury which the countess had sustained [she had wronged me still more], cleared her from all suspicion of any ill intention towards her late husband [the effect of her actions have proved the contrary], and stated that they could testify of their own knowledge as to her true and honourable regard for him and that she did as much as was possible for a woman for his good during his imprisonment [after his death she showed unkindness to his children] and that she was always reputed a most honourable and virtuous lady."

Endorsed is a note from John Daniell to his cousin Daniell (26 January, 1603-4) near Charing Cross, sending this copy of the Star Chamber sentence, adding that he has never complained of the sentence, but has a hundred times of his wrongs and oppressions since he was condemned, which are as heavy to him as treble the fine.

On p. 56 is a statement by G. Liale, bearing out to some extent the countess's version of the matter; and Peter Bales' account of his share in the matter

will be found on pp. 77, 78 and 107. The phrase supposed to incriminate the earl was "The Queen's commandment may break my neck, but my enemies at home shall never break my heart."

Jane Daniell, the prisoner's wife, took great pains to secure something from the wreck of their fortunes. "My husband's goods are embezzled," she wrote to the Queen, "and yet as much is expected from him as if they were in his hands. I am the daughter of Ryhova, Governor of Ghent, who most resisted the Spanish tyranny in Flanders; I was exiled for the faith which your Highness defends. I am daily afflicted by the Countess of Essex, whom I faithfully served, because unable to pay her £2,000 of the fine as speedily as she wishes. She has caused my four small children to be turned out of Hackney parsonage, and others to take the same. I beg a grant of the parsonage and lands, the rest of the goods, and my husband's full pardon" (p. 130).

Later still (19 June, 1608) is the petition of John Daniell to Lord Chief Baron Tanfield. Being censured in the Star Chamber and fined £3,000 he had had all his estates (worth 500 marks a year) taken, and was allowed to sue for his debts in forma pauperis. He has sued Hamnet Grigg accordingly on a bond of £40, but he resists payment. He begs that the case may be tried not in Cheshire but at Hackney or in Middlesex. An order of 23 June granted this petition; another order (19 August) stayed a commission sent down into Cheshire on the case; there is a memorandum of an oath by Jane Daniell of her husband's illness and the nature of the bond. ("Addenda: 1580-1625," p. 509.)

There seems to be some foundation for Daniell's complaint of unfair treatment. He comes out very badly on his own showing; but was treated with extreme severity, it would appear, to persuade the people, and especially the powerful Puritan party on which Essex had relied, that though it had been necessary to execute the earl, the step had been taken reluctantly and that his opponents would find less mercy still.

J. B.

1

INDEX.

A

Abram, William, 49
 Aburgavne, John, 63
 Acton, Thomas, 30, 65, 104
 Adams, Roger, 63
 Adamson, John, 50; Stockton, 71
 Addis, John, 117
 Adene, Thomas, 40
 Agews, Thomas, 111
 Aiglem, Johannes de, 93
 Aislaby, John, 105; William, 105
 Alan of Hellesby, 21, 23
 Alcock, Captain Edw., 26, 27
 Alfred, son of Humphrey, 29
 Aldroft, Johannes, 92
 Aldersey, Alderman, 98; Edward, 98; Elizabeth, 70; Foulke, 84; Jo., 24; John, 49, 60, 65, 98; Margaret, 65; Mary, 70; Ralph, 9; Rev. Samuel, 71; Thomas, 27, 30; Thos., 98; William, 49, 53, 65; Will'm, 7, 70; Wm., 9
 Allen, Charles, 60; Humphrey, 49, 53
 Aleyn, Thomas, 92
 Alison, Henry, 27
 Allen, Daniell, 59; John, 30, 51; Miss or Mrs., 58; Mr., 39, 116; Patrick, 20; Will., 59
 Allott or Alot, George, 49; Johannes, 92; John, 49
 Almond, Rev. John, 81
 Alport, Jo., 30
 Alsager, John, 105
 Anderson, John, 30
 Anderton or Andyrton, James, 27; Matthew, 21, 30; W., 66; William, 104
 Andrew or Andrew, John, 48, Richard, 47, 54; William, 54
 Angel, Robert, 30
 Anion, Mrs., 59
 Apemberton, Rob., 6
 Archie, Davie, 117; Widow, 117
 Arden or Ardene, John de, 16; Ralph, 24, Richard, 66; Walkelin de, 1
 Ardern or Arderne, Agnes, 112; Cecily, 112; Hugh de, 112; John, 46; Sir John, Bart., 30; Ralph, 66; Rauffe, 113; Richard, 105; Thomas, 66; William, 51; Will'm, 114; —, 66
 Arden, Anne, 40; William, 40
 Arkelyde, Robertus de, 93
 Arrowsmith or Arrowsmith, John, 53; Katharine, 53; Oliver, 53; Richard, 46; William, 46
 Arundel, Richard Fitz Alan, Earl of, 16; the Fitz-alans, Earls of, 43
 Ashbrooke, Ashbrooke, or Ashbrooke, Ralph, 67; Randle, 27; Rt., 66; W., 71
 Ashby, Canon John de, 107
 Ashby, Daniel, 50, 70, 71; Dorothy, 79; Francis, 49; Sir Francis, 79
 Ashton, Asheton or Asheton, Edward, 42; James, 50; Jno., 50; Jo., 24; Johannes de, 93; Maykyn de, 93; Raph, 117; Robert de, 109; Thomas, 30, 71, 105; William, 27, 30; Sir (Rev) William, 60
 Ashby, Ralph, 51
 Asheby, Rev. Walter de, 107

Aspell, Henry, 50, 71
 Astelby, Lieut., 18
 Astley, Rafe, 24
 Aston, Anne, 90; General Sir Arthur, 81; Catherine, 70; John, 90; Lady, 66; Margaret, 90; Richard, 42; Rogerus de, 92; Sam., 58; Thomas, 32, 49, 62, 90, 114; Willelmus, 92; William, 90, 111; Sir Willoughby, Bart., 30
 Astyll, William, 68
 Atherton, John, 116; Wm., 67
 Atkinson or Atkinsonn, Leonard, 97; Mr., 116
 Aubermarie (Albemarle), Earl of, 1
 Audley or Audithale, George, 103; Sir Hugh de, 15; James de, 1; John, Lord, 40; Nicholas de, 15; Sir T., 51; Sir Thomas, 42
 Austin (Augustinus), Griffin, son of, 57
 Awcooke, William, 72
 Axen, Widow, 117
 Aynsworth, Mr., 85
 Ayre or Ayer, Richard, 40, 48

B

Babthorp or Babthorpe, Sir Robert, 92; Wm., 32
 Bacon, Lord Chancellor, 75, 76
 Bad, James, 119
 Baggie, George, 63
 Baggott, Widow, 28
 Bagily, Wm., 119
 Bagnall, Randle, 87, 88
 Bailey, Randle, 67; Thomas, 67
 Baker, Capt., 37; John, 50
 Bales, Peter, 120, 121
 Ball, Eleanor, 52; James, 60
 Balmer, William, 28
 Bamvyle, Baumvile or Baunvile, Philip de, 16, 93; Ralph, 9
 Banoroft or Banecroft, Edward, 42; Hugh, 53
 Bangor, Bishops of, 26, 96, 97; John, Bishop of, 40; Richard Vaughan, Bishop of, 28
 Banks or Bancks, Henry, 50; Margaret, 113
 Banner or Bannir, Mrs., 119; Richard, 66; Thomas, 50
 Bannister, Banister or Banester, Helen, 20; Widow, 117; William, 21
 Barbour, Harre, 103
 Barker, Abraham, 50; Arthur, 117; Edmund, 68; John, 50, 67; Reynolds, 52; Rich., 50; William, 71
 Barkley, Hugh, 64
 Barlow, Barlowe or Barlo, Alexander, 40; James, 60; John, 60; Rev. Mr., 121; Lady, 98; Richard, 60; Widow, 67; William, 60
 Barnard, Lord, 79
 Barneby, Thomas, 92
 Barnea, Rev. Henry, 65; Ralph, 71
 Barnett or Barnet, Hamnett, 63, 65; Lord, see Derby, Earl of
 Barnston, Alice, 70; Trafford, 30
 Barnyston, Edward, 63
 Baron, Rev. Father Peter F., 13; Roger de, 20
 Barrow, Ralph, 106; Thos., 50; —, 67
 Barrowes, Thomas, 92
 Barry, Hon. Richard, 106

- Barrymore, Earl of, 67, 70, 71
 Bartley, Mr., 117
 Bartrom, Lieut., 18
 Bashford, John, 98
 Baskervyle or Baskerville, Cicely, 102; George, 52, 102; John, 105; Marg., 105; Thomas, 30
 Basset, Lord, see Derby, Earl of
 Bate, Humphrey, 72; Will'm., 69
 Bateriah, John, 65
 Bath and Wells, Bishop of (1368), 112
 Bathor, Batho or Bathoe, Alderman Edward, 21; Thos., 85
 Baude, John, 53
 Bayard, Edward, 30; Jane, 75; Richard, 21, 75
 Baxter, George 111; Robert, 50
 Bayley, Baylye or Bayla, James, 105; Ralph, 46; Thomas, 92; William, 105
 Beaucherk, Lady Sidney, 66
 Bebington or Belynton, William, 52; William de, Abbot of St. Werburgh's 109, 112; Wilhelmus, 92
 Becheton, Wilhelmus, 93
 Becka, Widd., 111
 Beckett, Thomas, 27
 Beckingham, Canon Thomas de, 112
 Beckwith, Margaret, 78; Thomas, 78
 Beddowe, Widow, 27
 Bedson, Margery, 6
 Beedle, Mr., 117
 Beeston, George, 23, 61; Hugh, 87
 Bekerstat, Laurence, 56
 Bellasaye or Bellasys, Anne, 22; Barons (Viscounts and Earls) of Fauconberg, 22; Sir Rowland, 22; Thomas, Viscount, 22
 Bell, Captain, 18; Peter, 37; Widow, 28, 60
 Belken, Mr., 110
 Bellot, Bellott or Belot, Johannes, 92; John, 40, 46; Sir John, Bart., 30
 Belowa, Thomas de, 92
 Ben, Thomas, 117
 Bendowe, Johannes, 92
 Bennett, Bennet, Benet or Bennitt, Arthur, 53, 117; Geo., 59; Hamnett, 27; Hen., 6; Henry, 111; J. H. E., 3, 20, 24, 33, 88; Miles, 27; Mrs., 59; Peter, 30; Rand., 59; Thomas, 86, 116; Widd., 97; Will., 97; William, 31, 63, 117; Alderman William, 31; Wm., 119
 Bennye, John, 59
 Benschawe, Thomas, 92
 Benson, Johannes, 93
 Bentinck, Lady Margaret Cavendish, 80; William, 2nd Duke of Portland, 80
 Bentley or Bently, Mr., 31; Stafford, 44; (alias Bennet) William, 81
 Berkley, Widd., 99
 Berd, John, 33; Rd., 33
 Berengar the Falconer, 103
 Bererd, Dr., 110
 Berrington or Berynton, Herbert, 30; Ricardus, 92; Saml., 66
 Bertumley, Randle de, 15
 Beston, Sir Georg, 56
 Bewwick, Margaret, 91; Roger, 91
 Bethell, Col., 9; Thomas, 108; —, 20
 Betson, —, 85
 Bickerton, Thomas, 30; Widow, 116
 Bingley (Bidgley), Ralph, 67, 68;
 Bird or Birde, Agnes, 64; George, 30; Henry, 64; Mr., 84; Richard, 26; Thomas, 64; William, 20
 Birkenhead, Berkenhead, Burohenhead or Birkhead, Hugh, 51; John, 70; Richard, 72; Singleton, 80; Thomas, 117
 Bispham, Mrs., 60; Rev. Will., 24
 Blackrode, Henry de, 93
 Blacoe, Rev. W., 13
 Blagge, John, 99; Margaret, 99; Randle, 99; Thomas, 99
 Blakhurst, Ricardus, 93
 Blease, Mr., 97; Widd., 97
 Bliss, W. H., 104
 Blome, Richard, 30
 Bloure, Ralph, 63
 Blundell, Widow, 117
 Blynston, George, 59; Roger, 63
 Blythe, William, 52
 Bocton, Patrick de, 93
 Bode (? Rode), Johannes de, 93
 Boffey, Sameull, 110
 Bolde, Richard, 65
 Bolland, Widdow, 85
 Boller, Wilhelmus de, 93
 Bolt, Wilhelmus, 93
 Bolton, Henry, 48; Hugh, 48, 49, 51; John, 66
 Bonner, Edmund, Bishop of London, 81
 Boore, Danyell, 27
 Boots, Mabell, 38
 Booth or Bootba, Elizabeth, 40; G., 8; George, 30; Rt. Hon. George, Baron Delamer, 30; John, 87, 88; Col. John, 9; Sir John, 30; Nath., 30; Thomas, 105; William, 117
 Borlase, Dr. Edmund, 30
 Bostock, Bostocke or Bostok, Charles, 116; James, 40; John, 42; Peter, 20; Radulphode, 92; Sarah, 108; William, 40
 Boswell, Will., 60
 Boteler (Butler), Constance, 94; Canon Edmund la, 110; Margaret, 72; Thomas, 93; William, 94
 Botha, Alies, 40; George, 46, 65
 Bott, —, 50
 Boucher, Henry, 18
 Boude, Hugo, 92
 Boudon, Hamo de, 92
 Boufe, Ralph, 111
 Boulde, Peter, 113
 Boulder, Elizabeth, 28
 Boulton, Captain, 18
 Bourghier, Sir William, 92
 Bower, Ralph, 68; Richard, 104
 Bowker, Richard, 98
 Bowne, Reginald, 51
 Bowrie, Henry, 42
 Boydell, Jo., 3; John, 98
 Boydell or Boidell, Jo., 3; John, 98; John de, 16; (or Borede) William de, 1
 Brabon, Thomas, 54
 Brackley, Viscount, see Bridgwater, Earl of
 Bradborne, Thos., 59
 Bradbourn or Bradbourne, Cicely de, 22; John de, 32; Thos., 59
 Bradford, Agnes, 107; Agnes de, 102; Alexander de, 102; Alice, 102; Ann, 91, 102; Anne, 106; Catherine, 108; Cecily, 102; Dorothea, 108; Edward, 102, 107; Elizabeth, 91, 108; Elizabeth de, 102; Ellen, 107, 108; Ellen de, 102; Ellinor, 108; F. Leopold, 109; Francis, 108; George, 108; Henaria, 108; Henricus de, 101, 102; Henry, 102, 107; Henry de, 101, 102; Homfray, 108; Hugh, 91, 102; Hugh Jo, 91, 101, 102; Humfray, 108; Humphery, 107; Johannes de, 102; John 59, 102, 107, 108, 109; John de, 102; John (Martyr), 91; Jones, 108; Jonah, 108; Jordan de, 101; Joseph, 108; Katherine, 102; Marg., 107; Margare, 107; Margaret, 91, 107; Margerie, 108; Marie, 108; Mariota de, 102; Mariha, 108; Mary, 109; Neville E., 109; Norman S., 109; Peter, 108; Ranulph, 108; Rebecca,

- 108; Richard, 107; Richard de, 108; Richards, 107; Robert, 102, 108; Robert de, 101, 102; Rodger, 91, 102; Roger, 91, 102, 108; Roger de, 102; Samuel, 108; Sarah, 108; Rev. T., 70; Thomas, 91, 102, 108, 109; Rev. Thomas, 109; W. H., 16, 70, 76, 89, 91, 97, 102, 109; Widow, 108; William, 91, 108; William de, 101; William H., 109
- Bradley or Bradeley, Jonathan, 30; Lawrence, 60, 63; Randle, 27; Thos., 98; Widow, 50
- Bradshaw, Sir James, 30
- Brame, William, 98
- Brames, Nicholas, 53
- Brandurhut, Rogerus, 92
- Brane or Brayne, David, 93; William, 46
- Brasey, Edward, 30
- Brauster, Wilkyn, 36, 37
- Brawestaffe, Hugh, 40
- Breck, Rev. Hugh, 66
- Bree, Qtr., 18
- Brereton, Sir Brian or Bryan, 65, 72; Edward, 53; Geoffrey, 72, 112; George, 114; Henry, 42; John, 53, 56, 68; Ald. John, 21; Lady of, 79; Sir Randell, 56; Randle, 46, 65, 77; Sir Randle, 100, 113; Sir Randolph, 42; Richard, 114; Sir Richard, 40; Roger, 72; Sir Roger, 66; Sir Thos., Bart., 30; Thomas, 40; Urian, 66; Rt. Hon. William, Lord Brereton, 30; Will'm., 113; Sir Will., 8; Sir William, 48, 49, 51, 53, 61
- Brewwood, Edward, 66; John, 30, 57, 66; Robert, 11; Wid., 66
- Bretland, Tobias, 106
- Bretton, Sr. Randle, 114
- Brett, Hugo, 92; John, 30
- Brettargh, Brettarge, or Bretterg, Katherine, 89, 100, 118; William, 89, 100
- Brewster, Roger, 53; Thomas, 40
- Breyne, Alexander, 40; Magdalen, 40
- Brichull, Hugh de, 93
- Briddon, John, 46
- Bridge or Bridge, John, 85; Mrs., 7; Randell, 97;
- Bridgeman or Bridgman, Bishop 81; Elizabeth, 64; Henrie 116; Henry, D.D., Dean of Chester, 51, 57, 64, 67; Orlando, 30; Rt. Hon. Sir Orlando, 30
- Bridges, Mr., 59
- Bridgewater, Rt. Hon. John (Viscount Brackley, Baron Elmsmer), Earl of, 30
- Bridons, William, 1
- Brinley, Edward, 49
- Briscoe, Robt., 28
- Brittain, Thomas Lewis, 81
- Brock or Brocke, Thos., 34; Widdow, 119; William, 30
- Brodhent, Henry, 40; Hugh 42; Ralph, 40
- Broke, Griffen, 51; Henry, 63; Rogerus, 93; William, 51
- Bromal, Isabel, 119
- Brombill, Perys, 46
- Brome, John Jeffray, 63; Robert, 49
- Bromfield or Bromfield, Richard, 46; Thomas, 46; Win., 119
- Bromhall, John, 113
- Bromley, Edward, 30; Phillips, 93; Robert, 67, 70, 71; Thomas, 46; William, 46
- Brooke, John, 63; Lieut., 18; Nicholas, 92; Peter, 105; Sir Peter, 30; Richard, 90; Sir Richard, Bart., 30, 105; Thomas, 90, 91, 99, 114; —, 99
- Brooks, Henry, 30; John, 30
- Broscowe, Richard, 60
- Broster, Charles, 30; Richard, 58; Widowe, 28
- Brotherton, Hugh, 29
- Brough, Edmund, 42
- Broughton, John, 65; Lieut., Col., 18
- Broweter, Arthur, 50; Edward, 50; George, 50; Humphrey, 50; James, 50; Roger, 50
- Browderhurst, Hugh, 32; John, 32; Roger, 32
- Brown or Browne, Edward, 49; Jenkyne or Jenkin, 55; Mr., 98; Nicholas, 40; Nicholas, 111; Rd., 71; Tho., 30; Thomas, 42, 50; William, 55
- Brownent, J., 50; Jno., 50; Saml., 50
- Brownlow, Melise H. M., 8; Rev. William, 8; William Robert, R.C. Bishop of Clifton, 8
- Broxse, Widow, 28
- Bruen or Bruyn, Ellen, 93; Henry la, 93; Jonathan, 30; John, 66, 89, 113; Joseph, 30, 97; Peter, 87; Ralph, 92; Tilston, 30
- Brundell, Arthur, 65
- Brundley, William, 40
- Bryan, Edw., 24; (alias Shaw) Thos., 24; Widd., 98
- Bryd, Brydd or Brydde, Henricus, 92; Johannes, 92; Thomas, 93; Willelmus, 92; William, 46
- Bryndley, William, 53
- Bryne, John, 113
- Buckhurst, Lord, 89, 90, 91
- Buckingham, Marquis of, 76
- Buckley or Buckeley, George, 30; Mrs., 86; Robert, 30; Timothy, 111
- Bugdale (? Dugdale), —, 20
- Bulgor, Johannes, 92
- Bulkeley or Bulkley, Edward, 46; George, 46; Mr., 85; Richardus de, 93; Rowland, 42; Thos., 24; Thomas, 46, 48; William, 40
- Bunbury or Bunburie, Edward, 52; Henry, 30; Richard, 60; Thomas, 113
- Buntinge, Mark, 59
- Burallas, Richard, 99
- Burgeny, Will., 24
- Burghley, Lord, 77, 84
- Burgundy, Duke of, 79
- Burna, the poet, 28
- Burrowes, Mrs., 59; Starkey, 116
- Burton, Johannes de, 93
- Busbell, John, 66; Samuel, 71; Thos., 71; Widow, 67; Wm., 67, 71
- Butler, Daniell, 7, 98; Sir John, 76; Sir Wm. (baron), 21; see also Boteler
- Byfield, Master, 66
- Bykerton, Hugh de, 19; John, 72
- Bykinhead, Byrkenhed or Byrkenhed, John, 62; Richard, 42; Robert, 66; see also Birkenhead
- Bylott, John, 49
- Byrd or Byrde, Henry, 66; Ralf, 110; Richard, 58
- Byroh (Byreoh), Edmund, 50
- Byrkedale, William, 103
- Byrne, Ralph, 53
- Byron, Christopher, 30; John, Lord, 26; Sir John, 42
- Bythebon, Hugh, 49
- Byttenot, Thomas, 92
- C
- Cade, James, 68
- Cadock, Robert, 119
- Calcott, Calcot or Caulcot, Elin, 119; Richard, 104; Thomas, 117
- Caldewell, George, 29
- Calley or Cally, William, 68; Wm., 88
- Calvey or Calveley, Anthony, 72; Edward, 72; George, 51, 114; Hawell de, 92; Hugh, 40, 45, 72; Rauffe, 114
- Calverley, George, 60; Hugo de, 93
- Camden, William, 94
- Cane, Addam, 111
- Cantrell, Ralph, Dean of St. John's, Chester, 52

- Capper or Cappur, Jacob, 103; Robt., 86
 Carleton, Dudley, 87; Sir Dudley, 19; Elizabeth, 19
 Carran, John, 27
 Carrol, Anth., 4
 Carter, Rev. John, 13; Thomas Worrall, 21; Thos., 98; Widd., 98
 Cartwright, J., 67; John, 50, 63
 Carver, John, 9
 Caryngton, George, 61; Hamnet, 65; John, 42, 65
 Case, Rio, 27
 Casse, Thos., 119
 Cateral, Catrall or Catteraw, Piers, 52; William, 116, 117
 Catherall, Randle, 87, 88
 Catthia, Thomas, 93
 Causeley, Sir Hugh, 111
 Cauze (alias Banester), Thomas, 84, 85; William, 85
 Cavendish, Henry, Duke of Newcastle, 79; Margaret, 79
 Cawley, William, 117
 Cawley, Samuel, 50
 Cawverley, Elizabeth, 63; Hugh, 63
 Chaderton, Bishop, 83
 Chadock, Wm., 50
 Chalner or Challoner, Jno., 71; Widow, 71; Wm., 71; —, 58
 Chamberlain, John, 57
 Chambers, Captain, 116
 Champein, Robert, 16
 Chandler, Mr., 111
 Chapman, Mr., 39
 Charlton or Charleton, Hammett, 84; Canon Humphrey de, 110; Sir John de, 110
 Charmes, Rev. John de, 109
 Charmley, Richard, 40, 46
 Chatterton, George, 51
 Chatton, Johannes le, 92
 Chauntrell, Will'm., 114
 Chedle, Geoffrey de, 16, 101
 Chekyns, Ralph, 63
 Chelford, Ranulphus de, 92
 Cheshire, Cheshire or Chesahyre, John, 50; Richard, 61; Robert, 42, 52; Thomas, 30
 Chester, Abbot of, 93;
 Chester, Bishops of, "Jo. E'po Cestr." 24; Law, Geo. H., 21, 22, 76; Limesey (Limisi), Robert de, 28, 29; Majendie, Henry William, 3, 16, 76; Pearson John, 34; Vaughan, Richard, 25; —, 17, 31, 49, 83, 89
 Chester Constables of, William, 28; —, 38
 Chester Earls of The King, 32, 43; Randle, 33, 101, 102; Richard, 29
 Chester, Sheriff of, 53
 Chester and Lincoln, Randle, Earl of, 115
 Chesterfield, Earls of, 79
 Chesworth, Jo., 110
 Chetton, David, 92; John, 20
 Chetwode, Sir Philip Touchet, Bart., 105
 Cheyne, Margaret, 48
 Cheynu, Hamnet, 40
 Chymole, Willelmus, 92
 Cholmondeley or Cholmley, Charles, 105; Francis, 30; Sir Hugh, 63, 84, 85, 113, 114; Hugh de, 32; Lord, 54, 116; Richard, 32, 42, 61; Rt. Hon. Robert, Viscount, 30; Tho., 30; Thomas, 105; Thomas del, 92; Willelmus de, 93; William, 92
 Choltun, Clemens, 92
 Christ Church, Oxford, Dean and Canons of, 6, 90, 91, 99, 100
 Christerson, Gerves, 66
 Church, Mr., 98
 Churchman, John, 71
 Chytwood, James, 63
 Clara, Four Earls of, 78, 79, 80; see also Holles or Hollis
 Clarenceux, King of Arms, 11
 Clark or Clarke, Andrew, 113; Hugh, 52; Mr., 37, 117; Samuel, 89; Rev. Samuel, 119; William, 113
 Clayton, Thomas, 51
 Clerk or Clerke, George, 42; Margery, 42; James, 42; Reynold, 42; Thos., 45, 47, 48
 Cleveley, William, 48
 Cleyton, Dr., 25
 Cliffe (alias Drinkwater), Mr., 2
 Clyff, Johannes, 92
 Clinton, Anne, Lady, 79; Edward, Lord, 79; Henry, Earl of Lincoln and Duke of Newcastle, 80
 Clooys, Thomas, 61
 Clougas, Edward, 28
 Clowes, Robert, 106
 Clutton, Henry, 48, 49; Margery, 45, 51
 Coates, Thomas, 111
 Cobham, Lord, 120
 Cock, Wm., 113
 Cockin, Mr., 69
 Coddington, Richard, 28; Wid., 71
 Colborne, Lieut., 18
 Colchester and Rock Savage, Viscount, 35; see also Savage
 Colley, Colly or Collie, James, 54, 67; John, 72; Richard, 117; William, 88; —, 25
 Collins, —, 22
 Collizer, Qtr., 18
 Colstinsock or Colstynsooke, Ellen, 72; Peter, 72; Robert, 72
 Coly, Henricus, 92; Johannes, 92
 Comberback, J., 70
 Combermere, Abbot of, 102
 Congresse, Ralph, 40
 Connyers, Captain, 18
 Conoly, John, 70
 Constable, Lieut., 18; Col. Sir Michael, 18
 Constantius Flavius Julius, 17
 Cood, Henry, 98
 Cooke or Cook, Martha, 71; Richard, 20, 116; Thomas, 20; Widow, 59, 111; Willelmus, 93; Wm., 10; —, 66
 Cooper, Thos., 66
 Coote, Lieut.-Col., 17
 Cootes, Alexander, 53
 Copline, Catherine, 27
 Coppock or Coppok, Robert, 42, 52
 Corbett, Mr., 16; Thos., 67; William, 106
 Corden, Richard, 72
 Cornell, Thos., 99
 Cornewaille, Sir John, 92
 Corona, John de, 16
 Corton, Thomas, 30
 Cosmeken, William, 111
 Costard, Corbett, 70
 Costowe, William, 28
 Cotgrave, Cotgreave or Cotgreve, Alice, 95; Elinor, 94; Ellen, 94; John, 95; Sir John, 94; Ralph, 95; Randle, 24; Randle de, 95; Ranulph, 94; Sir Ranulph, 94; Richard de, 95; Robert, 95; Robert de, 95; Thomas de, 95; Widdow, 86; William de, 95
 Coton, Richard de, 104
 Cotton, Edward, 113; George, 41, 83; John, 46; Lynch Salusbury, 106; Lynch Lynch Sidney, 73; Mr., 58; Richard, 61, 114; Sir Robert, 30
 Cottrell, Lieut., 18; Widd., 99
 Coudrey, Richard le, 57

Coventry, Richard, 25; Robert, 24; Robt., 25; Thomas, 54
 Cowdocks, John, 59; Will., 59
 Cowes, John, 98
 Cowley, Patricke, 28; William, 30
 Cowper, Ald'n. 26, 27; John, 49, 65; Thomas, 58; Widd., 98; William, 106; —, 20
 Cowy (? Cooper), Mr., 85
 Cove, Will., 60
 Crabbe, Alexander, 34
 Crambe, Peter, 72
 Crane, Rev. Thomas, 16, 76, 96, 97
 Creswell or Cresswell, Hugo, 83; Percival, 62
 Crew or Crewes, Charles, 106; Johannes de, 92; John, 30, 106; Sir John, 30; Mr., 13
 Crichtley, Widow, 117
 Croft, Wilhelmus, 92
 Crogeton, Widow, 59
 Crokett, Rev. Ralph, 81
 Croxon, Ralph, 65
 Crompton, Will., 30; William, 58; Will'm., 74
 Cromwell, Col., 18; Oliver, 22, 80
 Crook, Thos., 50
 Crosbey or Crosby, Mary, 88; William, 98; —, 87
 Crosee or Cross, Alice, 113; Angharad, 94; Constance, 94; Elinor, 94; Hugh, 20; Isaac, 39; Isabel, 94; John, 94; Lawrence, 87; Maude, 94; Mrs., 98; Usula, 94; William, 94; Sir William, 94
 Crosson, Bryon, 60
 Croughton, Widow, 59
 Crouk, Edward, 85
 Croupe, Hugh, 60
 Crowe, Rev. Thomas, 13
 Crowther, Robert, 63
 Crowton, Janyn de, 92
 Croxton, James, 106; Rogerus, 92; Thomas, 30
 Crue, Thomas, 16, 46, 51
 Crump, Hugh, 85
 Crumpton, James, 119; —, 120
 Cryer or Cryor, Hugo, 93; Johannes, 83
 Cumberbirch, R., 66
 Cunliffe, Foster, 106
 Currie, Dr., 28; Dr. James, F.R.S., 28
 Curren, Richard, 65
 Curtise, Roger, 54
 Curvin, Mr., 116
 Cwesham, Johannes de, 63

D

Dacres, Col. Sir Thomas, 18
 Dalby, Henry, 20
 Dale, Peter, 42
 Dalton, Ralph, 49
 Dampoot, Damporte or Dawnport, Hugh, 53, 61; John, 68; Mr., 76; Nicholas, 51; William, 61, 53
 Dane, Thomas, 92
 Daneport, Roger de, 16
 Danes, —, 87, 88
 Daniel or Daniell, Captain, 17; Jane, 120, 121; John, 30, 89, 90, 91, 99, 100, 119, 120, 121; Captain John, 85; Mrs., 71; Richard, 90; Roger, 51; Thomas, 30, 32; Sir William Duckenfield, Bart., 105, 106
 Dannatt, Wm., 86
 Danny, William, 98
 Darcy, Lewis, 18
 Darcy of Chich, Baron, 35; see also Savage
 Darrowe, Rich., 59
 Darwell or Darwall, Charles, 113; Ralph, 50; Richard, 113; Thos., 98
 Daubeney, Daubney, Daubney or Dawbney, Anthony, 42, 49, 51; Elizabeth, 42, 49, 51
 Daves or Daues, John, 111; Ralph, 119

Davenport, Davenport or Dauenport, Anne, 22; Christopher, 113; Davies, 106; Edward, 107; Ellen, 107; George, 30; Hugh, 85; John, 30, 53, 98, 106, 113; Sir John de, 102; Peter, 30; Sir Peter, 106; Radulphus de, 93; Randall, 48, 51, 61; Randle, 46, 63, 113; Richard, 106, 117; Robertus de, 92; Thomas, 42; William, 40, 42; —, 30
 David ap Edneved, 6
 Davidson, William, 63
 Davies or Davis, Elizabeth, 117; George, 67; Henry, 30; Captain J. P., 26; John, 30, 87; Richard, 28; Will., 59
 Davy or Davis, Howell, 117; John, 60, 63
 Dawbrichocote, Col. Sir Thomas, 18
 Dawne, Richard, 42
 Dawney, Sir John, 61
 Dawson, Widd., 111
 Daywell, Johannes, 92
 Deal, Thomas, 50
 Dean or Deane, Henry, 88; Sir (Rev.) Jo., 24; John, 95; Sir Matthew, 66; Ralph, 50; Rebecca, 108; Richard, 60, 117; Samuel, 108; Thomas, 63; Thos., 59; Widow, 59; —, 10, 59
 Decker, Thomas, 86
 Dedwode, Johannes, 92
 Delahay, Richard, 40; Robert, 68
 Delamer or Del Mere, Rt. Hon. George Booth, Lord, 30; T., 32
 Dellacy, Sir Thos., 97
 Delves, Henrie, 114; Sir Henry, 119; Sir Thomas, Bart., 30
 Den, Richard, 117
 Denham, Mr., 116
 Dennall, Richard, 110
 Denny, Agnes, 32; Wm., 32
 Denson or Dennsonn, Moses, 67; Rich., 98; Robert, 116; Thomas, 116
 Denton, Mr., 88
 Denzell, Anne, 79; John, 79
 Derby, Earls of, 6, 30, 53, 56, 83, 84; Edward, Earl of, 42, 65; Henry, Earl of 85; William, Earl of, 30
 Derwentwater, "Mounsier" John, 2
 Derwent, Mr., 2
 Despensers, The, 21
 Detwerto, John, 60
 Devias or Devyas, Ralph, 60, 65
 Dicus, Widdow, 119
 Dickasse, Wm., 85
 Diddesbere, Hugo, 92
 Dinnocke, George, 111
 Disteele, Jordan de, 16
 Ditton, Geoffery de, 1
 Dixon, Captain, 18
 Dobb or Dobbes, Roger, 11, 12
 Doblelai, Ameria, 115; Eva, 115; German, 115
 Dodd or Dod, Hughe, 117; Randal, 60; Randalph, 30; Randle, 86; Richard, 13; Sarah, 87; Thomas, 13, 106
 Dodge, Peter, 87
 Dodsworth, Roger, 79
 Doe, Thomas, 106
 Dolbye, Richard, 28
 Domoben, Hamlet, 68; Robert, 68
 Domville or Domville, Edward, 30; Gilbert, 113; John, 114; Sir Will., 30
 Done, Edward, 30; Jane, 66; Rauffe, 113
 Donfoul, Roger, 93
 Donne, Johannes, 92; John, 32
 Dorset, Earl of, see Saokville
 Dove, Widd., 98

Downes or Dounes, Rev. Andrew, 38; Edward, 30; Robert de, 16; Roger, 113; William, 116
 Drake, Randle, 45; Robert, 48, 53; Thomas, 48; William, 106; —, 65
 Drinkwater, Arnold, 3; Jo. or John, 3; Nath., 3; Peter, 2, 3; Rafe, 3; Raph, 86; Thomas, 3; Wm., 85
 Ducker, Rev. Prebendary Charles, 8
 Duckenfield, Duckenfeilde, Dokenfeld or Dokynfield, John, 40, 46; Sir Rob., 30; Willm., 113
 Dugdale, William, 78
 Dumall, Widdow, 111
 Dunbabin, Mr., 31; Rich., 119
 Duncalf, George, 63; John, 64
 Duning, Peter, 87, 88
 Durton, Alice de, 109
 Dutton, Hugh de, 15, 103; John, 60, 52, 63; Canon John, 112; Juliana, 42; Lawrence, 46; Lord of (see Gerard), 30; Peter, 30, 65; Piers, 40, 42; Sir Piers or Peres, 42, 46, 49, 61, 63, 65; Ralph, 42, 53, 64, 65; Richard, 74; Robert, 68; Thomas, 81; Thomas de, 42
 Dwerres, William, 63
 Dyoon, William, 42
 Dyeonson, Johannes, 92
 Dyer, Sir Edward, 120
 Dymoke, W., 9

E

Earl, William, 50
 Earwaker, Mr., 22, 43, 72, 104
 Easkinn, Thos., 98
 Easum, Thos., 71
 Eaton, Edward, 28; Geo., 66, 67, 71; George, 106; Mr., 116; Thomas, 20; Widd., 111
 Eavan, Edward, 111
 Eccles, Thomas, 87
 Eccleston, Jno., 66
 Echehouse, Roger, 51
 Edelised, a Mercian Lady, 115
 Edge, Elizabeth, 87, 88; John, 87, 88; Rich., 24; Richard, 66; Tho., 87; Will., 59
 Edmondes, Thomas, 86
 Edw: ap Thomas, 6
 Edward, ap Griffith ap Richard ap Gwyn, 6
 Edward, ap Gruffith ap William, 6
 Edward, Prince of Wales, 112, 115
 Edwards or Edwardes, Davy, 111; Henry, 119; John, 21; Katherine, 119; Martha, 33, 34; Mrs., 111; Richard, 119; Samuel, 27; Tho., 34; Thomas, 71
 Egerton, Edgerton, Eggerton or Egyrton, Edward, 75, 76; Elizabeth, 77; Hugh, 35, 36, 37, 46, 47, 48; Sir Jo., 30; Jo de, 32; John, 77, 100, 106, 113; Margaret de, 32; Perrys, 72; Peter, 30; Philip, 63, 106; Sir Philip, 30, 54, 68; Philip de, 19, 32, 83; Ralph, 46, 63; Sir Ralph, 48; Ralph de, 94; Richard, 45; Sir Richard, 52; Sir Rowland, 76; Samuel, 106; Thomas, 52; see also Grey-Egerton
 Elooke, Francis, 106
 Elebank, John, 119
 Elles, Ann, 111
 Ellis, Angharad, 94; Mathew, 20; Matthew, 94; —, 117
 Ellyiott, Lieut., 18
 Elmsmer, Baron, see Bridgwater, Earl of
 Elsing or Elsyng, Cornet, 18; H., 8
 Elton, Johannes de, 92
 Emanson, Robert, 87
 Emfelde, Gryffyth, 53

English captives in North Africa, 44
 Entwissell, Ellis, 68
 Ersdale, Thomas, 117
 Esome, Widow, 59
 Essex, Countess of, 99, 120, 121; Earl of, 89; Robert, Earl of, 119, 120, 121
 Evans, Jane, 97; Mr., 116; Thos., 59, 97
 Ewes or Eves, Thomas, 75
 Ewwood, Thomas, 72
 Exeter, Bishop of (1419), 72
 Eyton, John, 65; Kenrick, 30; Thomas, 30

F

Fallowes, Falowes, Falous or Faloya, Henry, 65; Humphrey, 49, 53; John, 49, 53; Oliver, 42; Thomas, 92
 Farington, Chas., 59
 Farrar, Bernard, 66
 Farrell, William, 106
 Fauconberg, Thomas Belasyse, Viscount and Earl, 22
 Felowe or Fello, Sir (Rev.) John, 48, 60
 Fenwicke, Major, 17
 Fezacerley, Mr., 87
 Field, Dr., Bishop of Llandaff, 76
 Fienlies, Sir Roger, 92
 Finch, Captain, 9
 Finchet, Ralph, 70
 Firmlo, Rich., 98
 Fisher or Fysshar, Edward, 27, 111; Jane, 21; Riocardus, 93; Thos., 98; William, 7, 11, 12, 14, 21
 Fitton, Fitton or Fiton, Sir Edward, 60, 113; John, 46; Mr., 98; Thomas, 113
 Fitz-Alan, Richard, Earl of Arundel, 16
 Fitz-Alans, The, Earls of Arundel, 43
 Fitz-Nigel, William, Baron of Halton, 28
 Fitz-Williams, Cornet, 18
 Fleete, Ellen, 72; William, 99
 Fleetwood, John, 53
 Fleming, John, 98
 Fletcher, Flecher or Fleocher, Charles, 106; Col., 18; Janne, 98; Jas., 67; John, 27, 50, 117; Rauffe, 27; Robert, 53, 98; Robertus, 83; Thomas, 50; Thomas le, 92; Thos., 119; Rev. W. G. D., 92; William, 111; —, 26
 Flitte, Johannes de, 93
 Fluitt, Randle, 50, 71
 Foden, Martha, 108
 Fogg, Rev. Robert, 10
 Foll, Rev. Hugh, 65
 Ford or Forde, Rev. Frederick, 10, 33; William, 113
 Forest or Foreste, John, 53; Ralph, 51; Thomas, 51
 Forrer, Davyd, 103; Richard, 110; Robertus, 92; Professor Will., 24
 Foster, Robt., 71
 Foulcehurst, Francis, 40; Thomas, 40
 Foulkes or Foulks, Mr., 32; Robert, 106
 Foulshirst or Fulshurst, Lady Joan of, 79; Robert, 114; Thomas, Sir Thomas, 66
 Foxe, John, 111; Thomas, 27
 Foxley or Foxly, Anne, 108; George, 110; Rich., 119
 Francis, Sir George, 80
 Freckelton, Mr., 86
 Freville, Sir Baldwin, 21
 Frith, J. N., 87
 Frodaham, John, 66; Peter, 106; Thos., 67; —, 30
 Frost, John, 42
 Fryer, Thomas, 67
 Fuller, Thomas, 44; —, 86

Furnyvall, Furnewal or Furnevale, John, 46, 49; Ralph, 49; Ricardus, 92
Fytton or Fyton, Sir Edward, 63; G., 77; John, 48

G

Galloway, Mr., 28
Gamon, G. P., 8, 18; Gilbert P., 18
Gamull, Sir Francis, Bart., 57; William, 30, 31
Ganvil, Elinor, 94; Sir Francis, 94
Gande, Adam, 65
Gardiner, Gardener or Gardynier, Christopher, 68; Elizabeth, 68; Johannes, 92; Ralph, 40
Gare (Ayer), Edward, 72
Garfield, John, 98
Garner, J., 34; Thomas, 98
Garrett, Garrat or Garratt, Richard, 53; Thos., 71; —, 12, 66 Gaskell, Reginald, 51
Gastoyne, Richard, 117
Gastrell, Bishop, 12; Rev. Fra., 66
Gateshales, Reynold, 49
Geaton, Widdow, 97
Geoffrey, the Dispenser, 103; the Hunter, 29; Reeve of Weaverham, 103; (de Aston), 103
George, Prince of Wales, 40
Germyn, Robert, 45
Gernons, Randle de, Earl of Chester, 102
Gerard, Gerarde or Gerrard, Charles, 30; Rt. Hon. Charles, Baron Gerard of Brandon, 30; Rt. Hon. Digby L., Baron of Gerards Bromley and Lord of Dutton, 30; General, 17; G., 70; Sir Gilbert, 23, 67, 70; Richard, 61, 103; Rye, 32; William, 33
Gerrye, John, 62
Getestathe, Reginald, 51
Gethyn, Hugh, 46
Geynes, John, 63
Gibbon, Captain, 18; Thos., 45
Gibson, Mrs., 117
Gifford, Col., 18
Gilbart, Thos., 98
Gilbert and Hugh, sons of Edard (Odard or Hudard), 29
Gillow, Mr., 31; Rev. Richard, 13
Gimber, Captain, 9
Glasier, Glaseor or Glaseour, Thomas, 30; William, 46, 53
Glaskyryon, Henricus, 92
Glasop, Henery, 98
Gleave, John, 30
Glegg, Glegge or Glegga, Edward, 30; Mr., 24, 25; William, 106, 111
Glendall or Glendole, Rev. John, 81, 82
Glover, Samuel, 106
Goane, William, 111
Goare, Col. Sir Thomas, 18
Goburn, Goburne, Golborne or Goldbourne, Richard, 46, 49, 53
Godbehere, Oliver, 46
Godfrey, Bart., 98
Godric, Dean of Donnington, 29
Gold, Sir Ed., 21; Margt., 21
Golden, Ricardus de, 92
Goldeston, Peyre, 46
Goldynge, Johannes, 55, 56; John, 56
Gomes, Peter, Cardinal, 109
Gondicur, Widd., 111
Goodfellow, 106; Thomas, 106
Goodman, William, 46, 60
Gore, Mrs., 71
Gough, John, 59

Grafton, Thomas, 45
Grange or Graunge, T., 53; Thomas, 72
Granlees, William, 113
Gravenor, Gravenor or Gravenour, Randle, 111; Richard, 61, 61, 63; Sir Thomas, 65; Widow, 117
Graves, Col., 9
Greatbaebe, Daniell, 97
Green or Greene, Edward, 106; Richard, 36; Thomas, 9; Ald. Thomas, 21; Widow, 59; William, 27; Wm., 7, 11
Greenhalgh, Elisabeth, 64; Katherine, 64; Thomas, 64
Gregg, Robert, 30
Gregorye, Peerea, 27; Widow, 59
Grene, Richard, 61; Roger, 61; Rev. Thomas, 65
Grensae, Robert, 103
Grevys or Greyves, George, 60; Oliver, 60
Grey, John de, 1, 104; "Justice" de, 33; Reginald de, 101; Reginald de, Baron of Wilton and Ruthin, 16
Grey (alias Jermyn,) John, 61
Grey de Ruthin, Lord, 86
Grey-Egerton, Sir P. de M., 15
Grice, John, 50; Richard, 67; Robert, 99
Griffie, John, 50
Griffin, or Gryffyn, son of Austin, 57; Edmund, 46; John, 46, 114
Griffith, Griffeth or Gryffeth, Ed., 119; John, 28; Lieut.-Col. Peter, 26, 27; Richard, 88, 98; Robert, 100; Samuel, 116
Griffith a (rap) Ithell, 6
Grigg, Hamlet, 99; Hamnet, 121
Grimesdich, Thomas, 31
Gropenall, Henricus, 92
Grovenor, Grosvenor or Grosvenour, Jane, 79; Ld., 17; Richard, 46, 63; Sir Richard, 119; Sir Robert, 79; Sir Robert, Bart., 106; Robert le, 102; Sir Robert le, 78; Thomas, 31, 113, 114; Sir Thomas, 53, 54, 92; Sir Thomas, Bart., 31
Gruffith ap William, 6; John, 6
Grymsditch or Grymsdyoh, T., 17; W., 50; William, 53
Gryse, Hugh, 90; John, 90
Gudd, Jane, 117
Guest, Thomas, 50; Widow, 66
Guile, Henry, 25
Guizot, 80
Guldeyn, John, 72
Gwyn or Gwynn, Mrs., 59; —, 25, 26
Gybon, Johannes, 92
Gyles, Captain, 27
Gyllam, Thomas, 46
Gylle, Robert, 104
Gymson, Richard, 46
Gyztre, Rev. T., 63
Gythen, Joan, 72

H

Hackson, Ralph, 65
Hackson, Sir N., 48
Haderseche, John, 63
Haggard, Rich., 98
Hale, Richard de, 38
Halewoode, William, 52
Halforde, Robert, 63
Hall, H., 1; James, 45, 52, 56, 103, 106; John, 71; Jos., 50; Mary, 71; Peter, 66, 67; Randle, 50; Robert, 52; Samuel, 116; Thomas, 67, 71, 106, 106; William, 67; Wm., 71
Hallam, the historian, 80; John, 97
Halliwell, George, 85

- Hallmark or Hallmarke, Hannah, 34; James, 34; Margaret, 34; Mary, 34; Mr., 39
 Hallwood, Hallwoode or Hallwod., Christopher, 99; Jo, 59; Mr., 97; Thos., 98
 Halsall, Anne, 95; Thomas, 95
 Halys, Thomas le, 92
 Hammon, Jno., 50
 Hamond, Thomas, Prior of Combermere Abbey, 49
 Hampden, —, 80
 Hampton, John, 87, 88
 Hameon, Thomas, 92
 Hancock, Roger, 119
 Hancockson, Robertus, 92
 Hand or Hande, Mode, 28; Widow, 117; William, 28
 Handcooke, William, 113
 Handforde, Alice, 102
 Hankey or Hanky, Jo., 24; Widd., 98
 Hanson or Hansonn, James, 42; John, 98
 Harcotte, Thomas, 46
 Hardware, Henry, 106; S., 34
 Hardwyke, William, 52
 Hardy, Richard, 51
 Harley, Edward, Lord, 80; Henrietta Cavendish, Lady, 80; Lady Margaret Cavendish, 80; Robert, Earl of Oxford, 80
 Harper, Margaret, 99; Rich., 20; Widow, 27
 Harpur, Dulcibella, 7, 69; Hen., 82; Henry, 7, 69; Sir Henry, Bart., 106
 Harrall, James, 60
 Harrington, Earls of, 79
 Harris, Thomas, 50
 Harrison, Gwen, 117; John, 27, 71; Matthew, 28; Mr., 22; Rich., 50; Richard, 86; Samuel, 106; Stephen, 44; Thomas, 50, 117
 Harron, Rev. William, 118
 Harryson (alias Johnson), John, 68; Thomas, 68
 Hartt, John, 59
 Harvey, Harvy or Harvie, Ald'n, 26; Rev. Christopher, 56; Mr., 111; Robert, 58; Robt., 27; Thomas, 111; Widow, 117; Dr. William, 76
 Hary, Mrs., 85
 Haseirig, —, 80
 Hasell, Richard, 65
 Haselhurst, Randal, 61
 Haslehurst, John, 67
 Haselwall, Agnes de, 35; Nicola de, 35; Sir Patrio de, 35
 Haselwell or Haselwelle, Patrio de, 1, 16
 Haslo, Henry, 97
 Hassall, Humphrey, 48; Ralph, 46; Robert, 46; William, 46
 Hastings, Sir George, 75
 Haswell, John E., 105
 Hatton, Adam de, 103; Sir Christ'r., Lord Chancellor, 21; John, 67, 71; Rev. John, 10; Henry, 111; Lawrence, 32, 49; Lieut.-Col., 18; Mr., 31, 98; Randell, 27; Rev. Richard, 81; Thomas, 49, 66; Thos., 50; Widdow, 21
 Haughton, Robert, 34; Thomas, 63
 Hauke, Hugh, 52
 Haukshaw, Thos., 119
 Havering, John de, Archdeacon, 107; John de, Seneschal of Gascony, 107; Rev. Richard, 109
 Hawkeleigh, Rev. William de, 110
 Hawkins, Mr., 97
 Hawkshaw, Richard, 85
 Haworth, Henry, 106
 Hay, Richard de, 103; Robert, 49
 Hayneon, Willelmus, 92
 Hayston, Thomas, 48
 Hayward, Johannes, 92
 Haslehurst, Joseph, 116
 Heal, —, 76
 Heath, Rich., 66; Robert, 106; Thos., 98; William, 110; Wm., 110
 Heavell, —, 71
 Heays, John, 71; Wm., 71
 Hebert, Thomas, 51
 Heddesley, Robertus de, 93
 Hedingsley, James, Guienne King-at-Arms, 87
 Heitter, Col. Sir John Phillem, 18
 Held or Helde, William, 63; Wm., 85
 Heles, Thomas de, 93
 Helewise, Prioress of Chester, 109
 Hellesby, Helsbey or Hellaby, Adam de, 1, 23, 43; Alan de, 21, 23; Brydgett, 58; Geoffrey, 32; Henry, 62; James, 71; Joan or Jane, 58; John, 49, 58, 71; Josceram de, 43; Lord of, 43; Marjorie (see Knowles), Pyers de, 23; Rafe, 70; Randle or Randal, 58, 67, 70, 71; William de, 16; Sir William de, 21; Wm., 67, 71; —, 50
 Hels (? Hulse), Richard, 62
 Hemans, Mrs., 70
 Hemington, Sir Robert de, 93
 Hemingway, —, 10
 Henschman, Mr., 116
 Henry the Little, 103
 Henshaw, Captain, 18; Edward, 117; John, 40
 Hereford, Bishop of, 109
 Hernes, Roger, 103
 Herreson, Johannes, 92
 Heskeith, William, 53
 Heth or Hetha, Canon Nicholas de, 109; Robertus, 92; Thomas, 60; Uriah, 46
 Hether (? Hetton—Hatton), Richard, 23
 Hewell, Ann, 71; Thomas, 117; Thos., 71
 Hewitt, Will., 34
 Heyne, —, 97
 Heyward, Thomas, 99
 Heywood, Rev. Rowland, 66
 Hiekes, Thos., 59
 Hickfield, Rich., 66
 Hickoke, Rich., 60
 Hickson or Hicksenn, Jo., 59; John, 98
 Higginson, Higginson, Higginson or Hygonson, Godfrey, 63; Hugh, 64; Mr., 111; Randle, 86; Thos., 66
 Higham, Richard, 71
 Highton (Huyton), Widow, 50
 Hignett, Hamnett, 67; Rd., 71
 Hill, George, 117; Robert, 48; William, 50
 Hilton or Hillton, John, 86; Richardus, 93; William, 98
 Hind or Hynde, John, 50, 60
 Hitchin, Geo., 24
 Hitchins, John, 87, 88
 Hoborofte, Sir Thomas, 68
 Hobeon, Otewell, 50
 Hookenhall, Hokenhill, Hockenhill or Hokynhull, Oroner Henry, 40, 48; Henry, 34, 46, 61; John, 34, 81; Captain John, 85; Richard, 34; —, 34
 Hocknell, John, 113, 114
 Hodgekinson, Hogekeynson or Hoggekynson, James, 40; John, 46; Richard, 63; Thomas, 92
 Hodgson, Jo., 87
 Hogg, Thomas, 54
 Hogh, Johannes del, 92; Thomas, del, 92
 Holbroke or Holebrook, Henry, 23, 24; John, 24, 71; Jn., 49; Raphe, 23, 24
 Holbyrberg, Stephen, 9
 Holdfield, John, 60
 Holdforde, Elizabeth, 42; George, 42; Sir John, 42

Holdforth, Elizabeth, 50; George, 50; John, 50; Holding, Richard, 119
 Hole, Richard, 63; S. R. Dean of Rochester, 78
 Holes, Alianore, 79; Andrew (Andreas), Archdeacon of York, 79; David, 77, 78; Edmund, 79; Hugh, 77; Sir Hugh, 78, 79; Isabella, 79; Joan, 79; John, 77, 78; Richard, 78, 79; Robert, 77, 78; Thomas, 79; William, 79
 Holeys, Andrew, 79
 Holford, Alexander, 106; Blanche, 52; Edwin, 52; Ellen, 52; George, 63; Sir George, 51; Sir John, 49, 51; Margery, 52; Peter, 81; Rev. Peter, 81; Philip, 52; Rev. Thomas, 81; —, 34
 Hollinshead, Hollenshead, Holysaead, Hugh, 40, 68; John, 45; June, 108; Ralph, 32
 Holynworth or Hollynworth, Andrew, 65; Hugh, 65; Hugo, 92
 Holland, Francis, 116; John, 65; Jno., 71; Mr., 25; William, 54
 Holles of Ifield, Denzill, 79; Dorothy (his wife), 79
 Hollis, A. H., 80; Anne, 79; Anne, wife of 1st Earl of Clare, 78; Denzill, 80; Denzill, Baron Holles, 79; Dorothy, wife of Baron Holles, 79; Elizabeth, wife of Earl of Kildare, 79; Elizabeth, wife of 2nd Earl of Clare, 79; Dame Elizabeth, 79; Ellinor, 79; Francis, 79; Admiral Sir Frecheville, 78, 80; Gervase, 78; Gilbert, 79; Gilbert, 3rd Earl of Clare, 79; Grace, 16; Grace, wife of 3rd Earl of Clare, 79; Lady Henrietta Cavendish, 80; Jane, 79; John, Baron Houghton and 1st Earl of Clare, 78; John, 2nd Earl of Clare, 79; John, 4th Earl of Clare, Marquis of Clare, and Duke of Newcastle, 79, 80; Margaret, wife of 4th Earl of Clare, 79; Sir Thomas, 79; Sir William, Lord Mayor of London, 79
 Hollys, Sir William, 79
 Hollywell or Hollewell, Richard, 119; Thos. 50
 Holme or Hulme, Agnes, 3; Alderman, 26, 27; Christopher, 68; Isabel de, 94; Jo., 3; Randolph, 34; Robert de, 94; William, 68
 Holmes, Thomas, 28
 Holt or Holte, Edward, 42; John, 72; Sir Lister, Bart., 106; William, 53
 Holynton, Roger, 104
 Holynworth or Hollynworthe, Andrew, 65; Hugh, 65; Hugo, 92
 Holy or Holis, Herbert de (or del), 78; Robert de, 78; Yonas de, 78
 Home, John, 5
 Hondford, Richard, 61
 Honford, Ellen de, 112; Hugh, 42; Johanni, 93; John de, 112
 Hopley, William, 117
 Hopwood or Hopwoode, John, 50; Ralph, 50; Reginald, 50; William, 50, 60
 Hordron, James, 50
 Horobbin, Dorothea, 108
 Horseman, Sir William, 63
 Horton, Job, 24
 Hough or Houghe, Richard, 63; Will'm, 113; —, 50
 Houghton, Baron, see Hollis; John, 106, 116; Sheathe, 27
 Hoult, Harry, 50
 Houlston, Capt., 111
 Howard, Dr., LL.D., 58
 Howell ap John ap Harrys, 6
 Hoyer, Edward, 98; Thos., 98
 Hugh, son of Anscheth, 103

Hughes, Davie, 117; Geamer, 111; Isaacke, 28; John, 50; Owen, 111; Robert, 111; Thomas, 7; Tudor, 86; Widow, 27, 117; William, 111
 Hughson, Edw., 50
 Hulme, Agnes de, 112; Hugh, 63; Lawrence, 63; Randle, 2, 3; Robert de, 112; (or Hulmo) Rev. Robert de, 104; Rev. —, 22
 Hulse, Rev. John, 79; Margaret, 78; Margery, 72; Richard, 78; Thomas, 72, 114; Sir William de, 78
 Hulton, Capt., 31, 32; Edward, 26, 27; George, 28; Jo., 34
 Humphrey, Humphrye, or Humphreys, Thomas, 82, 116
 Humston, Hughe, 117; Richard, 72
 Huncote, Giles, 49
 Hunt or Hunte, George, 106; John, 66; Randell, 97; Capt. Thomas, Constable of Chester Castle, 34
 Huntington, William, 63
 Hurdylton, James, 104
 Hurrell, Thomas, 104
 Hurleston, John, 31, 34; Richard, 72
 Hurst, Ralph, 51; Thomas, 40
 Hurstfield, Wm., 50
 Husband, Edward, 8
 Huson, Thomas, 21; Widow, 117
 Hutchens, John, 88
 Hutchons, Thomas, 27
 Hutfield, Rogerus de, 93
 Huxley, George, 68, 84, 85; Thomas, 84, 85
 Hyde or Hydde, Cicely de, 112; Edward, 34; Geo., 66, 67, 71; George, 66, 106; Johannes, 92; Petrus de, 93; Randle de, 112; Robert, 113; William, 71
 Hyne, Edward, 40; Philippus, 93; Robert, 65

I

Ieuen, Randall, 72
 Ince, Alderman, 27, 31; Mrs., 86; Nicholas, 116; Rand., 59; Sam., 97; Widow, 116; William, 58, 111
 Inglefeeld or Inglefeld, Michael, 98; Widow, 117
 Ireland, Anne, 90; Rev. Edmund, 81; George, 42, 51, 72, 89, 90; John, 59, 90, 100; Margaret, 90; Robt., 50; Thomas, 60, 100
 Irvine, Wm. Fergusson, 6, 36, 46, 54

J

Jackson, Dr., 2; Joseph, 71; Josiah, 113; Lawrence, 99; Richard, 71; Thomas, 27; Wm., 86
 James, Richard, 20; William, D.D., 90
 Jameson, John, 50
 Jameson, Henry, 68
 Janion or Janyon, Henry, 20, 28
 Janyons or Jannyns, John, 53; William, 63
 Jardine, Anne, 13; Captain David, 13
 Jebson, William, 60
 Jefferson, Lieut., 18
 Jeffery or Jeffrey, Master, 99
 Jenkin, Morres, 85
 Jenkinson, William, 42
 Jennien, Rich., 50, 66; Robert, 50; Thomas, 50
 Jensen, Thomas, 63
 Jerrard, Richard, 45
 Jarvis, John, 106; Samuel, 106
 Jesson, Pudsey, 106
 Jevan ap Jevan, 6
 Jevan ap John ap Richard, 6
 Joan, Lady of Foulshurst, 79
 Jocker, Thos., 98

Jodrell or Joyderell, Edmond, 34; Mr., 96;
 Roger, 42, 49
 John ap John ap Ellis, 6
 John ap Richard ap Ellis, 6
 John ap Roger, 6
 John ap William ap John, 6
 John the Clerk, 103
 John the Noble, 115
 Johnes, Charles, 117; David, 98; Robt. 14;
 Widow, 116, 117
 Johnson, Ann, 102; Captain, 18; Christopher,
 54; Henricus, 92; Hugh, 53; J., 71; Jo.,
 34; John, 60, 66, 67, 111; Mr., 76; Rev.
 Mr., 111; Ralph, 23, 50; Rich., 66;
 Robert, 53; Thomas, 12, 40; Widow, 59;
 Will'm, 50; Wm. 71; Ensigne Wm., 27
 Jollife, William, 60, 73
 Jones, Alexander, 98; Charles, 85; Rev.
 Charles, 64; Colonel, 9, 17; Eavan, 27;
 Gerrad, 119; John, 106; Col. Michael, 8;
 Mrs., 85; Ric., 27; Robert, 20, 119; Roger,
 27; Tho., 32; Thomas, 64; Thos., 59;
 Widow, 27; Will., 59; William, 116; Wm.,
 85, 119; Rev. Wm., 71
 Jonnes, Thos., 98; William, 98
 Jonson or Jonsone, Johannes, 92; Richard,
 97; Widow, 110
 Jordan ap Madoc ap Eynon, 19
 Josceram of Hellesby, 43
 Jooslyn, Cecily, 72; John, 72
 Joynson or Joinson, John, 97; Rich'd., 57;
 Thomas, 20; Widd., 98; —, 87
 Juddeson, Johannes, 92; Thomas, 92
 Julyan, Cornet, 18

K

Kabon, Hugh, 63
 Keene, Samuel, 34
 Kelie, Thomas, 117
 Kelley, Hugh, 67; Will., 6
 Kelale or Kelshalle, Johannes de, 92, 93
 Kellsall or Kellsall, John 72; Richard, 23;
 William, 87
 Kelshawe, Ralph, 60
 Kenyon or Kenion, John, 117; Lord, 53;
 Roger, 53; Thomas, 53
 Kent, John, 34
 Kentman, Rich., 98
 Kerworthy, Thomas, 92
 Kehill, Johannes, 92; Willelmus, 92
 Key, Richard, 50
 Keyley, William, 111
 Kidington, John, 112
 Kilbery, Ranulphus, 92
 Kildare, Elizabeth, wife of the Earl of, 79;
 Wentworth, Earl of, 79
 Kilmory, Lord, 111
 Kinderton, Baron of, 27; Peter Venables,
 Baron of, 101
 Kings of England—
 Charles I., 8, 9, 17, 79, 80
 Charles II., 41
 Edward I., 15, 43
 Edward III., 107
 Henry VI., 86
 James I., 17
 James II., 17, 38
 William III., 17, 38, 39
 King, Widow, 28, 59, 60; Will., 59; William,
 34, 60, 87
 Kingslegh, Adam de, 99
 Kingsley, Agnes de, 57; Richard de, 57
 Kingston, Earl of, 79
 Kinsey, Edw., 59
 Kinton, Viscount, 30
 Kirkes, Thomas, 106
 Kithley or Kytthey, John, 51; T., 51

Knee, Barnard, 111; Peter, 27; Richard, 111;
 Thomas, 111; Widd., 111
 Knockin, Lord of, 72
 Knolles, Henricus, 93; Willelmus, 92
 Knowles, Ales, 82; Frances, 111; James, 85;
 Jno., 71; Dame Margery (alias Halseby),
 58; Willm., 50; Wm., 50, 67; —, 58
 Kyghley or Kyghly, John, 42, 49
 Kynardsey, John de, 107
 Kyngseley, Johanni de, 93
 Kynnesman, Johannes, 92
 Kyrke, Humphrey, 60

L

Lacy, Henry de, Earl of Lincoln, 16; Lord, 30
 Lacymouth, Major, 18
 Lagley, Patrick, 111
 Lake, Thomas, 87
 Lambe, John, 102; Katherine, 102
 Lancaster or Lancastre, Rev. James, 12;
 John, Prior of Launde, 46, 51, 63; Mr.,
 116; Richard, 104; Thomas, 71; Thos., 50
 Lancelyn or Lancelin, Agnes, 57; Elizabeth,
 75; Joan, 57; Robert, 57; Roger, 75;
 William, 57, 75
 (Landon, Letitia Elizabeth, afterwards Mrs.
 Maclean), L. E. L., 70
 Langford, George, 34
 Lankton, Alexander, 117
 Lant, Robert, 106
 Larcheton, Patrick de, 19
 Lardin, or Lardeyn, Dr., 88; Ricardus de, 93
 Larker, Thomas, 28
 Lascy, Edmund de, 1; Roger de, 103
 Lasley, Rich'd., 81, 88
 Latchford, Letitia, 22
 Latham or Lathum, Rev. Christopher, 81;
 Johannes de, 93; Joseph, 110; Thomas de,
 93; Willelmus de, 93
 Launcelyn or Launselin, William, 33, 63, 93
 Law, Rt. Rev. Geo. H., Bishop of Chester,
 21, 22, 83
 Lawe, Thomas de, 93
 Lawton, Chas. Bourne, 33; Gilbert, 71; John,
 113; Robert, 106; "Squire," 33; William,
 34
 Laysthorpe, Canon John de, 109
 Lea, Lawrence, 34; Richard, 64; Thomas, 34;
 Widow, 85, 117
 Lealand, Thomas, 117
 Leay, Thomas, 97
 Leicester or Leicitor, Peter, 114; Ralph, 40, 50;
 Will'm, 114
 Leche, J., 66; John, 82, 106; Philip, 92
 Leckenbye, Widow, 59
 Ledsham, Hamnet, 103; William, 54
 Lee, George, 52; Rev. George, 63; Rev.
 Hugh, 65; Sir John, 72; Raph, 60
 Leech, John, 34, 50
 Lecine, Edward, 111
 Leeving or Leuinge, Mr., 54; Ri., 58; —, 53,
 54
 Legh, Anthony, 68; Charles, 106; Edward, 34;
 Emma of, 33; George, 106; Humphrey,
 53; James, 99; James of, 33; John, 51,
 64; Sir John, 63; Madam, 33; Michael,
 53; Perea, Piers or Pierce, 49, 50, 51; Sir
 Perea, Pears or Piers, 51, 53, 64, 65; Peter,
 34, 42, 46, 49, 51, 106; Peter, M.P., 37,
 38; Richard, 34, 40, 46, 52, 68; Robert,
 51; Roger, 65; Thomas, 34, 68
 Leicester, Earl of, 83; Captain George, 75;
 Peter, 26, 27; Robert, Earl of, 90
 Leigh, Edward, 114; Lieut.-Col. Henry, 26;
 John, 113, 114; Mr., 119; Sir Peter, 106,
 113; Sir Piers, 65; Richard, 114; Roger,
 65; Thomas, 34, 113, 114; Will., 18, 59

Leighton, Peregrine, 59
 Lenthall, Hon. William, Speaker of the House of Commons, 8
 Leonard, Christiana, 22; Robert, 34; Sir Stephen, 22
 Lestrangle, Sir Baldwin, 72; Elizabeth, 72; Sir Fulke, 15; Margaret, 72
 Letyll, Thomas, 54
 Levy, Widd, 98
 Lewis or Lewys, Evan, 119; Helen, 20; Samuel, 21
 Ley, Rev. Hugh, 53; Rev. Jo., 24; John, 67; Thos., 6; William, 103
 Leyalton, Bartholomew, 104; Sir William, 103
 Leycester, Sir Pet., 34; Ralph, 34, 67, 70, 106; Sir Ralph, 72; William, 34
 Leyceour, John, 63; Piers, 63
 Lichfield, Bishop of, (1335) 107; (1368) 112; (1392) 112
 Lichfield (Leichfield), Earl of, 17
 Lightbordes, —, 97
 Linaker, Liniker, Linicar, or Lynicar, Henry, 25; Thos., 27; Widdow, 111, 119
 Lincoln, 79, 107; Henry de Lacy, Earl of, 16
 Lingley, —, 120
 Lippard, Andrew, 93; Lucy, 93; Nicholas, 93
 Lisle, G., 121
 Litherland, Edward, 34; Henry, 27; Ric., 27
 Lithuanians, Distressed, 45
 Littler or Littlor, Henr., 60; Rich, 98
 Littlemore, T., 66; Wm., 60
 Liverpooles, Tho., 67, 88
 Liversings, Wm., 113
 Llandaff, Dr. Field, Bishop of, 76
 Llead, Mrs. 50
 Llotde, David ap Rees, 6
 Lloyd, John, 85, 117; —, 62
 Locker, Richard, 103; Will., 59
 Loe, Thomas, 60
 London, Edmund Bonner, Bishop of, 81; Richard Vaughan, Bishop of, 25
 Looker, John, 119
 Lord, Major, 117; Richard, 119
 Lorkyn, Arthur, 63
 Lorum, Peter, 117
 Lostok, Richard de, 16
 Louge, Charles, 117
 Lounds, Ralph, 34
 Louthier, Captain, 18
 Louthian, Adjutant, 8, 17; Adj.-Gen., 9; Lieutenant, 17
 Lowe, Rev. Arthur, 68; Rev. John 56; Qtr., 18; Thomas, 92
 Lowndes, Richard, 106
 Lucas, Edward, 52
 Lucy, Sir Fulk, 34
 Lunt, Mr., 37, 38
 Lunte, John, 27
 Lutton —, 87
 Lye, Jacobus de, 93; Petrus de, 92; Robertus de, 93
 Lyle, Mr., 120
 Lymme, Henry de, 93
 Lyndall, Widow, 59
 Lyngley, Jeffrey, 20
 Lyson, —, 19
 Lytelore, Johannes, 92
 Lyttele, Johannes, 92
 Lytyll or Lytyle, Thomas, 37, 48

M

Maclesfield, Foresters of, 32; Rev. Jordan de, 107
 Machell, Myles, 111; William, 98, 117
 Mackay, Rev. John, 22
 Madder, Thomas, 28

Maddock or Maddockes, Thomas, 106, 111
 Madoe ap Eyncon, 19
 Madiok or Madocke, David, 70; Thos., 6
 Magdoole or Magduggell, Major, 18
 Maghull, Andrew, 95; Anne, 95; Richard, 95
 Mainwaring (13 different spellings used), Alderman, 53, 54; Anne, 58; Charles, 106, 113; Henrie, 113; Humphrey, 42; John, 49; Sir John, 54; Ph. 8; Randall, 114; Randle, 42, 63, 72, 77; Sir Randle, 52, 66; Robert, 53, 63, 68; Roger, 106; Squire, 45; T., 71; Thomas, 34; Thomas de, 1; Sir Thomas, 34; Sir Thomas, Bart., 44; Warin de, 16; Sir Warren, 21; Sir William (or Sir John), 10; —, 34
 Maisterson, Margery, 52; Willm., 52
 Majendie, Rt. Rev. Henry William, Bishop Chester, 3, 16, 76
 Makam or Makham, 40; Elizabeth, 40; Katherine, 40; Robert, 40
 Malyn, Lawrence, 63
 Malbon or Malbone, Capt., 52; John, 98; Mr., 116
 Malby, Captain Henry, 85
 Malkin, —, 87
 Mallory, Mallorie or Malory, Capt., 27; Capt. Richard, 26; Mrs., 117; Thomas, Dean of Chester, 81
 Malone, William, 91
 Malpas (Malo Passu), David de, 1; Ellyn, 59; William de, 19
 Man, Widd., 111
 Man and the Isles, Lord of, 30
 Manley, George, 34; Johanni, 92; John, 59; Margaret, 71; Thomas, 77; William, 77
 Manning or Mannyng, Ralph, 46; Sir Randall, 65; Thomas, 45
 Mansfield, Lieut., 18
 Marbury or Marburie, Philip, 40; Richard, 40; Tho., 24; William, 24; Willm., 114
 Marceland or Marcland, Robert, 88
 Markey, Rich., 98
 Markham, Albert, 18; Robert, 116
 Marlborough, Duke of, 38
 Marley, Thomas de, 93
 Marlow, Rev. Dr., 97
 Marriott, Nicholas, 44
 Marrow, John, 50
 Marshall, Peter, 24
 Marshe, William, 117
 Marsheland or Marlland, Alexander, 52; Robt., 87
 Martin or Martyn, Captain, 18; John, 111; Rev. John, 6; Willermus, 92
 Mason, Mary, 60; Roger, 60
 Masey, Maseie, Masey (and four other renderings), Admiral, 15; Anne, 60; Edward, 34, 51; David, 53, 114; George, 34, 86, 113; Hamo de, 1, 15; Hanblot, 51; James, 60, 61, 119; Joan, 72; Johannes, 92; John, 42, 48, 52, 53, 60, 61, 63, 103, 114; Sir John, 60; John Stanley, 4, 106; Magdalene, 60; Piers, 60; Ricardus le, 92; Richard, 34, 68; Richard de, 15, 112; Richarde, 106, 114; Robert, 51; Roger, 40, 63; Thomas, 34, 42, 92; William, 34, 81, 84, 116; Sir Wm., 116; Rev. —, 15
 Master of St. John's Coll., Cambridge, 26
 Masterson, Mr., 98
 Matthew of Thurston, 1
 Mauwer, Joan, 38; Margaret, 38; William, 38
 Mawdesley, Rev. Thomas, 3
 Mawre, Robert, 63
 Maxsey, Mr. 98
 Maylor, Will., 59
 McHattie, —, 7

Meacock or Meacocks, George, 98; Nicholas, 117; Wm., 86
 Meare, William, 28
 Medewe, Hugo de, 92
 Mercer, Edw., 59
 Mere, Willelmus lo, 92
 Meredith, Meridith or Meriddith, John, 117; Peeter, 117; William, 106
 Merrick, Roger, 50, 71
 Meschin, William, 102, 103
 Messam, Henry, 85
 Meyre, John, 114
 Middleton or Midelton, Richard, 66; Ths., 50; William, 23, 28
 Miles of Pemberton, 6
 Miller, John, 27
 Millington, John, 84; Lieut.-Col., 18; —, 34
 Milner or Millner, John, 50, 53; Ralph, 67; Richard, 50, 67; Robert, 111; —, 66
 Milnes, Saml., 50
 Minshall or Minshall, And., 59; Sir Edward, 34; Mr., 39; Randle, 38, 119; Raph, 117; Thomas, 34; —, 34
 Mitchell, Richard, 27
 Moberley or Moburley, Ricardus, 92; Widow, 71
 Modesley or Modsley, Richard, 9; T., 70; Thos., 50, 66
 Moclowe, Canon Roger de, D.C.L., 110
 Moeltes, Bertram de, 16
 Mohun, Lord, 30
 Molis, Bertram de, 1
 Molyneux or Mollinex, Cecily, 72; Elizabeth, 72; Isabell, 113; Jane, 72; John, 72; Margaret, 72; Sir Richard, 72; Robert, 72; Sir William, 61
 Moneley, —, 10
 Monexfelde, John, 65
 Monkefield, Henry, 111
 Monkysfeld, Thomas, 103
 Monning, Ralph, 42
 Montague, "Master" James, 18
 Montalt or Monte Alto, Ralph de, 93; Robert de, 16; Roger de, 1, 33
 Moore, Alfred, 114, 116, 118; William, 75, 85
 Morall, Thomas, 49
 More, John, 46; Robert, 48; Sir Thomas, 49
 Moreton or Moorton, Alice, 40, 53; captain, 18; John, 113; Thomas, 119; —, 34
 Morgan, Chas., 13; Edward, 106; Lieut., 18; Richard, 117; William, 40, 41
 Morgell, Mrs., 98; Ralph, 34; Raph, 67
 Morley, Cornet, 18; William, 92
 Morrayne, Mrs. 27
 Morrey, Mr., 110
 Morris, Morice, Morres, Mores, Mores or Morrees, Benjamin, 113; Canon, 5, 9, 11, 12; George, 86; John, 86; Major, 18; Mr., 110; Owen, 27; Robert, 60; Thomas, 67, 113; Thos., 71; Widdow, 86
 Mort, William, 111
 Morton, Alice, 46, 49
 Mosley or Moseley, Oswald, 84; Widow, 27, Will., 97
 Moss or Mosse, Ralph, 60; Rauffe, 27; Richard, 66, 72; Samuel, 50
 Mostyn, Mostin or Mosten, Capt., 116; Col., 60; Elizabeth, 70; John, 46; Roger, 34, 70; Sir Thomas, Bart., 106; Archdeacon William, 70
 Motquin (? Moterham or Mottrant, John de, 16
 Mottershead or Mottershed, Marie, 103; Thomas, 27, 63
 Mottram or Mottrun, Christ., 59; Reynold, 68

Moulson, John, 105; Lady, 105; Thomas, 105; Alderman Sir Thomas, 105
 Mounford, Mr., 28
 Mouson, Robt., 60
 Mowbray, Thomas de, Earl of Nottingham, 78
 Moyle, Randle, 72; Richard, 72
 Mulgrave, Earl, 79
 Mulneton Antrop de, 103
 Murry, Robt., 113
 Musgrave, Major-Gen., Sir Philip, 18
 Museum, Count of Lavana, William, son of, 104
 Mustel, Adam, 1
 Myddelhurst, Johannes de, 93; Thomas de, 93
 Myler, Robert, 51
 Mynshaw or Mynshawe, John, 68; Thomas, 56
 Mynshall or Mynshall, Edward, 46, 48, 51, 61, 63; Richard, 114; Robert, 65

N

Nangreave, J., 71; John, 71; Margaret, 71; R., 71; Rich., 50, 66; T., 66
 Navesby, Rev. William de, 109
 Needham or Nedam, Hon. John, 106; Robert, 42; Thomas, 34
 Neese, Robertus, 83
 Nestum, Hugh de, 103
 Netherton, Robert de, 16
 Nevell, Peter, 52
 Newcastle, Duke of, 70; John, Duke of, 80
 Newhall, John, 63
 Newport or Newp't, Henry, 98; Thomas de, Abbot of St. Werburgh's, 112; Widow, 59
 Newton or Neuton, George, 51; Humphrey, 40; Hugh, 60, 63; Rev. Peter, 10; William, 63
 Nicholls, Hugh, 87, 88; Mr. 16; Robert, 98; Thos., 45
 Nicholson, Oth., 90; William, 81
 Nickals, Hugh, 88
 Nickson, Raph, 98
 Nield, Robert, 116
 Nigel, son of Anscoot, 29
 Nixon, —, 20, 86
 Norbery, Norberye or Norbury, John, 62, 63; Willelmus, 92
 Norman, M., 71
 Norrays, Emma le, 84; Henry le, 84
 Norris or Norres, Alan le, 35; Edward, 51, 89; John le, 35; Nicola le, 35; Thomas, 35, 36, 37, 103, 104; Sir William, 35, 36, 56; —, 51
 Norwich, Bishop of, 104
 Nottingham, Thomas Mowbray, Earl of, 78; William de, 112
 Notyrayle, Robert, 103
 Nuhall, Ralph, 65
 Nutter or Nuttor, Rev. John, Dean of Chester, 95; Mr., 113
 Nyxon, Richard, 49

O

Ockleg, Rev. Richard de, 102
 Odars, Mrs., 27
 Offley, Ald. Hugh, 21
 Ogilby, John, 41
 Okell, John, 72
 Old Pretender, James, the, 39
 Oldfield or Oldfeld, John, 40, 42, 52, 64; Leatwich, 34; Somerford, 34
 Oldham, —, 37
 Opie, Mrs., 70
 Orme, The Misses, 22
 Ormerod, Mr., 1, 10, 16, 22, 28, 35, 64
 Ormestone, Richard, 59

Orrage, Widow, 28
 Orreby, John de, 16; Thomas de, 16
 Orrenge, Orange, Oranges, Edwardes, 28;
 Peter, 60; Richard 111
 Orton, Phillip, 111
 Osburn, John, 44
 Otuell, —, 53
 Ouerton, Richardus, 92
 Oufe, John, 111
 Oullton, Richard, 72
 Outerhead, Robt., 119
 Over, Vicar of, 17
 Owen, Ann, 63; Anne, 60; Humphrey, 60,
 63; John, 97; John (alias Jenkin), 61;
 Mrs., 98; Thos., 71
 Owens, Widd., 97
 Owton, Randle, 86
 Oxford, Earl of, 77; Elis., wife of John, 15th
 Earl of, 21; John, Earl of, 60, 63; John,
 6th Earl of, 79; John, 15th Earl of, 21;
 John, 16th Earl of, 21; Joseph, 66;
 Margt., wife of John, 16th Earl, Robert,
 Earl of, 80

P

Packe, Mr., 60
 Paget, Sir William, 84
 Pale, James, 59
 Palin, Richard, 85
 Palmer, Barton, 90
 Paroensers, of Kingsley, 16
 Parker, Mr., 88; Robert, 51; Sir Tho., 31
 Parnell or Parnel, Thomas, 97; Wm., 119
 Parr or Parre, Gilb't, 33; William, 52; Will'm,
 25; Wm., 71
 Parry Andrew, 111; (or Perry) John, 23
 Parson of Astburie, 113
 Parson, John, 50, 71
 Parsons, Thomas, 45, 53
 Partington, Sheriff, 53; Thomas, 34
 Partridge, Sam., 59
 Patrick or Patherie, Robert, 1
 Patten, Peter, 76; Thomas, 106
 Payn or Payne, Hugh, 93; Nicholas, 93;
 Richard, 93; Robt., 27; Thomas, 27
 Paynter, John, 106
 Pearsall, Capt., 27; Capt. Edmund, 26
 Pearson, Rt. Rev. Df. John, Bishop of
 Chester, 30, 34; Myles, 117; Widow, 117
 Pecoock, Alice, 66; Thomas, 66
 Peeires, William, 27
 Peeke (? Peck), Isabella, 65; Sir Thomas, 65
 Peirson, Cornet, 18
 Peckerstall, Johannes, 92
 Pelham, Grace, 79; Thomas, 79, 80; Sir
 Thomas, Baron, 79
 Pelliton, John, 50
 Pemberton, Clemon, 111; George, 59; Hugh,
 54; Nicholas, 20; Rich., 119; Richard,
 117; Widdow, 86, 98; Wm., 110
 Penke, Ralph, 64
 Penkethman, Hamnet, 72; Richard, 72
 Pennington, Dr. Allan, 35
 Percy, William de, 103
 Perkins, William, 86
 Perrin, James, 44
 Perry, Edward, 85; Rev. Peter, 13
 Persall, Captinne, 98
 Philip II., King of Spain, 77
 Philippa, Countess of Warwick, 1
 Philips, Sir Robert, 75, 76
 Philippes, Wm., 119
 Philipps, Humfrie, 26; Thomas, 25
 Phillips, Henr., 24; Mr., 59
 Piton, John, 16

Pick or Picke, John 18, 116; Ralph, 98
 Pickering, C., 66; Jonathan, 32; Rev. Mr.,
 66; Robert, 35; Wm., 66
 Pickern, John, 71
 Pickton, John, 72
 Pie, Christopher, 117
 Pigot or Pigott, Robert, 64; Samuel, 66, 71
 Pike, Richard, 67; Widd., 71; William, 21,
 67
 Pillington, Widow, 111
 Pimlot, John, 106
 Pindar, Sir Rob., Bart., 35
 Pirinton (Pyrton), Edmund, priest of, 29
 Pirun, Hugh, 29
 Plankney or Planckney, Edward, 53, 65, 87
 Plant, Wm., 113
 Platt, Edward, 71; Rev. Ralph, 13; Richard,
 81
 Pleabin, John, 111
 Plessington, Fr., 12
 Plethin, Jane, 85
 Plimstone, John, 71; Rt., 66; Rbt., 50; Wm.,
 50
 Plinston, Widow, 27
 Plounger, William, 68
 Plumb, John, 66; Thomas, 66, 67
 Plumpton, J., 71
 Podington, Henry de., 93
 Pole, Alice de la, 65; Arthur, 10; Arturi, 65;
 Elizabeth, 10, 65; Eliath de la, 65; Isa-
 bella de la, 65; Johan (Joan), 10; Johan,
 65; John, 10, 63, 64, 65; Sir John, 10;
 Sir John de la, 65; William, 10, 64, 65;
 Wm., 11; Sir Wm., 10
 Polet Samuel, 67
 Pollington, John, 60
 Ponall, Robert, 40
 Ponte Philip de, 16; Robert de, 16
 Poole, James, 25; Sir James, 56; John, 113;
 Sir John, 65; Miss, 10, 65; Mr., 97; Widd.,
 98; William, 45
 Popes of Rome,
 Alexander IV., 104
 Boniface, VIII., 104
 Boniface IX., 112
 Clement V., 107
 Clement VI., 109, 110, 112
 Eugene, 79
 Gregory XI., 112
 Innocent VI., 109
 John XXI., 104
 John XXII., 107
 Nicholas IV., 104, 105
 Urban V., 112
 Urban VI., 112
 Port, Mr., 88
 Porter, Sir William, 92
 Portland, Brother of the Earl of, 17
 Potter, John, 40; Mr. 68
 Potts, Thomas, 116
 Poughton (?Poulton), Wm., 50
 Poulton, Alice, 67
 Powell or Powel, Rev. Dean, 67 Henry, 27;
 Hugh, 20; John, 117; Katherin, 111; Sir
 Thomas, 35; Widd., 98
 Power, Lieut., 18
 Pownall, William, 51
 Powys, Edward, 106; Thomas, 106
 Poyntz, Gen., 17; Major Gen., 8, 9
 Pradragh, John, 117
 Praers, Adam de, 103
 Preece, John, 98
 Preeers, Adam le, 57
 Premier Paramount Lords, 43
 Prempston (Prenton), William, 57
 Prenton, Thomas, 117
 Presse, Captain, 18; Thomas, 111

Prestland, Prestlond, or Prestelond, John, 63, 65; Mrs., 84; Katharine, 63; Randle, 63
 Pressions, Bryan, 110
 Price, Francis, 106
 Prichard, Mrs., 59
 Pricket or Prickett, George, 111, 117
 Pridaux, Sr. Thomas, 11
 Primrose, Henry, 85; John, 67
 Prince, Col., 17
 Prince-Regent, H.R.H. the, (1818), 21
 Prior, —, 80
 Prisse, Rich., 98
 Pritchley, Joseph, 66
 Privet, John, 46
 Probin, Mr., 98
 Proffett, Robt., 27
 Provence, Simon de, 15, 16
 Pickering, Lord Keeper, 99
 Pudderinghe, John, 27
 Pulford or Pooleford, Richard de, 101; Robert de, 16; Thomas, 116; Thos., 98
 Pulle, James de, 93; Sir John de, 93
 Pulton, Thos., 71
 Puseon, Recardus, 92
 Pygot or Pygott, Thomas, 63; William, 16
 Fykeryng or Fykerryng, Philip, 61; William, 61
 Fykstone (alias Toyles), John, 71
 Pyllyn, Thomas, 46, 61, 63
 Pym, —, 80
 Pynohewar, Sir Thomas, 63
 Pyper, Ricardus, 93

Q

Queens of England,
 Anne, 38
 Elizabeth, 23, 24, 113, 119
 Isabella, 107
 Mary II., 38, 39
 Quele, Gilbert, 28
 Quirke, Thomas, 117

R

Radeswell, Simon de, 105
 Radford, Alice, 20; Robt., 119; Roger, 18
 Radley, Richard, 85; Samuel, 88; Widow, 117
 Rainsford, Cornet, 18
 Raleigh, Sir Walter, 120
 Ralph of Pulford, 57
 Ralph, son of Daniel, 93
 Randle, Earl of Chester, 33
 Randle the Hunter, 29
 Ratcliffe, Ratolyffe, Radcliffe, Radelyffe or Radecllyffe, Henricus, 93; Jane, 81, 82; Jo., 35; John, 81, 82; Richard, 53; Robert, 65; Samuel, 82; William, 42, 53, 61
 Rathburne, Richard, 116
 Rathebon, Hugh, 46
 Ratliffe, Mrs., 98
 Raufson, Piers, 61
 Ravenscroft or Ravenscrofte, Randolph, 35; Thomas, 106, 110; William, 100
 Rawcroft, John, 53
 Rawlynson, Lawrence, 53
 Redferne, Lawrence, 65
 Redish, John, 67
 Redroppe, William, 65
 Redwellis, Robert de, 104
 Reese, Thomas, 27
 Rees, Evan, 72
 Rollshawe, Mr., 98
 Rosendon, Hugo de, 92
 Retford, Canon Alan de, 107
 Richard, Earl of Chester, 28

Richard, the Clerk, 115; Clerk of Pulford, 57
 Richard of Kneesall, 29
 Richard, son of Roger, 103
 Richards, Anne, 13; Elizabeth, 13
 Richardson, Grace, 116; Henry, 27; Jenkyn, 103; Katharine, 63; Mrs., 116; Peter, 49; Ralph, 111; Thomas, 13; William, 111
 Richmond, Mr. (Herald), 11
 Rider, Moses, 50, 67
 Ridley, James, 98; John, 86
 Rigby, Alice, 113
 Right, Thomas, 117
 Rigmayden, John, 40
 Rishton, Canon Nicholas de, 112
 Rivers, The Earls, 5; John Savage, 5th Earl, 81; Rt. Hon. Thomas, Earl of, 35; see also Savage
 Rob. ap John ap Rees, 6
 Robert, Dean of Chester, 93
 Robert of Rhuddlan, 1
 Robert, son of Gilbert, 57
 Robert, son of Peter, 29
 Robert, son of Ralph, 29
 Robert, son of Sywerthe, 57
 Robert, son of Walter, 103
 Robert, the Clerk, 113
 Roberts, Benj., 67; Edward, 111; Rich., 59; Sam., 98; Thos., 97; Widow, 27, 117; William, 27
 Robertson, Thomas, 60
 Robins, George, 117
 Robinson or Robynson, Elizabeth, 28; Em., 117; George, 61; James, 28; John, 116; Lieut.-Col. John, 26; Richard, 52; Widow, 59; Wm., 119
 Robotham, Ralph, 51
 Roche, Captain de la, 87
 Rode, Randle, 113; Randolph, 35; William, 35
 Rodes, Mr., 69
 Roger, the Falconer, 93
 Roger, the Hunter, 103
 Rogers, David, 27
 Rogerson, Ralph, 46; Robert, 103
 Rollinson, Jane, 88; Robert, 27
 Romara, William de, 102, 103
 Roo, Katharine, 49; Richard, 45, 53, 6
 Roode, James, 63; John, 61, 63; Thomas, 63
 Roppe, Henrie, 114
 Rosemington († Rosingrove), Seath, 20
 Rotchedale, Robert, 65
 Rotheric, son of Griffin, 16
 Rosendale, John de, 99
 Rostorne, Lawrence, 53
 Roubury, Canon Gilbert de, 107
 Round, William, 111
 Rowe, Peter, 98; Richard de, 99
 Roycroft, Thomas, 30
 Rt. of the Downes of Bottom, co. Chester, 33
 Rudyard, William de, 107
 Rullos (Roweles), 1
 Ruly, Lieut.-Col., 18
 Runcorn, Robertus de, 93
 Russell, Edward, 21, 56; Lord, 80; Mr., 98
 Rutherford, Lieut.-Col., 18
 Rutter, H., 66; Mrs., 50; Ralph, 35, 50; Thomas, 61
 Rycroft, Ieuan, 63
 Ryder, John, 40; Ralph, 40, 46; Richard, 40
 Bydea, Willhelmus de, 93
 Rydgeway, John, 61; Thomas, 61
 Rydley, Rev. Hamo de, 93, 94; John, 72
 Rygbye, Thomas, 68
 Rygeway or Rygewaye, Ralph, 72; Thomas, 40
 Ryhova, Governor of Ghent, 121
 Ryle, Edward, 51; John, 53; Peter, 61; Thomas, 61

S

- Sackville, Thomas, Lord Buckhurst, afterwards Earl of Dorset, 89, 90
 Saeres, Captain, 85
 St. Asaph, Bishop of, 109
 St. Michael's, Captain, 18
 St. Werburgh's, John, late Abbot of, 42
 Salham, Wilhelmus, 92
 Salisbury or Sallsbery, Mra., 98; Thomas, 40, 60
 Salkeld, Lieut.-Col., 18
 Salmon, Mr., 41
 Samson, Richard, 27
 Sands, Hugh, 87
 Sanford or Saunforde, Laurence, 1
 Sankey, Henry, 99
 Sanpierre, Urian de, 16
 Sarrat, Thos., 67
 Saunders, James, 67
 Savage, Anne, 61; Ed., 66; Edmund, 53, 61; Lady Elizabeth, 61; Johannes, 93; John, 87, 99; John, Ld. Viscount, 66; John, 5th Earl Rivers, 81; Sir John, 23, 24, 32, 42, 46, 53, 61, 63, 72, 83, 85, 114; Mary, 61; Mr., 85; Richard, 35; Rt. Hon. Thomas, Earl of Rivers, Viscount Colchester and Rook Savage, and Baron Darcy of Chich, 35
 Scarsbrooke (Scarisbrick), James, 71; Lawrence, 50
 Scellarne, John, 111
 Scofeald, John, 111
 Soonley, Robert, 111
 Scott (Scotts), Alexander, 38; Anne, 28; R. F., 25, 116
 Scotten, Hugh de, 19
 Scragg, Mr., 110
 Scragke, James, 42
 Sorope, Sir Richard, 78
 Soryvner, Richard, 49
 Seale, Widdow, 10; William, 28
 Seddon, Daniel, 71
 Seeborn, Mr., 36
 Sella, William, 87, 88
 Sellers, John, 66
 Selsbye, Will., 59
 Selvayn, Sir Roger, 92
 Serlo, the Hunter, 103
 Seynesbury, Richard de, 109, 112
 Shakerley, Jeffreys, 113; Sir Jeffrey, 35; Peter, 106
 Shakespeare, 86
 Shalcross, John, 35
 Sharp, Dr., 76
 Sharples, Raph, 86
 Shaw or Shawe, John, 50; Roberus, 93; Timothy, 116
 Shawboy, Johannes, 92
 Sheffield, Edmund, Lord, afterwards Earl Mulgrave, 79; Ellinor, his daughter, 79
 Shelden, Qtrmaster Thos., 18
 Sheley, Captain, 18; Samsonn, 98
 Shelley, John, 35
 Shenton, Randle, 44
 Shepley, Ralph, 48
 Shepparde or Sheppherd, Rich., 20; Richard, 60
 Shepbotham, William, 65
 Sherburne, Master of Stanyhurst, 18
 Sherle, James, 51; John, 49
 Sherman, Ralph, 68
 Sherte, Wilhelmus de, 93
 Shingleton, Wm., 20
 Shipbrooke, Margaret, 109; Canon Roger de, 109; Roger de, 109
 Shipley, Andrew, 25
 Shooklach, Johannes, 93
 Shone, Robt., 86
 Shore, John, 61; Rd., 33; William, 61
 Short, Valentine, 35
 Shrewsbury, Duke of, 37; Earl of, 51, 79; Earls of, 72
 Shrigley, Shrygley or Shryggeley, Edwardus, 92; Reynold, 99; Roger, 65; Thomas, 65
 Shroppe, Richard, 111
 Shryley, Roger, 64; Thomas, 64
 Shurlock, Widdow, 119
 Shuter, William, 44
 Shuttleworth, Rev. John, 13; Sir Richard, 91, 99
 Silvester, Alan, 102
 Simcock, John, 116; Rd., 71; Rich., 50; Thos., 50; —, 50
 Simon of Haregreve, 57
 Simpson or Simson, Captain, 18; John, 111; William, 117; Mrs., 85
 Skellington, Robt., 60; Will., 59
 Skipwith, Lieut., 18
 Slacke, William, 111
 Sladen, Rev. E. H. Mainwaring, 10, 64
 Slater, William, 35
 Slaughter, Thomas, 106
 Slaver, Ralph, 68
 Slegh, Alice, 99; William, 99
 Smale, John, 49, 71
 Smalley, John, 117
 Smallshoe, Rt., 67
 Smallwood, Samuel, 35
 Smalshawe, William, 98
 Smethwick, Thomas, 35
 Smith, Smitha, Smyth or Smythe, Cornet, 18; Geo., 71; Gulliver, 27; Hugh, 50; James, 27; Sir (Rev.) James, 63; John, 50, 61, 68; Alderm John, 20; Katharine, 52, 63; Katherine, 48; Sr. Laurence, 20; Lawrence, 49; Margaret, 68; Mr., 59; Parson, 28; Peeter, 117; Randle, 44; Richard, 71, 97; Robert, 111; Thos., 24; Thomas, 20, 67, 70, 113, 114; Thos., 60; Sir Thomas, 35, 63, 108, 111; Widow, 27, 98; William, 27, 50, 66; William (of Nuremberg) Rouge Dragon, 4; Wm., 67; —, 11
 Snape, Henry, 20
 Snede, Sneade or Sneede, Peter, 111; Ralph, 51; Rev. Ralph, 63; Richard, 85
 Sneyd or Sneyde, Ralph, 68, 106; William, 52, 68
 Somerforde, William, 65
 Sondebayche, Ranulphus, 92
 Soterley or Soterleghe, Edmund de, 1; Roger de, 16
 Sownes, Paul, 27
 Spaine, Thomas, 69
 Sparke, John, 35
 Sparkes, Robert, 111; Thos., 71
 Spencer, Edward, 35; Mr., 116; Richard, 60
 Sperman, Alexander, 112
 Spinleman, the Chamberlain, 102, 103
 Spinola, Admiral, 87
 Sproson, Richard, 27; Robt., 27
 Sproston, John, 119
 Sprot, Walter, 93
 Spurstow or Spurstowe, Charles, 35; George, 113; Captain George, 85
 Srigley, Joane, 119
 Stafford, Thos., 24
 Staley, Jacobus, 92
 Standley, Thomas, 113
 Stanhope, Anne, 79; Earl, 79; Sir Thomas, 79
 Stanley, Anne, 58; Christiana, 22; Edward, 58; Elizabeth, 77; Joan or Jane, 58; Margaret, 72; Mary, 22; Roger de, 16; Rowland, 63, 77; Sir Row'd, Bart., 4, 106;

Sir Rowland, 77, 113; Sir Thomas, 35, 38; Sir Thomas, 3rd Bart, 22; Willelmus, 62, 83; William, 65, 77, 84, 106; Captain William, 92; Sir William, 35, 60, 84, 92; Sir William de, 84, 93; Will'm, 51, 52

Stanley and Strange, Lord, 30

Stanlowe, Abbot of, 33

Stanmer, William, 5

Stanwick, Adam de, 109

Stapleton, Ellen, 108; Sameone, 108; Thomas, 60

Starkey, Starky, Starkye or Starkie, George, 25, 28; Hugh, 45, 53, 60; James, James, 65, 68; Jo., 35; John, 35, 106, 114; Matt., 59; Mr., 110; Peeter, 111; Ralph, 35; Richard, 103; Rogerus, 92; Thomas, 35, 48, 68, 114, 117; Widow, 117

Starling, Captain, 18

Stathom, Thomas, 92

Steene, Elline, 28

Steeping, Rev. William de, 107

Stepull, Johannes, 92

Stepulton or Stepylton, Thomas, 53, 63

Stevenson, Thomas, 84, 85; —, 35

Stocks or Stockes, Ann, 107; William, 45

Stockton (Stocken), Hugh, 14; Richard, 8; Wid. 71

Stoke, Johannes, 92; Nicolaus, 92

Stokeport, Richard de, 16

Stones, Widdow, 27

Story, Lieut., 18

Stradling, Col. Sir Henry, 18

Strafford, Thomas Wentworth, Earl of, 79

Strange, Lord, 83

Street, Streete, Strate, or Streete, Peter, 9; Rich., 98; Thomas, 20; Widdow, 119; William, 35, 116; Wm., 86

Stretch, John, 50, 70; Randle, 71; Richard, 70, 71

Stringer, John, 35; Pet., 60; Peter, 35; Widdow, 98

Strode, —, 80

Stryngfelowe, Henry, 65

Stubbe, John, 49

Stubbs or Stubbes, Geo., 88; John, 53, 65; Sarah, 88

Sturney, William, 117

Styles, Steaphen, 111

Sudden, Mr., 60

Suger, Widdowe, 27

Sumner, John, 71

Suthers, Roger, 117

Suthworth, Sir Thomas, 61; Widow, 27

Sutton or Suttone, Edmund, 65; Jno., 66; John, 111; John de, 16; Maude, 94; Richard, 64, 113; Richard de, 16; Sir William, 94

Swan, Parson John, 44, 45

Swarbrook, Francis, 22

Swettenham, Swetenham, Swetnam, Swetman, or Swetman, Alice, 48, 53, 99; Edward, 35; Lawrence, 46, 48, 51, 53; Philip, 106; Richard de, 16; Roger de, 99; Thomas, 106; William, 46, 48, 49, 51; —, 40

Sweyne, Helen, 64

Swift, Rev. Arthur, 6

Swinlue, Captain, 18

Swinton, Thomas, 35

Sworton Hamlet, 68

Swyndells, Swyndels or Swyndles, Edward, 50; Henry, 51; Humphrey, 64

Sygar, John, 63; Katharine, 63

Synnedelles, Peter, 65

Sywerethe, Robert son of, 57

T

Tabley, Ralph de, 107; Roger de, 107

Tailor or Tailiour, Thomas, 92

Talbot or Talbott, Ellen, 72; Gilbert, 72; John, 23, 51; Sir John, 65, 72; Margaret, 72; Ralph, 52

Tanat, Edward, 35

Tanfield, Lord Chief Baron, 121

Tapley or Taply, Thomas, 66; Widow, 50, 98

Tarleton, Mich., 59

Tasker, —, 14

Tattnall, Sherife, 111

Tatton, John, 52; Robert, 40, 52; Thomas, 106; Thomas de, 92; William, 35; Captain William, 85; Willm., 113

Tayliour, Taylior, or Taylour, Hugo, 93; John, 38; Thomas, 63

Taylor, Rev. Charles B., 10; John, 35, 59, 60; Rich., 97, 119; Richard, 104; Robt., 66; Thos., 97; Widdow, 119; William, 97; Wm., 12, 119

Tealor, Thomas, 117; William, 117

Telston, Piers, 65

Tench, Jo., 52, 60

Terey, William, 98

Teylear, Roger, 40

Teylute, John, 60

Thamute, Mr., 84

Thicknesse, Mr., 14

Thomason, Thomasson or Thomasyn, James, 23; Jas., 50; John, 87, 88; Mr., 116; Robert, 60

Thomasson (alias Williamson), William, 63

Thomson, William, 40

Thorintone, Matthew de, 1

Thornicroft or Thornycroft, Henshaw, 106; Hugo, 92; Johannes, 92

Thornley or Thorneley, Edward, 68; Peter, 84; Robt., 86

Thornton, Hugh de, 16; Rev. John, 38

Thorp or Thorpe, Major, 119; Robert de, 105; Widd., 98; William, 35, 119

Thripp, Sergt.-Major Thomas, 26

Thrope or Throppe, John, 98; Thomas, 60; Thos., 58; Thos., 59

Thurstaston, Agnes de, 35; William de, 35

Thurstin, 29

Thyrlewynde, J., 63

Tickell, Roger, 67

Tilston, Christopher, 27; Mr., 60; Perys, 53; Richard, 111

Timis, John, 110; Miss, 110

Tine, Hugh, 103

Tinaeley, Thomas, 27

Titherington, Sewal de, 1

Titley, George, 85

Tochet, Thomas, 63

Toft, Ellen, 64; Robert, 64; Roger, 64

Tomason, Thomas, 27

Tomkinson, Edward, 110

Tompson Tho., 59; Will'm, 24; Wm., 66

Torkyngton, Robert, 53

Totty, Tottye, Tottye, or Tottie, Ann, 25; John, 54; Rich., 28; Widow, 59, 111

Touchet, William, 35

Turner, John, 111

Towers, Thos., 50

Townsend, Robert, 35

Townshend, Henry, 99

Toyles, Jno., 71

Trafford, Alice, 70; Sir Edmund, 21, 63; Elinor, 94; Hugh, 71; John, 50; Mary, 70; Rich., 99; Thomas, 70

Trevers, Robert de, 103

Trevis, Matthew, 35

Trickell, Thomas, 50

Trollock or Trollocke, John, 111; William, 117
 Troutbeck, Troutbek or Truttebek, Adam, 72; Alice, 33; Elizabeth, 72; Ellen, 72; Jane, 72; Joan, 72; John, 33, 72; John, Chamberlain of Chester, 32; Margaret, 72; Margery, 72; William, 72; Sir William, 33, 72
 Trussell, Sir Ed., 21; Eliz., 21; Sir William, Speaker of "Both Houses," 21
 Trygarn, Gruffyth, 21
 Tuchett, Thomas, 114
 Tuderington, Hugh de, 16
 Tunall, Charles, 87
 Turks (pirates), 44
 Turner, Grace, 75; Henry, 75; John, 44; Randle, 116; Rd., 71; Rich., 50
 Twisse, William, 28
 Tyderington, Jordan de, 101
 Tye, Joseph, 28
 Typyng, Hugh, 42, 61; Rev. Hugh, 61; Peter, 45
 Tyrer, Gerrard, 28; James, 97; Richard, 97

U

Urfflete, Gerard, 98
 Urmston, Sir (Rev.) Robert, 6
 Urmyston, William, 72

V

Vale Royal, Abbot of, 33
 Vanbrough, Giles, 35
 Vanburgh or Vanbrugh, Carleton, 19; Catherina, 19; Charles, 19; Dudley, 19; Elizabeth, 19; Giles or Gilles, 19; Sir John, 19; Kendrick, 19; Mary, 19; Philip, Robina, 19; Victoria, 19
 Vanderlure, Peter, 120
 Varnall, Sir E. Edward, 111
 Vaughan, Captain, 18; John, 25; Richard, 56; Richard, successively Bishop of Bangor, Chester and London, 25
 Vawdrey, Robert, 18
 Vefre, Robertus, 93
 Vemes, Thos., 119
 Venable, William, 63
 Venables, Hugh, 46; Hugh de, 15; Peter (Petro), Baron of Kinderton, 35, 191; Randall, 63; Randle, 72; Richard, 35; Robert, 35; Roger de, 1; Thomas, 61, 72, 113; William, 35, 46, 51
 Verdun, Roger de, 103
 Vere, Edmund, Lord Sheffield, afterwards Earl of Mulgrave, 79; Eliz., wife of 15th Earl of Oxford, 21; Elizabeth, wife of 2nd Earl of Clare, 79; Ellinor, dau. of Ld. Sheffield, 79; Horace, Lord, 79; John (three), 6th, 15th and 16th Earls of Oxford, 21, 79; Margaret, wife of 16th Earl of Oxford, 21
 Verniz, Roger de, 29
 Vernon, Lady Alianore, 79; Sir George, 64, 65; George Venables, 106; Jo., 35; Margaret, 61; Nicolaus, 93; Ralph, 106; Sir Ralph de, 16; Richard de, 16; Canon Richard de, 107; Thomas, 114; Warin de, 1
 Voudray or Voyddrey, Robert, 51; Thomas, 60
 Vyner, Robert, 106
 Vvyys, Humphrey, 63

W

Wade, Francis, 27; John, 86, 98; Peter, 106; Richard, 59
 Wagge, George, 60

Wainwright, Dr. Jo., 35; Jn., 50
 Wakefield, John, 27
 Wakering, Thos., 45
 Waters, Ralph, 67
 Walche, Alice, 60; John, 60; Thomas, 60
 Walens, Wladus, 78
 Walkden, Johannes, 92; Ricardus, 92
 Walker, Christopher, 119; Edw., 50; Edward, 42, 72; John, 65, 117; Randell, 59; Randle, 111; Robt., 24; Robert, 103; Thomas, 86
 Wall, Mrs., 98; Richard, 86; Robert le, 38; Thomas, 62; William le, 38
 Wallen, Ralph, 68
 Waller, —, 66
 Walley or Wally, Arthur, 58, 109; Charles, 35; Robert, 106
 Wallworth or Walworth, Robt., 87; T., 66
 Walsh (Walensis), Bernard, 57; Henry, 57; William, 57
 Walsingham, Canon Walter de, 112
 Walsingham, Sir Francis, 83; Secretary, 77
 Waltham, Richard, 36
 Waltho, Roger, 46; Thomas, 46
 Walton, John, 40; Mr., 31, 32; Richard, 27, 60; Thomas, 20, 52; Will., 20
 Wamsley, Widd, 96
 Warburton or Warberton, George, 35; Sir George, 36; Hugh, 106; John, 68; Lady, 83; Mr., 59; Mrs., 27; Peter, 114; Sir Peter, Bart., 106; Philip Henry, 106
 Ward or Warde, Thomas, 92, 93; Wm., 22
 Warren, Edward, 60
 Wareyn (otherwise Eggerton), Margaret, 32
 Warmecoham, Thos., 98
 Warmincham Warin, see Meinwaring
 Warmingham, Thos., 85; William, 111
 Warmisham, Thomas, 27
 Warrall, Widow, 86
 Warren, Edward, 35, 61; Sir Edward, 64, 68; Sir Edwin, 65; John, 113; Lawrence, 46
 Warrington, Mr. 24; Will'm., 25
 Warnton, Thos., 119
 Washington, Joseph, 71
 Watford, Canon Robert de, 109
 Watson, Mr., 119
 Watt or Watte, George, 27; John, 117; Thos., 59; Widow, 27, 117
 Wauerton, William, 54
 Warwiock, Philippa, Countess of, 1; Robert Richard, Earl of, 79
 Wayt, Colonell, 98
 Weazne, Rich., 98
 Wearton, Widd., 66
 Weate, Widd., 98
 Weatherby, Martha, 113
 Webster (? Weston), Saml., 50
 Webster, J., 71; Thos., 71
 Wedeway, Johannes, 83
 Welch, Aplinn, 98; Dorathy, 111
 Welchman, John, 117; Peeter, 117
 Weld, John, 77
 Wells, Mr., 85; Mrs., 50
 Welsh, Widdow, 27
 Wenlock, John de, 109
 Wentworth, Thomas, 94; Thomas, Earl of Strafford, 79; Usula, 94
 Wenynghon, John, 63; William, 63
 Werberton, Sir (Rev.) Nicholas, 61; Thomas, 63
 Werden, Sir John, Bart., 106
 Wermby, Johannes de, 93
 Weston, Col., 18; Rich., 66
 Wetenhall, Wetenall, Wetenale, Wetenhale or Wetenale, Edward, 106; Johannes, 92; John de, 16; Margaret, 42; Nathaniel, 106; Thomas, 103
 Wharton, Lady Ann, 119; Philip Lord, 119

Whateley, Joan, 49
 Whitby, Whitbey or Whitbye, Colonel, 53, 54;
 Hy., 71; John, 59; Robt., 67; Widow,
 59; William, 23, 62
 White, Captain, 18
 Whitleobe, Thomas, 27
 Whitley, George, 50; John, 50; Ralph, 35;
 Thomas, 66; Thos., 50; —, M.P., 50;
 —, 71
 Whitmore or Whitmore, John, 36, 113;
 Joseph, 106; Thomas, 54; William, 35,
 36, 37, 46, 47, 48; William de, 94
 Whitney or Whytney, John, 42; Lieut., 18
 Whittel or Whyttell, John, 59; Ralph, 54
 Whittingham, Rev. Humphrey, 38; Joseph,
 106
 Whitlegg, Roger, 60
 Wich, Thomas de, 16
 Wicketed, Richard, 34
 Widdens, W., William or Wm., 67, 71, 71
 Widenhall, Rd., 67
 Wiggen, Widd., 98
 Wilbram, Wilbram, Wilberham or Wylbram,
 H., 27; Hugh, 26; Humphrey, 48;
 James, 72; R., 34; Randle, 105; Richard,
 65, 106; Rog., 8; Roger, 35, 52, 106; Sir
 Roger, 56; Sir T., 41; Thomas, 114; Sir
 Thomas, 35
 Wilcockson or Wilcoxon, Arth., 49, 50; Joan,
 71; Wm., 67
 Wilkinson or Wilkynson, Arth., 50; Hugh, 65;
 J., 66, 67, 71; Jno., 50; Mary, 87; R.,
 71; Rd., 67, 71; Widdow, 85
 Willding, Will., 97
 Willey, Captain, 18
 William, Abbot (1344), 109
 William, the Butler, 103
 William, the Chaplain, 29
 William, the Clerk, 57
 William, the Constable, 103
 William, the Monk, 103
 William, Rector of Swetenham, 107
 William, the Steward (Dapifer), son of Herne,
 29
 Williams, Edward, 85; Major, 18; Mr., 26,
 59; Robert, 111; Robt., 50; Thomas, 28,
 116, 117; Widdow, 98, 111, 119; Will.,
 35, 60
 Williamson or Wyllyamson, John, 68; Thomas,
 60; William, 60; Wm., 119
 Willinson, Richard, 35; Robert, 35; Will'm ap
 Robert, 25
 Willot, William, 99
 Willoughbey, Mr., 32
 Wilson, Willson or Willsonn, Arther., 98;
 James, 85; John, 53; Parson, 28; Richard,
 117; Widd., 98; William, 64
 Wilton and Ruthin, Reginald de Grey, Baron
 of, 16
 Winchester, Lord Treasurer, 87
 Winefride, Christian Virgin, 115
 Winstanley, Daniel, 70, 71
 Winterton, Alice de, 109
 Withnall, Margrt., 50
 Wittemore, Jon, 56
 Witter, Adam, 67; John, 66, 71; Joseph, 50,
 66, 71; Silvanus, 111; Thos., 66; Will'm, 50
 Wode, Ranulphus le, 92; Wil'elmus de la, 92
 Wodestok, Rev. Henry de, 104

Wodhall, Lancelotte, 53
 Wodhey, John, 103
 Wolf, Ricardus le, 92
 Wolsey, —, 42, 43
 Wolstailholm, Johannes, 93; Thomas, 93
 Wood or Woode, George, 65; Henry, 60;
 Humphrey, 63; Margaret, 65; Richard, 117
 Woodcock or Woodcocks, Ralph, 71; Roger, 27
 Woodnet, Humphrey, 49
 Woods or Woodes, Danyell, 27; Deborah, 50,
 71; Thos., 71; Widow, 117; —, 50
 Woodward, Elizabeth, 27; H., 71; H'gh, 67;
 J., 71; John, 50; Richard, 20, 50; Robert,
 53; Sarah, 108; Thomas, 71, 108; Thos.,
 66, 71; Wid., 71; Wm., 71
 Woolridge, John, 66
 Worcester, John de, 109; Nicholas, Bishop of,
 40; —, Bishop of, 109
 Wordell, Johannes, 92
 Worden, Sir John, 35; Robert, 35
 Worhill, Hugh, 119
 Worsley, Robert, 83; Thomas, 92
 Worth or Worthe, Jasper, 64; Phillipe, 113
 Worthington, Rev. Thomas, 12; Rev. William,
 83
 Wrangham, Archdeacon Frs., 61
 Wrench, John, 50, 71
 Wright or Wryght, Edward, 106; Francis, 35;
 Henry Offley, 106; John, 27, 59; Mar-
 gare, 107; Math., 52; Randal, 63; Rauf,
 9; Ricardus, 92; Roger, 48; Samuel, 71;
 Thos., 60, 98; Widow, 60; William, 35,
 106, 107
 Wyche, Ralph, 53; Richard, 52
 Wyddowes, Jane, 65; Jeffery, 65
 Wygdon, Willelmus, 92
 Wykestede, Elizabeth, 49
 Wyld, Henry, 51
 Wylot, William, 99
 Wynne (Wyn), Alexander, 6; Col., 60; David,
 6; Elizabeth, 6; Ithell, 6; John, 6;
 Katheryn, 6; Margaret, 6; Peter, 6
 Wynnynnton, Wynington, Wynynton or
 Wynigton, Hamo, 92; Nicholas, 61;
 Randoph, 61; Robert de, 16; Thomas,
 115; —, 104
 Wyttacurs, James, 40
 Wyttar, Richard, 63

Y

Yardlaw, Rich., 60
 Yarnes, William, 5
 Yarwoode, Ranulphus, 92
 Yates, Elen, 108; John, 108
 Yeales, William, 27
 Yemenson (Edmondson), Sir (Rev.) William,
 6
 Ynnce, Hugh, 68
 Yocker, Widd., 98
 Yonge, Margerie, 108
 York, H.R.H., James, Duke of, 35
 York Herald, 11
 Young, Edward, 24, 25; Rev. Mr., 76; Sir
 Richard, 76

Z

Zonge, John, 38
 Zouch, Alan la, 1

INDEX OF PLACES.

A

Abergwili, 86, 112
 Acton, 13, 16, 41, 42, 43, 45, 56, 58, 65, 81, 96, 110
 Acton Bridge, 69
 Acton Burnell, 81
 Acton Church, 41
 Acton Grange, 68
 Adlington, 1, 16, 22, 34, 106, 113
 Agden, 24
 Agdon, 35
 Agincourt, 72, 94
 Alderley, 22, 30, 35, 38, 113
 " Park Hall, 22
 Alderley, Nether (Lower), 91, 102, 108
 Alderley, Over, 101, 102, 108
 Aldersey, 24, 46, 49, 72
 Algier, 44
 Aldford (Alford), 1, 13, 16, 42, 77
 Allerton, 29
 Allsants, 29
 Alpraham, 41, 84
 Alresford, New, 29
 Alsager, 10, 106
 Alvanley (Alvenley), 23, 24, 49, 50, 62, 66, 67, 71, 113
 Alvanley, Bankfield House, 71
 " Helsby House, 71
 Antrobus, 3
 Appleton, 28, 72
 Areley, 35
 Arkley, 69
 Arley, 106, 114
 Argues, France, 92
 Asbury, 13
 Ashburton 78
 Ashe, 10
 Ashley, 30, 105, 114
 Ashton, 30, 42, 65, 69
 Ashton-on-Mersey, 23, 61, 109
 Ash Tree, 42
 Astbury (Astburie, Astebiri), 65, 69, 104, 113
 Astbury Church, 112
 Astle, 105, 108
 Astley, 79
 Astmore (Astmoore), 99, 100
 Aston, 23, 30, 32, 45, 81, 90, 100, 114
 " Church, 112
 " Grange, 100
 " Hall, 35, 57, 84, 96
 Aston-Parks, Newton, 106
 Aston-under-Mondrum, 46
 Aukland, 107
 Audlem, 13, 116
 Aughton, 95
 Aulme, 41
 Aulmley, 96

B

Bach or Bache, 106, 114
 Backford, 4, 30, 52, 58, 116
 Baddiley, 13, 43, 44, 45, 79, 114
 " Church, 43, 44
 Baginley, 34, 106, 114
 Balkington (? Bilkington), 44
 Bangor, 13, 70, 97
 " Deanery of, 13, 23
 Bar Bridge, 41
 Barnston, 30
 Barrow, 4, 28, 96, 112
 Bartherton, 114

Barthomley, 13, 106
 Barton on the Hill, 81
 Bath, 23, 83
 Bath and Wells, 112
 Bauerly (? Beverley) Church, 29
 Baunton (? Baunton), 29
 Bawdeyn, 50
 Baxter's Hey, 24
 Bealt, Brecknon, 29
 Beam Heath, 41
 " Bear's Head " Inne, 69
 Beaumaris, 42
 Bebington (Bebinton, Bebintone), 4, 33, 57, 93, 95, 113
 Bebington Church, 93
 Bebington, Nether, 60
 Bechin, 40, 60, 63
 Beckles (Beccle), 29, 44
 Beckwith, 78
 Beeston, 18, 43
 " Castle, 42
 Bellow Hill, 83
 Bentley, 44
 Berd, 33
 Berterton, 72
 Besmore, 96
 Betley, 41
 Bewsey, 72
 Bickley, 46
 Bidston (Bidstone), 4, 6, 106
 " Parish Church, 10
 Bikerton, 24
 Birch House, 83
 Birches, 78
 Birches Hall, 69
 Birkenhead (Berkenhead), 4, 35, 106
 Birmingham, 109
 Birtles (Birtels, Byrtels, Byrtles), 102, 107, 108
 Bishopbourne, 112
 Bishton, 45
 Blackburne, 29
 Black Griffon, 84
 Blakeley or Blackley, 91
 Blacon, 26
 Blakhulse, 45
 Blenheim, 19, 39
 Blore Heath, 72
 Bodon, 3
 Bonenden Church, 45
 Booths (Booths), 34, 106, 114
 Bosden, 52
 Bosley (Boseley), 22, 40, 42, 50, 52, 60, 68
 Bottom, Downes of, 33
 Boughton, 18, 30, 41, 42, 75, 106
 " Church, 19
 " Connigree, in or near, 75
 " Tithe Barn, 56
 Bournemouthe, 81
 Bowden, 23
 Borton (Broxton), 84
 Bradewai Londres, 104
 Bradeford, 101
 Bradford, 108
 Bradley, 30, 50, 66, 67, 71
 Bradley, Beach House, 70
 Bradley Orch'd, 50
 Bradmore, 29
 Bradwell, 106
 Brandon, 30
 Bredbury, 113
 Bradley, 34

Brereton, 13, 30, 46, 79, 106, 112
 113
 Brettargh Holt (Bretterghold), 89, 100
 Bretton, 41, 42, 94
 Brewers Green, 96
 Brewers-Hall, 35
 Breyst Colirch (? Chester), 45
 Bridemore, 41
 Bridge Trafford, 17, 30, 34, 72, 96
 Brimstage, 72
 Brindley, 72
 Brinston, 35, 85
 Bristol, 17, 83
 Brookton, 44
 Bromborough (Bromborrow), 4, 53, 106, 109
 Bromhall, 30
 Broughton, 42, 94
 Brown Heath, 42
 " The Gibbit, 42
 Broxton, 30, 35, 64, 84, 106, 109, 114
 Bruardeshalgh, 101
 Bruen-Stapleford, 30, 89, 113
 Bruera, 4
 Bruerton (Brewerton) Green, 68, 69
 Buckley, 30
 Bucklowe, 114
 Budworth, 106
 " Chapel, 115
 " Church, 69
 Budworth, Great, 23
 " Church of, 28
 Budworth, Little, 13
 Buerdon, 106
 Buglawton, 30, 64
 Bulls Green, 41
 Bunbury, 13, 56, 84, 85, 112
 " Church, 56, 69
 " Priestland Hall, 63
 Bungay, 29
 Bureton, 48
 Burfield, 96
 Burford, 110
 " Green, 41
 Burgh Marsh, 79
 Burham, Church of St. Gregory, 107
 Burland, 110
 " Hall, 65
 Buriedam, 13
 Burton, 4, 42, 63, 107, 109
 Burton Parsonage, 48, 52
 Burton (in Lindsey), 29
 " Church, 29
 Burton Green, 96
 Burton Overy, 107
 Burwardsley, 13, 106
 Butley, 16, 63, 64
 Butterton Hill, 84

C

Calais, 51, 87
 Caldecote, 36
 Cald, 35, 36, 46, 56, 103
 " Parish Church, 36
 Cald, Great, 24, 25
 " Rake House, 26
 Cald, Little, with numerous field names, 35, 36, 46, 54
 Cald Hey, 37, 47, 48
 Cald Hill, 36
 Calveley, 34, 85
 " Halls, 41

- Calvercroft, 24, 25
 Cambridge University, 79, 88, 89
 " Jesus College, 26
 " St. John's College, 25, 26, 116
 " Magdalene College, 70
 " Pembroke Hall, 91
 " Trinity College, 8
 Camerton or Kinnerton, 96
 Campden, 72
 " Church, 109
 Canterbury, 86, 109
 " Prerogative Court of, 6
 Capesthorpe, 22, 108
 Carden, 34, 60, 106
 Cardiff, 96
 Carlisle, 65, 89
 Carmarthen, 86
 Carnage (P Cranage), 68
 Carrington, 23
 Carthage, 76
 Castle Bromwich, 41, 83
 Caunton, 78
 Caverley, 30
 Chadkirk, 23, 83
 Chalburie, 44
 " Chamber in the Forest," The, 115
 Chapel-en-le-Frith, 96
 Charestoke, 11
 Charlinch (Charlence), 94
 Charlton Heath, 49
 Cheshire (Chelde), 1, 22, 42, 112
 Chesley, 21
 Checkley, 69
 Chelford (Chelforde, Chelleforde), 22, 35, 63, 107, 108, 109
 Chelford, Abbey Farm, 109
 Chepstow, 17, 83
 Cheshire, Chester co., or County
 Palatine of Chester, 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 8, 10, 11, 12, 15, 21, 22, 23, 24, 28, 30, 31, 33, 34, 35, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 48, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 56, 57, 60, 63, 64, 65, 68, 70, 72, 74, 77, 78, 79, 81, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 94, 95, 96, 97, 101, 104, 105, 106, 107, 109, 112, 113, 114, 115, 116, 117, 118
 Cheshire Deaneries. List of, 23
 Chester (City), 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 12, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 37, 38, 41, 42, 45, 46, 51, 53, 56, 57, 58, 60, 61, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 69, 70, 72, 73, 74, 75, 77, 78, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 87, 90, 91, 93, 95, 96, 97, 99, 101, 102, 103, 104, 105, 109, 110, 112, 113, 115, 116, 117, 118, 119
 " Bailiwick of, 15, 73
 " Bishop's Palace, 4, 6, 7, 10, 11, 12, 14, 21
 " Churches, Churchyards, Parishes, &c.:
 Green Churchyard, 7, 8
 Holy Trinity, 4, 19, 28, 109
 Little St. John's, 4
 St. Anne's, 19, 20, 24, 103
 St. Anne's (Hospital), 19, 24
 St. Anne's Chapel, 18
- Chester Churches, Churchyards, Parishes, &c.:
 St. Bridget's, 4
 St. Chad's Chapel, 103
 St. John Baptist, 4, 18, 19, 52, 93, 103, 107, 109, 112
 St. John's (Hospital), 33
 St. Martin's, 4, 104
 St. Mary's, 4, 28, 104, 107, 115
 St. Mary in the Castle, 104
 St. Mary on the Hill, and Cemetery, 38
 St. Michael's, 4
 St. Nicholas (Chapel), 38
 St. Olave's, 4
 St. Oswald's, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 18, 19, 21, 29, 31, 32, 33, 38, 39, 64, 69, 73, 108
 St. Peter's, 3, 4, 10, 21, 33, 69
 St. Thomas & Becket's (Chapel or Cemetery), 74
 St. Werburgh's Abbey, 5, 78, 81, 106, 112
 St. Werburgh's Cathedral, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 14, 21, 22, 57, 64, 67, 69, 73, 81, 82, 95, 115, 117
 St. Werburgh's Cemetery, 9
 St. Werburgh's Churchyard, 70, 103
 St. Werburgh's Monastery, 4, 5, 8, 24, 103, 112
 St. Werburgh's Parish, 42
 Deanery of, 4
 Diocese of, 3, 4, 22, 77
 Forest of, 33
 " Public Buildings, &c.:
 Castle, 37, 38, 51, 65, 84, 101
 City Walls, 4, 5, 68
 Common Hall, 7, 12, 14, 69, 74
 Corn Market, 7, 11, 12, 14
 Gaol, 83, 105
 King's School, 4, 6, 19
 Music Hall, 4, 5, 7, 14
 Town Hall, 113
 " Streets, Gates, Lanes, &c.:
 Abbey Court, 4, 64, 81, 82
 Abbey Square, 81
 " Bache Flatt," 74
 Barne Lane (now King Street), 75, 103, 117
 Barrel Well, 28
 Barrs Gate, 42
 Bouverie Street, 74
 Bridge Gate, 51, 104
 Bridge Street, 65, 104
 Castle Lane, 20, 24, 75
 Claverton Lane (now Duke Street), 103, 104
 Common Hall Lane, 104
 Cow Lane, 8, 20, 24
 Cow Sucke Hey or Queen Hey, 74
 Crane Street, 17
 Cuppin Lane, 104
 Dee Lane (now Canal Street), 75
 Dee Lane, 74
 Denbigh Street, 74
- Chester Streets, Gates, Lanes &c.:
 Eastgate Street, 5, 7, 20, 24, 104
 Ennpings Lane, 75
 Fleshmongers' Lane (now Newgate Street), 75
 Foregate Street, 20, 24, 93, 103, 104
 Frodsham Street, 103
 Gerard's Lane (now Crook Street), 103
 Godstall (Goddestall) Lane
 Gorstach Lane, 74 [5, 7
 Henshall Street, 74
 Iremonger Rowe, 24
 Leen Lane, 5, 7
 Liverpool Road, 74
 Music Hall Passage, 4, 5, 12, 14
 Northgate, 9, 74
 Northgate Street, 4, 5, 7, 12, 14, 20, 24, 74, 103
 Parson's Lane (now Princess Street), 20, 24, 75, 103, 117
 Pearl Wall Hey, 74
 Parkgate Road, 73, 74
 Pork Poole Bridge, 74
 " Priestfield," 74
 Remist Lane, 75
 St. Chad's Lane, 103
 St. John's Lane, 8, 20, 24, 103
 St. Olave's Lane, 93
 St. Werburghe Lane, 5, 7
 " Saracen's Head," The, 24, 103
 Trinity Lane, 103
 Victoria Road, 74
 Water Gate, 12, 115
 Watergate Street, 24
 Werburgh Street, 4, 5, 7, 8, 11, 12, 14
 Yorles Yee or Earl's Eye, 103, 104
 " Township:
 St. Oswald's, 73
 " Wards:
 Corn Market, 7
 Eastgate, 27, 97
 Northgate, 26, 116
 St. Bridget's, 27, 85
 St. Martin's, 27, 110, 111
 St. Michael's, 119
 St. Nicholas, 27
 St. Olave's, 27
 St. Oswald's, 7, 26, 27, 59
 Trinity, 27
 Chesterfield, 104
 Chich, 35
 Chichester, 81, 107, 109
 Chirke Castle, 9
 Chisterton (alias Christleton), 69
 Chisterton Church, 42
 Cholley, 35
 Cholmondeley, 30, 114
 Chorleton, 58
 Chorley, 108
 Chowley, 65
 Chowley or Thowley Green, 84
 Christleton (Christleton), 4, 24, 30, 35, 69, 95, 107
 Church Christleton, 46

Church Copnall, 45
 Church Lawton, 113
 Church Minshall (Minshall), 29, 114
 Church Stretton, 83
 Churton, 24, 30, 35, 106
 Cleys, The, 41
 Clift Hill, 69
 Clifton (Cliffeton, Clyffeton), 29, 32, 49, 84, 114
 Clive, 79
 Clotton, 16, 69
 Clotton, R., 41
 Clumber, 79
 Clun Church, 44
 Clutton, 63, 65
 Cockshut, 44
 Coddington, 13, 34, 40, 60, 63, 106, 109, 114
 Coffir Hill, 83
 Cogshall, 30
 Colleshill, 101
 Collumpton, 45
 Colwich, 45
 Combermere, 30, 102, 114
 " Abbey of, 40, 49
 " Monastery of, 53, 102
 Congleton, 13, 34, 40, 61, 77, 83, 107, 116, 117, 118
 Congleton, alias Congerton, 69
 Connigree, 75
 Conway, 42
 Coppenhall, 13, 40
 Cornwall, 10, 43, 79
 Oosbrook Hall, 96
 Cottenham, 29, 45
 Cotton, 30, 34, 35, 41, 42, 95, 113
 Cottonend, 44
 Cotton Heath, 42
 Coventry, 68, 104
 " Cross, 79
 Crabwall, 30
 Cranage (Crannidg), 68, 69, 106, 113
 Crew, 30, 35
 Crewe, 13, 114
 Crewood, 30
 " Hall, 67, 70
 Crinsley Bridge, 83
 Cristleton, 24
 Cromer, alias Shipden, 44
 Crosse Hall, 94
 Crowton (Croughton), 87, 89
 Croxton, 30, 104
 Cruckwall (? Pontebewry or Pontesbury), 29
 Cuddington (Coddington, Codinton, Cudinton), 19
 Cuerdley, 28
 Cumbe, 104
 Cumley Church, 45

D

Dallamore, 69
 Dane, River, 69
 Daneham, 69
 Darby's Dales, 116
 Daresbury (Daresburie), 23, 30, 32, 89, 90, 95, 99, 100, 119, 120
 Daresbury Church, 90
 " Hall, 99
 Darley, 35
 Darnall, 34
 Darvall, 35
 Davenham, 13, 69, 106, 108, 116
 " Church, 104

Davenport, 30, 106, 113
 Dawbye, 25
 Dee, River, 26, 42, 46, 63, 75, 93, 96, 115, 117
 Dee, Banks, 74
 " Brick Kilns, 42
 " Cawsey or Cowsey, 57, 58
 " Mills, 57
 " Side, 101
 " Valley, 114
 Delamere (Delamore) Forest, 5, 32, 42, 43, 69, 101, 115
 Denbigh, 42
 Denbighshire, 96
 Denfield, 84
 Denwall Hospital, 52, 63, 107, 109
 " Priory, 107
 Denzill, 79
 Derby, 33, 69, 96
 Derbyshire (Peakland), 80, 96, 114, 116
 Derefold, 35
 Dereham, East, 45
 Dernhall, 106
 Derwent, 2
 " River, 2
 Deva, 115
 Deventer, 77
 Devon or Devonshire, 45, 65, 78, 91, 101
 Dieppe, 92
 Disley, 16, 23, 42, 49, 50, 51, 64, 66
 " or Dysley Dayne, 96
 " Church, 96
 Dodington (Doddington), 114
 " Hall, 41
 Dodeleaton (Doddleaton), 1, 4, 16, 30, 106
 Donington (Donnington), 29
 " Church, 28
 Dorchester, 79, 80
 " Church, 79
 Doreford, 45
 Dorfold, 106
 Douay College, France, 81
 Dower Lees, 42, 69
 Doweas, 16
 " of Bottom, 33
 Drayton, 85
 " Little, 85
 Drogheda, 81
 Dublin, 113, 115
 " St. Patrick's, 101
 Duddington, 30
 Duddon, 16, 30
 Dukinfield (Dukenfield), 23, 30, 40, 113
 Dulecres, 32
 Dummeshum, 65
 Dunham, 2, 15
 " Massey, 1, 30
 Dunham-on-the-Hill (Super Montem or Stoney Dunham), 1, 16, 34, 43
 Dunkirk, 87
 Durham, 43, 44
 Dutton, 15, 16, 30, 34, 42, 46, 61, 65, 69, 106
 Dutton Hall, 42, 96

E

Eardawick, 34
 Earsley, 34
 East Dereham, 45
 " Hall, 114
 Eastham, 4, 74, 109
 East-High-Leigh, 34
 Easton, " Buckahire," 29
 Eaton, 17, 31, 35, 42, 77, 113, 114

Eccles, 95
 Eccleston, 4, 30, 56, 70
 Eddisbury (Edisbury), 5, 113
 Edge, 30, 106
 Edgerley, 60
 Egerton, 30, 77
 Elton, 30, 94, 96, 106
 Elworth, 79
 England, 17, 41, 80, 85, 87, 91, 104, 112, 113, 116
 Erdley Hall, 96
 Eresby, 79
 Eu, France, 92
 Ewlow, 45
 Exeter, 72, 104, 110

F

Farndon, 4
 Fellows, 106
 Feever (Peover), 69
 Fenner's Brook, 95
 Flooker's-brooke, 18, 74
 Figden, 75
 Flanders, 121
 Flint, 72, 101, 102
 " Castle, 101
 Flintshire, 6, 41, 94, 96
 " Boundary, 42
 " Stone Bridge, 41
 Flitcham, 79
 Fordingbridge, 44
 Forrest, 22
 Foulke Stapleford, 16
 Foulshirst, 78, 79
 Four Lane Ends, 42
 France, 19, 43, 45, 84, 85, 87, 91, 93
 " Agincourt, 72, 94
 " Argues, 92
 " Calais, 87
 " Dieppe, 92
 " Douay College, 81
 " Dunkirk, 87
 " Eu, 92
 " Gascony, 107,
 " Lyons, 104
 " Mounceaux, 92
 " Nantes, 87
 " Normandy, 43
 Frankby or Frankbie, 25, 36, 46, 54
 Franley Stocks, 64
 Fregrewes, 104
 Frodsham (Froddeaham) 16, 18, 23, 24, 45, 49, 50, 61, 62, 63, 66, 67, 71, 90, 95, 96, 106, 108
 Frodsham Beacon Hill, 5
 " Bridge, 16, 90
 " Church, 49, 63, 66, 70, 108
 " Church Street, 70
 " Churchyard, 58
 " Deanery, 22, 23
 " Graving-Dock, 5
 " Lee More, 61
 " Maurice Castle, 5, 96
 " Ship Street, 71
 " Westmore, 61
 Fulshaw (Fuleschawe), 1
 Fuston, 29

G

Gallow Hill, 83
 Garstang, 69
 Gascony, 107
 Gawsworth, 15, 16, 22, 30, 113
 Gayton, 30, 106

Gerards Bromley, 30
 Ghent, 121
 "Gibbet," The, 42
 Glashouse Inne, 42, 84
 Gloucester, 83
 Godley, 61
 God's Croft House, 96
 Golborne Bellows, 24
 " (Golbourn) Bridge, 83, 84
 Goostrey, 13
 Gort, River, 96
 Grabhall, 30
 Grafton, 72, 114
 Grange, 30, 35
 Grantham, 44
 Grapnoe, 95
 Grappenhall, 23, 107, 109
 Great Boughton, 21, 56
 Great Budworth, 23, 28
 " Church, 28
 Great Caldý (alias Caldý Grange),
 24, 25
 Great Caldý, The Rake House, 25
 Greece, 77
 Greenhills, 30
 Gresford, 96
 " Church, 96
 Grimesdich, 31
 Grimlow, 96
 Grimsby, 78
 Gronacre, 94
 Grulam (Gralam), 68, 69
 Guiden Sutton, 4, 106

H

Hackney, 121
 Hale, 38, 89
 Hallamshire, 20
 Halton (Haulton, Hanletone), 1, 16,
 23, 28, 30, 33, 95, 99, 100
 Halton Castle, 96
 " Chapel, 44
 Hampshire, 83
 Hampton Post, 68, 83, 84
 Hanbury, 53
 Handbridge (Hondebrygge), 103, 104
 Handley, 51, 87, 88
 " Lyme Manor, 51
 Hankelow (Hankylow), 46, 106
 Hanley (Hanly), 13, 24
 " Church, 84
 Hanmer, 13
 Hapsford Bridge, 96
 Harden, 30, 105, 113
 Harding, 41
 Hardington (Hardingstone), 44, 86
 Hargrave (Hargreave, Hargreve),
 4, 57, 77, 78, 94
 Harthill, 13
 Hartlepoole, 44
 Harwood, 96
 Haselwelle, 93
 Haslington, 13, 105, 114
 Hassall, 106
 Hastings, 35
 Hatfield, 107
 Hatherston, 35, 114
 Hattersley, 42
 Hatton, 30, 32, 49
 Hatton Heath, 9, 83, 84
 Haughton, 34
 Haverill, 44
 Hawarden, 4, 42, 96
 Heaton, 96
 Hefferson Grange, 101

Helaby (Helsbey, Hellesby, Helles-
 bye), 23, 32, 43, 50, 58, 61, 62,
 63, 66, 67, 70, 71, 72
 Helsby Free Grammar School, 71
 " Old Hall, 49
 " Rake House, 32, 70
 " Tor, 96
 Hemingway, 69, 105
 Henbury, 34, 106, 113
 Hendon, 107
 Hereford, 83, 109, 110
 Hermitage, The, in Cranage, 105,
 106, 113
 Hesselgrave (Hesselgrove), 96
 Heswall, 4, 35
 Heylow, 34
 High Leigh (Legh, Lea), 23, 30, 106
 High Walton, 95
 Highway Side, 41, 42
 Higrimes (Leegrave or Light-
 grave), 44
 Hilbre (Helbrey), 51
 Hinderton, 25
 Hinstock, 44
 Hinton Hall, 83
 Hinxton, 44
 Ho Lane, 96
 Hookenhull, 34, 114
 Hocknell (Hocknill), 41, 42
 Hodnet Church, 109
 Hogg, 32
 "Hoke Hadelond," 104
 Holbeck Hall, 41
 Hole, near Asburton, 78
 Hole, near Chester, 24
 Holes, 78
 Holes or Hulse, 78
 Holford, 34
 "Holis, The," 78
 Hollingworth, 65
 Holly Hedge, 95
 Holmes, 35
 Holmes, 68
 Holmes (Holms Chapel), 13, 69, 115
 Holt, 4, 65, 96
 Holt Bridge, 9
 Holt Castle, 96
 Holt, The, 42
 Holyhead, 41, 42, 96, 115
 Holywell, 109
 " Church, 109
 " St. Winefride's Well, 115
 Honbrygge, *see* Handbridge
 Honford, 30
 Hoole, 78, 96
 Hoole Heath, 19, 96
 Hooton, 12, 35, 51
 Hope, 101, 102
 " Castle, 101, 102
 Hopedale, 101, 102
 Horton, 35, 60
 Hough, 113
 Houghton, 79
 Howl, 96
 " Heath, 96
 Hull, 81
 Hulme, 113
 " Wallfield, 106, 107
 Hulton, 34
 Hungary, 79
 Hunsterson, 41
 Huntington, 21, 35
 Huntworth, 10
 Hurlstone, 41
 Huxley, 30, 40, 85

I

Idenahaw Hall, 69
 " Heath, 42
 Ifield, 79
 Ialeham, 44
 Ince, 4, 109
 Irby (Ireby), 52
 Ireland, 3, 30, 41, 53, 56, 79, 84, 115,
 119
 Iscoyd, 4
 Isle of Man, 17
 Issard, 109
 Italy, 77

J

Justyng or Joustinghadelond, 104

K

Kendal, 69
 Kekewich (Kekewick), 90, 100
 Kent, 45
 Kermincham (Kermingham), 106,
 113
 Kerthingham, 34
 Kidsgrove, 109
 Kinderton, 1, 15, 35, 43, 101, 106,
 113
 Kingsley (Kingsale, Kyngsley), 1,
 16, 32, 35, 43, 50, 66, 70, 108
 Kingsley, Catnall Hall, 50
 " Hall, 49
 " Hurate, 49
 " Peel, 71
 " West Brooke, 66
 Kinnarton (or Camerton), 96, 106
 "Kinsulta," 40
 Kirby, West, 51, 52, 105
 Kirkdale, 75
 Knarsborough, 44
 Kneesall (Chenessala), 29
 " Church, 29
 Knockin, 72
 Knoles, 68, 69
 Knutsford, 2, 3, 37, 40, 69, 79
 Kyrrs Crosse, 54

L

Lach (Lache), 34, 101
 " Green, 68, 69
 Laghlin, 30
 La Hogue, 39
 Lancashire, 2, 6, 35, 43, 66, 75, 81,
 83, 91, 92, 94, 100
 Lancaster, 35, 69, 83, 92, 94, 113
 " Frison, 81
 Lancastershire, 91
 Langley, 106
 Larton, 25
 Lastock, 68, 69
 Lathom, 72
 Laund or Launde, 51, 63
 Lawton, 13, 33, 34, 106
 Lea, 30, 34, 114
 " Hall, 41
 Leamington, 88
 Lea Newball, 33, 34
 Ledbury, 110
 Leeds, 95
 Lee Moor, 23
 Leftwich, 34, 106, 108
 Legh, 33
 Leicester, 44
 " Gaol, 81

Leigh (Legh, Lee), High, 23, 30, 106
 Leigh, Little, 23
 Leominster, 83
 Lestwich, 34
 Lichfield, 29, 68, 104, 105, 107, 110, 112
 Liege, 81
 Lightwood, 42
 Lime Hall, 96
 Lincoln, 78, 86, 105, 107, 110, 112, 116
 Lincolnshire, 7, 45, 79, 80
 Lindsey, 45
 Lindum House, Nantwich, 45, 52, 56
 Little Budworth, 13
 Little Caldy (with numerous field-names), 35, 36, 37, 46
 Little Crosby, 19
 Little Drayton, 85
 Little Leigh, 23
 Little Moreton, 113
 Little Saughall, 16
 Littleton, 65
 Little Woolton, 89
 Liverpool (Leverpool), 28, 75, 84, 85, 100, 116
 Llanllwob, 86
 Llanumddwery Church, 45
 London, 2, 19, 21, 30, 37, 41, 44, 54, 68, 77, 79, 83, 86, 87, 96, 99, 101, 109, 115
 London, Barnard's Inn, 100
 " Bentinok Street, 80
 " British Museum, 4, 101
 " Cavendish Square, 80
 " " Street, 80
 " Charing Cross, 121
 " Cheapside, 84
 " Clare Market, 80
 " Court of Chancery, 100
 " Denzil Street, 80
 " Diocese of, 109
 " Drury Lane, 29
 " Duchess Street, 80
 " Duke Street, 80
 " Dyer's Hall, James Street, 45
 " Fleet Prison, 121
 " Gray's Inn, 56, 79
 " Great Portland Street, 80
 " Hackney Parsonage, 121
 " Harley Street, 80
 " Henrietta Street, 80
 " Hollis Street, 80
 " Hospital (near the Tower), St. Katharine's, 45
 " House of Commons, 75
 " Kentish Town, 80
 " Lincoln's Inn, 100
 " Margaret Street, 80
 " Middle Temple, 108
 " Newcastle Street, 80
 " Portland Place, 80
 " Public Record Office, 24, 32, 38, 40, 44, 113, 120
 " St. Bennet Fink, 119
 " St. Christopher le Stooks, 105
 " St. Clement Daues, 80
 " St. Dunstan's in the West, 100
 " St. Giles, 80
 " St. Giles Barra House, 37
 " St. Helens, 79

London, St. Martin's in the Fields, 44
 " St. Mary Magdalen, Barmensey (Bermondsey) 29
 " St. Pancras, 80
 " St. Paul's, 29
 " Somerset House, 101
 " Smithfield Easts, 29
 " Southwark, 17, 29, 38, 45
 " Stanhope Street, 80
 " Star Chamber, 40, 42, 45, 48, 50, 52, 61, 62, 63, 65, 68, 72
 " Tower, The, 38, 45
 " Vere Street, 80
 " Westminster, 100
 " Westminster Abbey, 80
 " Whitechapel (Palesheaden) 45
 " "Longcastershire" (Lancashire), 6
 Longdendale, 107
 Longside Hill, 96
 Lostock, 60, 63, 68, 69
 Lostock Gralam, 16
 Lostock Park, 42
 Loughborough, 44
 Lowe, The, 106
 Lower Alderley, 108
 Lower Lees (Dower Lees), 69
 Low Walton, 95
 Ludlow, 83
 Lurgialhall (?), 45
 Luton, 44
 Lyme, 3, 34, 37, 106, 113
 " House, 37
 Lymn (Lymme), 23, 30, 114, 116
 Lynton, 11
 Lyons, 104
 M
 Macolesfield, 16, 22, 32, 42, 53, 61, 99, 107, 108, 113, 116
 " Chestergate, 99
 " Chester Street, 99
 " Deanery, 23
 " Forest, 15, 16, 42, 65
 Maghull, 95
 Malbank, 1, 15, 16
 Malpas, 1, 3, 15, 16, 61, 63, 83, 84, 91, 95, 96, 99
 Malpas, Collegiate Church, 91
 Manley, 30, 66, 67, 70, 71
 Mara, 57
 Marbury, 13, 34, 79, 105, 114
 Marlston (Marleston), 101, 106
 Marple, 16, 23, 51, 53, 65, 106
 Martin-Trussell, 21
 Marton, 22, 102
 " Mason, 83
 Meire, 30
 Melcombe Regis, 44
 Melling, 95
 Meole Brace, 44
 Mere, 30, 44, 105, 109, 114
 Mere-Town, 109
 Merford, 96
 Merey, River, 5, 20, 40, 57, 69, 95
 Messingham (Massingham, Great, 29
 Mickledale, 66
 Mickle Trafford, 96
 Middle Aldersey, 60
 Middlesex, 121
 Middlewich, 13, 16, 24, 69, 90, 110, 115

Middlewich Church, 104
 " Deanery, 13, 23
 Miles End Hall, 96
 Millington, 34, 84
 Milne Heath, 9
 Milton Green, 40, 84
 Minahull (Minshall), 13, 34
 Minahull Vernon, 68
 Mobberley, 22, 40, 50, 102, 106, 108
 " Church, 91
 Mold (Molde), 6
 Mollington, 73, 94, 106
 Mondrem, 57
 Monk's Coppenhall, 60
 Monmouth, 83
 Montalt, 1, 16
 " Montpelier of Manchester" (Runcorn), 58
 Montsorel, 29
 Moore, 100
 Moreley, 44
 Moreton, 30, 34, 40, 93, 106
 Moreton Little, 113
 Morley Hall, 96
 Morpeth, 29
 Morsanny, 35
 Morton, 6, 46
 Mosse, 34
 Mostyn, 34
 Mottram, 16, 22, 50, 106, 107
 Mottram Andrew, 30, 40
 Mouldsworth, 42, 72
 Monceaux, France, 92
 N
 Nantes, France, 87
 Nantwich (Nampwich, Nampwich), 13, 34, 35, 38, 41, 42, 46, 52, 60, 75, 83, 84, 92, 93, 102, 103, 105, 106, 110, 113, 114, 115
 " Church, 114, 115
 " Deanery, 13, 23
 " Townsend House
 Nen, River, 86
 Neston, 4, 79, 85, 93, 94
 Nether Alderley, 91, 102, 108
 Nether Bebington, 60
 Netherlands, 79
 Netherleigh, 94
 " House, 94
 Nether Peover, 10, 23, 63, 65
 Nether Poole, 65
 Nether Tabley, 114
 Netherton, 50, 66, 67, 70, 71, 96
 " Hatley House, 50
 " The Nook, 71
 Nether Wallop, 44
 Nether Walton, 40, 100
 Nether Whitley, 63, 114
 Newall, 106
 New Alresford, 29
 Newbald, 25
 Newcastle, 68
 Newent Church, 45
 Newhall, 40, 45
 New Kay, Neston, 115
 Newmarket, 45
 Newport, 44, 83
 Newton, 18, 24, 25, 66, 67, 71, 72, 96, 106
 " Common, 18
 " Fields, with names, 103, 104
 " Hall, 50
 " Heath, 63

Newton, Rake, 25
 " Wells, 25
 Newton in the Willows, 69
 Newton-under-Lyme, 68
 Norbury, 23, 34, 77, 78, 79, 113, 114
 " Common, 46
 Norfolk (Norfolke), 25, 80
 Norley, 50, 66, 67, 71
 Normandy, 43
 Northampton, 29, 45, 86
 " Church, 45
 Northants, 21, 44, 45
 Northbourne, Kent, 116, 118
 Northenden, 22, 110
 Northop, 42
 North Rode, 77
 Northumberland, 45, 80, 83
 North Wales, 76
 Northwich, 16, 24, 61, 63, 69, 78, 83,
 84, 92, 105, 117
 Norton, 28, 30, 90, 95, 106, 114
 " Monastery, 90
 Norwich, 113
 Nottingham, 112
 Notts, 79
 Nutsford (Knutsford), 69

O

Odd Rode, 46, 49, 53, 69, 113
 Odford (Aldford), 42
 Odred, 46
 Offerton, 40
 Old Lowent Brook, 62
 Old Withington, 102, 107, 108
 Olist Hill, 68
 Orderode, 68
 Orpram (Alpraham), 41
 Ossistra or Oswestrie Church, 29, 45
 Oudenarde, Belgium, 39
 Ouestrton, 35
 Oughtington, 106
 On Legh, *see* Overlegh
 Oulton, 68, 100, 106, 113
 Oulton Lowe, 114
 Over, 13, 17, 76, 77, 91
 Over Alderley, 101, 102
 Overchurch, 4
 Overlegh (On' Legh), 20, 94
 Overpeuer, 52
 " Church, 52
 Over Peover, 114
 Over Tabley, 23
 Overton (O'v't'n), 13, 30, 50, 66, 67,
 70, 71, 113
 Over Walton, 40, 100
 Over Whitley, 72, 106
 Ower or Wore, 41
 Owestrey (Oswestry), 29
 Oxford, 44, 97, 113
 " All Saints, 112
 " Brasenose College, 108
 " Christ Church, 90, 91,
 99, 100
 " St. Aldate's alias St.
 Toles, 44
 Oxfordshire, 29
 Oxhey, 33

P

Palatinate, The (co. Chester), 43
 Parkgate, 73, 74
 Paris, 81, 87
 Pattingham, 45
 Peakland (Derbyshire), 114
 Peckforton, 48
 Peck Hall, Holt, 65

Peel, 30, 71
 Penberton, 6
 Pentrochen House, 96
 Penton, 34
 Peover (Pyver), 10, 34, 65
 Peover, Nether, 10, 23, 63, 65, 69
 Peover, Over, 114
 Periton (Pyrton), 29
 Perhill, 51
 Pickton, 96
 Picton, 34
 Piggot, Hills, 108
 Plemondetall, 4
 Plemstow, 105, 107, 112
 Pleymundestowe, 105
 " Plume of Feathers" Inn, 83, 84
 Pointon, 22, 35
 Poland, 29, 41
 " Lesser, 45
 Pole (Pool), 10
 Poole, 10, 35, 41, 44, 63, 106, 113
 Poole, Nether, 65
 Porcment (Portsmouth), 45
 Pott, 23
 Pott Shrigley, 65
 Poulton (Footon), 30, 34, 75, 106
 Poulton Lancelyn, 57
 Pownall, 16
 Prenton, 57, 81, 113
 Prescott Bridge, 69
 Prestbury, 22, 42, 102, 107, 108
 Prestland Greaves, 84
 Preston (Prestegyn), 45, 69, 99, 100
 Preston Candours, 45
 Protwood Hall, 96
 Puddington, 4, 12, 81, 102, 106, 113
 Puffin Island, 76
 Puk House, 84
 Pulford (Pulforde), 1, 4, 24, 30, 67, 96
 Puttes, 104
 Pynlors, 63
 Pyrton, *see* Periton
 Pyver, *see* Peover

R

Raby, 28, 51, 79
 Radnor, co., 45
 Rainow, 23, 64, 65
 Ratonrowe, 102
 Raynescroft, 104
 Redbourn, 45
 "Red Cap," The, 69
 Reddish, 30
 Rellington, 44
 Rhuddlan, 1
 Ribble, River, 20
 Richmond, Archdeaconry of, 23
 Riddow Heath, 42
 Ridge, 34, 113
 Ridley, 30, 45
 Ringey, 23
 Rixton, 72
 Rochedale, 95
 Rock Savage, 23, 96
 Rode, 35, 63, 106
 Rodehall, 69
 Rode Heath, 77
 Rokeby Church, 105
 Rolston (? Rolleston), 29
 Rossett, 87, 96
 " Church, 96
 Rostherne (Rosthorn), 23, 108, 109
 " Church, 46, 51, 52
 " Parsonage, 46, 51
 Rough Shotwick, 63

Rowton (Routon), 42
 " Heath, 8, 9, 17, 18
 " More, 84
 Rugby School, 8
 Runcorn, 23, 58, 65, 99, 100
 " Church, 28
 " Parsonage, 91, 99
 Runwick, 45
 Russia, 44
 Ryley Carr, 64
 Ryswyk, 39

S

Saighton, 106
 St. Alban's, 29
 " Church, 45
 St. Anne's Chapel, Chester, 18
 " Cross,
 " Hays, 24
 " Lake,
 St. Asaph, 109
 St. Chad, 13
 St. Ives (Ives), 29
 St. Margaret's, Cliffe, 45
 St. Wellis, 104
 "Saracen's Head" Inn, 96
 Sale, 34, 60, 112
 Salford Gaol, 80
 " New Fleet, 83
 Salisbury, 107, 109, 110, 112
 Salli, 44
 Saltney Marsh, 101
 Saltersford, 23
 Samagotia, 41
 "Sand," 84
 Sandbach, 13, 41, 69, 113, 115, 116
 " Church, 69, 113
 Sandford or Sandiford, 86
 Sandwich, St. Peter's Steeple, 44
 Saughall, 26, 35, 106, 109
 Saughall, Little, 16
 Sautry, 42
 " Heath, 42
 Savoy, 45
 Sawghon, 25
 Scarborough, St. Marie's Church, 44
 Schypbroke, 1
 Scotland, 39, 83
 " Lowlands of, 43
 Sefton, 72, 95
 Shaftesbury, 112
 Shakespeare's House, New Place,
 Stratford-on-Avon, 66
 Shawcross, 35, 96
 Sheriffhales, 44
 Shipbrook, 1, 16, 108
 Shipden, *see* Cromer
 Shitlington, 107
 Shotlach, 13, 114
 Shotwick, 4, 34
 Shrewsbury (Shewsbury), 29, 72,
 83, 92
 " St. Mary's Church, 110
 Shrigley, 113
 Shropshire (Salop), 29, 44, 83, 85
 Shurlach, 107
 Shute, 10, 65
 " Church, 10, 64
 Siddington, 23, 108, 113
 "Signe of the Bel," The, 83
 Smallwood (Smalwood), 46, 60, 69
 Smethwick, 35
 Somerford (Sommerford), 34, 99
 106, 113
 Somerford Boothes, 106

Somerford Radnor, 35
 Somerset, 94
 Sound, 63, 65
 Southampton, co., 44, 45
 South Lancashire, 20
 South Moulton, 29
 Southwell, 29
 Spain, 79, 84, 85
 Speke, 35, 51, 84, 89, 103
 Spittle (Spital), 18, 63
 Spotland, 108
 Spurstow, 35, 113
 Stableford (Stapleford), 42
 Stafford, 29, 44, 45, 107
 " St. Mary's Church, 107
 Staffordshire, 45, 72, 80, 84, 109
 Staindrop, 107
 Staningas, 28
 Stanley, 84
 Stanlowe Abbey, 33, 105
 Stanney, 28, 30, 113
 Stannymhurst, 18
 Stansted, 96
 Stapley (Stapley), 41, 69, 105, 114
 Stoak, 4
 Stocken, 68, 69
 Stockham, 95, 96
 Stockport, 23, 40, 68, 96, 106, 107,
 110, 113
 " Church, 46, 96
 " Moor, 61
 Stocks, 68
 Stockton, 72
 Stockton Yate, 81
 Stoke, 1, 16, 34, 41, 104
 " Church, 104
 " Hall, 41
 Stokfort, alias Stopford, 115
 Stoney Dunham (Dunham o' the Hill)
 43
 Stoney Stratford, 29
 Stonley Green, 110
 Stopford, 66
 Stopworth, 87
 Storeton (Stortuna), 16, 102
 Stretford, 43, 44
 Stretton, 35, 69, 106, 114
 " Chapel, 69
 Stubble, 68, 69
 Suffolk, 29, 44, 45
 Sussex, 79
 Sutch, 67
 Sutton, 3, 22, 23, 28, 32, 40, 42, 52,
 53, 94, 95, 96, 99, 100,
 105, 113
 " Common, 45
 " Hall, 22
 " Lane Ends, 22
 Sutton beyond Mersey, 29
 Swettenham (Swetenham, Swetnam,
 Swhetenham), 1, 13, 40, 96, 106,
 107
 Swettenham Church, 107
 Swynehedd, 68

T

Tabley, 30, 34
 Tabley, Nether, 114
 Tadcaster, 95
 Tagidog, River, 96
 Talk on the Hill, 68
 Tamworth, 44
 Tanhouse, 50
 Tarporley (Torperley), 4, 16, 41, 42,
 72, 77, 115, 117

Tarporley Church, 42
 Tarvin (Terwin), 4, 34, 42, 65, 72,
 94, 108, 116
 Tattenhall, 13, 24, 68, 94, 106, 107,
 110
 Tatton, 106, 114
 " Hall, 84
 " Park, 40
 Taxal (Taxal, Taxhal), 16, 23, 96
 Teignmouth, 29
 Thames Ditton, 19
 Thelwall, 2, 3, 28, 29, 35, 81, 100
 Thirak, 29
 Thorncliffe, 105
 Thornicroft, 106
 Thornton, 4, 96
 Thornton Hough, 113
 Thouley, 84
 Threapwood, 109
 Thrusaugh Brook, 96
 Thurstanton, 94
 Thurstaston, 1, 4, 35, 36, 46, 52, 54,
 55, 106, 113
 Thurstington, 35
 Tilston, 13, 42, 46
 " Hall, 42
 Timperley, 40, 114
 Tiresford, 68
 Titherington, 1, 113
 Tiverton (Teurton), 92
 " Church, Salop, 44
 Toft, 34, 70, 106, 114
 Totteridge, 107
 Toulley Oke, 84
 Tourkey, 29
 Towcester, 45
 Towley or Chowley Green, 84
 Trafford, 95, 106
 Tranmere, 34, 94
 Tranmore Green, 41
 Tripoli, 44
 Tunis, 44
 Tushingham, 106
 " Church, 83
 Twemlowe, 105
 Tymperley Moss, 51
 Tynmouth Church, 44
 Tyre, 76
 Tytherleigh, 10
 Tywe, 105

U

Uffington, 45
 Upton, 16, 30, 34, 52, 106, 113
 Utinton, 30, 32, 42, 113

V

Vale Royal, 30
 " Abbey of St. Mary,
 101, 105
 Varne Hill, 84
 Venice, 17
 Virginia, 112, 113

W

Wales, 87, 91, 92, 116
 Wallasey, 4
 Wallerscote, 106
 Wallop, Nether, 4
 Walsingham, 83
 Walton, 95
 " Hall, 95
 Walton, High, 95
 " Higher, 95
 " Low, 95

Walton, Lower, 95
 " Nether, 40, 100
 " Over, 40, 100
 Warburton, 23
 Warfield, 112
 Warmincham, 21
 Warmingham, 1, 13, 63, 106, 107
 Warneth Moor, 42
 Warrington, 9, 42, 69, 94, 95, 109
 Warton, 84
 Warwickshire, 44
 Watfield Pavement, 41
 Watford Church, 78
 Watton, 45
 Wankerton Hall, 41
 Waverton, 1, 4, 16
 Wavertot, 28
 Weaverham, 23, 103
 Weaver (Wever), River, 5, 41,
 96, 114
 Weedon, 44, 45
 Weaver Bank, 106
 Welbeck, 79, 80
 Wells, 112
 Wem, 21, 29, 45
 Wervin, 87
 West Hall, 114
 West-High-Leigh, 34
 West Indies, 19
 West Kirby (Kirkby, Kirkeby), 4,
 51, 52, 105
 West More, 23, 62, 63
 Westmorland, 83
 Weston, 29, 75, 85
 " Heath, 49
 Weston-on-Trent, Church, 112
 West Wickham, 22
 Wetherby, 15
 Wettenhall (Wetenhall), 13, 17, 40
 Weyley, 49 [56, 77
 Whaley, 42
 Wheaten Sheaf (Bridge Street,
 Carmarthen), 13
 Wheelock, 113
 Wheley Lane Head, 96
 Wheelstrog, 99,
 Whitby, 23, 109
 Whitechurch, 9, 41, 42, 83
 White Chapel, 45
 Whitegate, 13, 68
 Whitewell, 13
 Whitley, 68, 69
 " Nether, 63, 114
 Whitney, 35
 Wich or Wyoh Malbank, 1, 102
 Widford, 68
 Widnes (Withnesse), 28
 Wigan, 69, 113
 Wigland, 106
 Wigsterston, 75
 Wildcats Heath, 44
 Wilkesley, 42
 Willaston, 106
 Willowmore (Willey Moor), 83
 Wilmslow, 8, 23, 91, 108
 Witte, 44, 45
 Wimbolds Trafford (Wimble
 Trafford), 96
 Winburn Bury, 41
 Wincham Hall, 69
 Wine, 23, 40, 42, 52
 Winton, 106
 Winsley, see Wilmslow
 Winwick, 69

- | | | |
|---|---|--|
| <p>Wirral (Wirhal, Wirhall), 1, 10, 28,
36, 46, 48, 61, 64, 66, 75,
79, 93, 103, 104, 106, 113
" Deanery of, 4, 23
" Forest of, 33
Wistaston, 13, 38, 40, 44, 46, 48, 106
Wisterson, 44
Wisterton, 36
Withen Hey, 18
Withenshaw (Withinshaw), 36, 106,
113
Witherum (Withyham) Church, 44
Withington Wythinton), 30, 102,
106, 107
" Old, 102
Witton, 23, 24
" Grammar School, 24
Wixtaton (? Wistaston), 48
Wolsingham, 44</p> | <p>Wolstanton, Church of, 104
Wolverhampton, 29, 46
" Wolves Head," 69
Woodchurch, 62, 75
Woodford, 30, 106, 113
Woodhead, 22
Woodhay (Woodhey), 36, 41, 114
Woodhouse, 23, 50, 62, 71, 96
" Green, 23, 62
Woodhouses, 23, 50, 62, 74, 96
Woolton, 104
Woolton, Little, 89
Woore, 41
Worcester, 83, 109
Worksop, 79
Worlaston, 75
Wormton, 69
Worth, 16, 30
Worthenbury, 13</p> | <p>Wrenbury (Wrenburie), 13, 36, 45,
106, 110
Wrexham, 42, 96
Wrinchill, 30, 63
Wybunbury (Wibunbury), 13, 41,
108
" Church, 13
Wyche, 92
Wyrehall (Wirral), 93

Y
Yarm, 44
York, 29, 44, 45, 86, 96, 110
" Cathedral, 79
Yorkshire, 20, 44, 83
Yorles Yee, 104

Z
Zonge, John, 38</p> |
|---|---|--|

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